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Friday

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4 Vaisakha, 1937 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 24th April, 2015/4th Vaisakha, 1937 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Loss of lives, crops and properties due to cyclonic hailstorm in Bihar

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you might be aware, 48 persons lost their lives when a cyclonic hailstorm struck several districts of Bihar on the 21st of April, 2015. The storm also caused extensive damage to several houses, crops and other infrastructure.

The loss of precious lives and destruction of crops, property and infrastructure is indeed tragic and unfortunate.

I request the whole House to join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences and sympathy for the bereaved families and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured. I request hon. Members to rise in their seats and observe silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the departed souls.

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

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports of the Law Commission of India

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

- (a) Two Hundred and Forty-ninth Report on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal" - (Second Interim Report), as on October, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2292/16/15]

- (b) Two Hundred and Fiftieth Report on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal" - (Third Interim Report), as on October, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2293/16/15]

- (c) Two Hundred and Fifty-first Report on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal" - (Fourth Interim Report), as on November, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2294/16/15]

- (d) Two Hundred and Fifty-second Report on Right of the Hindu Wife to Maintenance: A relook at Section 18 of the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, as on January, 2015. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2295/16/15]

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

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA), New Delhi and related papers

III. MoU (2015-16) between Government of India and CWC; and MoU (2015-16) between CRWC and CWC

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :—

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. G.S.R. 48 (E), dated the 21st January, 2015, publishing the Food Security Allowance Rules, 2015, under sub-section (3) Section 39 of the National Food Security Act, 2013.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2275/16/15]

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

- (1) G.S.R. 191 (E), dated the 13th March, 2015, publishing the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Registration of Warehouses (Amendment) Rules, 2015.
- (2) G.S.R. 192 (E), dated the 13th March, 2015, publishing the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (Warehouse Accreditation) (Amendment) Regulations, 2015.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2274/16/15]

- II. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 39 and sub-section (4) of Section 38 of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007: —

- (1) Annual Report and Accounts of the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(2) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2273/16/15]

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

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2366/16/15]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2367/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

II. MoUs between Government of India and MTNL, BSNL and BBNL

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान) : महोदय, मैं श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :—

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) Notification No. G.S.R. 912 (E), dated the 24th December, 2014, publishing the Indian Telegraph (2nd Amendment of 2014) Rules, 2014, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2284/16/15]

- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications), under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997:—

- (1) File.No.409-8/2014-NSL-L, dated the 24th February, 2015, publishing the Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Twelfth Amendment) Regulations, 2015.

- (2) No.116-19/2014-NSL-II, dated the 25th February, 2015, publishing the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 (03 of 2015).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2283/16/15]

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

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2400/16/15]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), for the year 2015-16. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2401/16/15]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2399/16/15]

I. **Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles**II. **MoU (2015-16) between Government of India and NTC**

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

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987:—

- (1) S.O. 218 (E), dated the 22nd January, 2015, extending the validity of the order issued *vide* S.O. No. 294 (E), dated the 31st January, 2014 regarding Jute Packaging material for a further period of two months from the date of its expiry on 31.01.2015 until further orders.

- (2) S.O. 527 (E), dated the 17th February, 2015, stipulating that a minimum of 90 % of the production of food grains and 20% of sugar, would be packed in jute packaging material during jute year 2014-15 *i.e.* upto 30th June, 2015.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2297/16/15]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. S.O. 219 (E), dated the 22nd January, 2015, nominating two

Members of Lok Sabha as Members in the National Jute Board for a period of two years, under Section 23 of the National Jute Board Act, 2008. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2298/16/15]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Textiles) and the National Textile Corporation (NTC) Limited, for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2296/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), New Delhi 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:—

- (i) S.O. 295 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, notifying two new grades of customized fertilizers for the period of four years, under Clause 20B of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.
- (ii) S.O. 296 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, notifying Urea Phosphate fortified with Calcium and Boric Acid fortified with Molybdenum as a provisional fertilizers for a period of three years, under Clause 20A of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.
- (iii) S.O. 297 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, publishing the Fertilizer (Control) Amendment Order, 2015.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2192/16/15]

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

- (i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Consortium.
- (iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2372/16/15]

I. Report and Accounts (2012-13) of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL), Bangalore and related papers

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :—

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) Sixtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2373/16/15]

(ii) (a) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL), Bangalore, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2374/16/15]

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

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

(a) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2377/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Railways

II. Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table :—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Railways, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987:—

- (1) G.S.R. 796 (E), dated the 13th November, 2014, publishing the Railway Claims Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Services of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2014, along with delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2269/16/15]

- (2) G.S.R. 124 (E), dated the 26th February, 2015, publishing the Railway Claims Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Services of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2015.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2142/16/15]

- (3) G.S.R. 13 (E), dated the 7th January, 2015, publishing corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 796 (E), dated the 13th November, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2269/16/15]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), 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 Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2270/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2011-12) of the Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panaji, Goa and related papers

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

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), under Section 26 of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005 :—

- (1) G.S.R. 64 (E), dated the 29th January, 2015, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 740 (E), dated the 22nd December, 2005, to substitute certain entries therein.
- (2) G.S.R. 100 (E), dated the 16th February, 2015, publishing the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Rules, 2015.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2280/16/15]

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

- (1) (i) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panaji, Goa, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2387/16/15]

- (ii) (a) Fortieth Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Livestock Processing Development Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2388/16/15]

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare:—

- (i) Eighty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Department of Health and Family Welfare;
 - (ii) Eighty-third Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Department of Health Research; and
 - (iii) Eighty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Ministry of AYUSH.
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**REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित कृषि संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2014-15) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :—

1. Eighth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries; and
 2. Ninth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation).
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**REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL**

SHRI SANJAY RAUT (Maharashtra): 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 Coal and Steel (2014-15):—

1. Seventh Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Coal;
 2. Eighth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Mines;
 3. Ninth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Steel; and
 4. Tenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations / recommendations contained in the Forty-ninth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Coal Pricing and Issues relating to Coal Royalty' relating to the Ministry of Coal.
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**REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

DR. MAHENDRA PRASAD (Bihar): 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 Finance (2014-15):—

- (i) Tenth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure, Financial Services and Disinvestment);
- (ii) Eleventh Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue);

- (iii) Twelfth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Planning;
 - (iv) Thirteenth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs; and
 - (v) Fourteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
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REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

श्री मेघराज जैन (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2014-15) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :—

1. Fifth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts);
 2. Sixth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Electronics and Information Technology);
 3. Seventh Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications); and
 4. Eighth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
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STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Re. Status of implementation of First Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं खाद्य, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय के खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग से संबंधित अनुदान मांगों (2014-15) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित खाद्य, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (16वीं लोक सभा) के पहले प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

**Re. Status of implementation of Thirty-ninth Report of Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals
and Fertilizers (2013-14)**

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर): महोदय, मैं उर्वरक विभाग के संबंध में 'उर्वरकों का मूल्य निर्धारण' संबंधी विभाग संबंधित रसायन और उर्वरक संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2013-14) के उनतालीसवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Statement regarding Government Business, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.

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): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business for the week commencing on Monday, the 27th April, 2015 will consist of :—

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
2. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, 2015, as passed by Lok Sabha.
3. Consideration and passing of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2013.
4. Discussion on the working of the following Ministries:
 - (a) Law and Justice
 - (b) Petroleum and Natural Gas; and
 - (c) External Affairs

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, the business for the next week is before you. Even otherwise you will be getting it through the List of Business. I would like to remind one point that there was an earlier direction by the hon. Chairman that those who would like to speak should give their names before the discussion starts. I am reminding you that point. That is all. As has been decided yesterday by the House...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. As decided yesterday, it was a

unanimous decision that we will take up the continuation of the discussion of the farmers' issue on the Motion moved by Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. Now, what do you want to say, Shri Raja?

SHRI D. RAJA: I have given a notice for suspension of business to discuss the cold-blooded killing of 20 wood cutters, poor labourers from Tamil Nadu in Andhra Pradesh forest and this House should discuss it. It is a gross violation of human rights.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, it is a crucial issue. It needs to be discussed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you have given a notice under rule 267. Not only you, but others also have given a notice. Kindly give a Calling Attention Notice. The Chairman will consider it.

SHRI DEREK O BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, on the very serious issue of net neutrality the young people of the country are looking up to this. It is time bound, Sir. It is 6th of May. So there is a Calling Attention. It should be considered before the 6th of May.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please give a notice. Yes, Mr. Minister.

RENOVATION OF CHAMBER WITHOUT AFFECTING HERITAGE CHARACTER

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे पर चर्चा शुरू हो, उससे पहले मैं यहां पर पूरे सदन की तरफ से राज्य सभा के आदरणीय चेयरमैन साहब, डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, सेक्रेटरी जनरल साहब और पूरे राज्य सभा सचिवालय के सम्मानित सदस्यों को बधाई देने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

उपसभापति महोदय, हम सब इस लोकतंत्र के मन्दिर में आते रहे हैं, बैठते रहे हैं। यह लोकतंत्र का मन्दिर हम सब के लिए श्रद्धा का केंद्र है। इस बार सदन के अन्दर जब हम सब ने प्रवेश किया, तो हमें कोई बहुत फर्क इस सदन की चारदीवारी में या डोम में दिखाई नहीं पड़ा। जिस तरह की हमारी हेरिटेज बिल्डिंग्स होती हैं और उनकी जो परम्परा है, वह वैसी की वैसी ही दिखी। लेकिन मैं इसलिए बधाई देने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ, क्योंकि यह डोम, जो कि वर्षों पुराना है, इसमें कोई बदलाव नहीं दिख रहा है, लेकिन इसमें बहुत बड़ा बदलाव किया गया है और इसका पूरा रेनोवेशन हुआ है। जो पुराना स्ट्रक्चर है, उसको सुरक्षित रखते हुए इसका रेनोवेशन हुआ है। आज यहां जो आवाज हो रही है, वह आवाज गूंजती, लेकिन उस इको सिस्टम को, जो ब्रिक्स हैं, उन ब्रिक्स को उसी तरह से सुरक्षित रखते हुए पूरे के पूरे डोम को फिर से एक बार रेनोवेट किया गया है। उसके साथ ही जो रेड कारपेट है, मुझे याद नहीं है, शायद बीस साल

पहले, पच्चीस साल पहले कभी यह कारपेट बदली गई हो, तो मुझे नहीं मालूम, लेकिन यह रेड कारपेट भी नई है और यह बदली गई है। उसके अलावा जिस पर हम लोग बैठते हैं, इसको भी पूरी तरह से रेनोवेट किया गया है, लेकिन जो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात है, वह यह है कि सदन की गरिमा और सदन का जो स्ट्रक्चर है, जो हेरिटेज स्ट्रक्चर है, उसको बिना नुकसान पहुंचाए और उसमें बिना किसी प्रकार का बदलाव किए हुए यह इतना बड़ा परिवर्तन हुआ है, इतना बड़ा रेनोवेशन हुआ है। इसलिए हम पूरे सदन की तरफ से चेयरमैन साहब, डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, सेक्रेटरी जनरल साहब और राज्य सभा सचिवालय के सभी सदस्यों को इसके लिए बधाई देते हैं और धन्यवाद देते हैं।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र): सर, हमें तो इसमें कहीं कोई बदलाव दिख ही नहीं रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: यही तो मैंने कहा कि बिना दिखे हुए बदलाव हुआ है। अगर आप अपनी आंखें खोल कर देखेंगे, तो यह बदलाव आपको दिखेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the beauty of it ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): अभी कांग्रेस वालों को बदलाव नहीं दिखता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: समस्या यह है कि कांग्रेस को बदलाव में भी बदलाव नहीं दिखता है। इतने खूबसूरत बदलाव का धन्यवाद कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the beauty of it ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश): जिस तरह से यह रेड कारपेट में बदलाव किया गया है, उसी तरह अगर आप किसानों का भी भला कर दीजिए, तो पूरा देश आपको धन्यवाद देगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Alright. That is the beauty of change. Without appearing any change is made, renovation has been carried out. So, all credit goes to the Secretariat and the Secretary-General.

DISCUSSION ON AGRARIAN CRISIS AND WOEFUL DISTRESS OF FARMERS — *Contd.**

Now, we will continue with yesterday's discussion on agrarian crisis. Now, Shri Bhupender Yadav. Yesterday I called him. Mr. Yadav, you have only 13 minutes for two speakers. So, take only six or seven minutes.

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव (राजस्थान): सम्मानीय उपसभापति महोदय, सदन में नेता, प्रतिपक्ष के द्वारा किसानों की स्थिति के संबंध में जो यह चर्चा प्रारंभ की गई है, यह सार्थक चर्चा कल से सदन में

* Further discussion continued from 23 April 2015.

[श्री भूपेंद्र यादव]

चल रही है। इस चर्चा की पृष्ठभूमि में जो घटना है, वह है दिल्ली में गजेन्द्र सिंह जी की दुर्घटना का जो एक दृश्य उपस्थित हुआ। देश की राजनीति में, वैकल्पिक राजनीति का जो लोग दंभ भरते हैं, उनमें कितनी संवेदना है और वैकल्पिक राजनीति करने वालों की कथनी और करनी में कितना अंतर है कि जब वह सत्ता में आए, तो वह कह कर आए कि देश में लोकपाल की संस्था बननी चाहिए, लेकिन पहले उन्होंने अपने दल से लोकपाल को ही निकाला और उसके बाद जो वह कह कर आए थे कि देश के आम आदमी को अधिकार मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन उसकी मृत्यु होने के बाद भी वहां पर राजनीतिक सभा चलती रही। आज के समाचारपत्रों में यह खबर आई और मृतक गजेन्द्र के परिवार के लोगों ने कहा है कि यह लिखावट भी उनकी नहीं है, उन्होंने अपनी बहन को भी फोन किया था, जिससे पता लगता है कि उनकी मानसिक स्थिति भी इस प्रकार की नहीं थी कि वह सुसाइड करते, तो आखिर इस घटना के पीछे कौन है? इस विषय की जांच होनी चाहिए। सदन में सभी दलों के नेताओं ने कहा है कि इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए। निश्चित रूप से इसकी निष्पक्षता के साथ जांच होनी चाहिए ताकि सही परिस्थितियां सामने आए।

दूसरा विषय जो किसानों के संबंध में है, उसी दिन एक घटना घटी, बिहार में एक चक्रवाती तूफान आया और उसमें 65 लोगों की मृत्यु हुई। सरकार के द्वारा किसानों को, जो आपदा हुई है, इससे पहले भी अतिरिक्त वर्षा के कारण और सूखे के कारण आपदा हुई है, केंद्र सरकार ने इसके लिए तुरंत कदम उठाए। एक लम्बे समय से यह मांग चल रही थी कि देश में जो National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) के नॉर्म्स हैं, उनको बदलना चाहिए और उनको समय के अनुकूल करना चाहिए। केंद्र सरकार के मंत्रिमंडल समूह ने इस सम्बन्ध में जो निर्णय लेना था, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के निर्देशानुसार वह निर्णय लिया गया और एक लम्बे समय से जो मांग चली आ रही थी, उसको देखते हुए NDRF के नॉर्म्स को चेंज कर दिया गया। किसानों को जो मुआवजा केवल 50% के नुकसान पर मिलता था, उसको अब 33% कर दिया गया है, इसके साथ ही मुआवजे की राशि को भी बढ़ा दिया गया है। पहली बार केंद्र सरकार के द्वारा यह प्रयास किया गया है। पिछली बार जब अतिवृष्टि के कारण, ओलों के कारण नुकसान हुआ था, तो सबसे पहले केंद्र सरकार के मंत्री माननीय नितिन जी ने उत्तर प्रदेश में, माननीय राजनाथ सिंह जी ने उत्तर प्रदेश में, कृषि मंत्री माननीय राधा मोहन सिंह जी ने महाराष्ट्र में, वित्त मंत्री माननीय अरुण जेटली जी ने राजस्थान और हिमाचल प्रदेश में दौरा किया। सभी प्रभावित राज्यों में केंद्र सरकार के मंत्री तुरन्त स्वयं गए और तुरन्त उन्होंने रिलीफ कार्यों की मॉनिटरिंग की। आज भी देश के माननीय गृह मंत्री बिहार गए हुए हैं और बिहार के उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र के जिन जिलों में नुकसान हुआ है, जिनमें सुपौल, सहरसा, मधेपुरा, अररिया, कटिहार इत्यादि जिले शामिल हैं, उन्होंने उनका दौरा किया। वहां पर तुरन्त रिलीफ कार्य शुरू किया जा सके, इसके लिए केंद्र सरकार प्रयासरत है।

महोदय, कल अपना भाषण देते समय श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय जी ने कहा था कि हम लोगों ने तीन विषय कहे थे, productivity, scientific attitude and profitability in the agricultural system. मेरा भी यही मानना है कि देश के कृषि क्षेत्र की समस्याओं को आत्महत्या के संदर्भ में और साथ ही साथ अगर हम तात्कालिक विषयों के अलावा अन्य विषयों को भी देखना चाहते हैं, तो लम्बे संदर्भों में इन तीनों विषयों पर विचार करना चाहिए।

अगर कृषि में हम प्रोडक्टिविटी और कृषि उत्पादन की वृद्धि की बात करें, तो केंद्र सरकार ने अपने दस महीने के छोटे से कार्यकाल में देश में Soil Health Card की योजना को शुरू किया है और इस योजना के माध्यम से किसानों की उत्पादकता कैसे बढ़े, इसकी एक बड़ी चिन्ता की है। इसके साथ ही, एक लम्बे समय से हमारे देश में कृषि क्षेत्र में जो सिंचित क्षेत्र थे, उन पर कभी केंद्रीय स्तर पर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया था। इस सरकार के आने के बाद पहले और दूसरे बजट में लगातार कृषि क्षेत्र के सिंचित क्षेत्रों को बढ़ाने के लिए प्रधान मंत्री सिंचाई योजना जैसी एक महत्वपूर्ण योजना के लिए बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में धनराशि दी गई है। यह कृषि क्षेत्र की उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने के लिए किया गया है। कृषि क्षेत्र की उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने के लिए ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में हमारा जो इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर है और जो किसानों की कार्य दक्षता है, उसको भी बढ़ाया जाना बहुत आवश्यक है। लम्बे समय से हम इस देश के किसानों को केवल तात्कालिक मदद देते आ रहे थे, उनकी सोशल सेक्योरिटी के बारे में किसी ने चिन्ता नहीं की। भारत की केंद्र सरकार ने, प्रधान मंत्री माननीय नरेंद्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में, अटल पेंशन योजना को लाकर पहली बार किसानों के लिए एक लम्बे स्तर पर सामाजिक पेंशन योजना की शुरुआत की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : अभी तक वह योजना शुरू नहीं हुई है, इसे आप देख लीजिएगा।

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव : यह योजना अभी जून में ही शुरू होने वाली है, यह सरकार की स्टेटमेंट है। कृषि क्षेत्र को सामाजिक सुरक्षा देने के लिए, कृषि क्षेत्र में इतने लम्बे समय से जो भूमिहीन किसान हैं, उनके लिए प्रधान मंत्री दुर्घटना बीमा योजना जैसी योजना को लाकर, सामाजिक क्षेत्र में जो एक बहुत बड़ा वर्ग इससे वंचित था, हम लोगों ने उसको लाभ देने का प्रयत्न किया है।

महोदय, 60 साल में इस देश की त्रासदी यह रही है कि जो इस देश का गरीब वर्ग है, जो इस देश का गांव में बसने वाला वर्ग है, जिसके ऊपर बार-बार प्राकृतिक आपदाएं आती रहती हैं, उनका जो आर्थिक समायोजन है, वह हमने नहीं किया है, लेकिन इस सरकार ने आर्थिक समायोजन और आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण के कार्य को प्रारम्भ किया है।

कल माननीय नेता प्रतिपक्ष के द्वारा भूमि अधिग्रहण के सम्बन्ध में एक विषय उठाया गया था। मेरा यह स्पष्ट निवेदन है ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, मैं दो मिनट और लूंगा। मेरा उनसे स्पष्ट निवेदन है, अगर इस देश में शहरों में मकान बनते हैं, तो केवल एक अथॉरिटी की परमिशन लेने की जरूरत होती है, शहरों में कोई सड़क बनती है, तो एक अथॉरिटी की परमिशन लेने की जरूरत होती है, लेकिन अगर इस देश के गांव में हम सड़क भेजना चाहते हैं, अगर हम यह चाहते हैं कि इस देश के गांव में कृषि क्षेत्र के आधारभूत ढांचे को बढ़ाने के लिए सिंचाई क्षेत्र का विकास हो, तो आप कहते हैं कि पहले आप 80% की परमिशन लेकर आइए। अगर हम इस प्रकार के विषय को राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में लेकर आएंगे, तो यह उचित नहीं होगा। मुझे लगता है कि गांव और गरीब के लिए बनाई जाने वाली योजनाओं के लिए 80% की बाध्यता करना, देश की विकास योजनाओं के साथ ठीक नहीं होगा।

श्री उपसभापति : बस, अब समय हो गया है।

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव : 2022 तक इस देश के हर मकान रहित आदमी को, जो गरीब है, मकान देने की आवश्यकता है। प्राथमिकता इस विषय पर होनी चाहिए कि उसे मकान किस प्रकार से दिया जाए, न कि उसके लिए पहले 80 प्रतिशत की परमिशन को अनिवार्य बनाया जाए।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव: सर, मुझे मेरी पार्टी अलाऊ कर रही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; one more speaker is there.

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव: सर, पार्टी मुझे अलाऊ कर रही है, मैं बस दो मिनट और लूँगा। इस देश में एक और विषय यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि जब 2013 का क़ानून आया, तो रेलवे ऐक्ट, इलेक्ट्रिसिटी ऐक्ट, एटॉमिक एनर्जी ऐक्ट और हाइवे अथॉरिटी ऐक्ट को छोड़ा गया। आप स्टैंडिंग कमिटी की रिपोर्ट को भी देखिए, वहां हाइवे अथॉरिटी और रेलवे ने यह कहा कि हमारा जो लीनियर किस्म का ऐक्विजिशन है, उसमें अगर आप 80 प्रतिशत के कम्प्लेशन को लेकर आएंगे तो विकास योजनाओं को हम वहां नहीं ले जा सकेंगे। इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि देश के गरीबों के लिए, उन लोगों के लिए जिनके पास मकान नहीं हैं, उन लोगों के लिए जिन तक सिंचाई की योजनाएँ नहीं पहुँची हैं, उन लोगों के लिए जिन तक सड़क नहीं पहुँची है, उन गरीबों के लिए आप सोचिए। उन गरीबों के लिए सरकार की विकास योजनाओं में कम से कम इस प्रकार की राजनीति न की जाए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति: भुपेंद्र जी, अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव: आज इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि स्थायी रूप से परिसम्पत्तियों का निर्माण किया जाए, जो देश का विकास करें। इसलिए मेरा यह कहना है कि कृषि क्षेत्र के बारे में विचार करते समय हमें जो सारी चीज़ें करनी चाहिए, ...**(व्यवधान)**... कृषि क्षेत्र के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए, कृषि क्षेत्र में सिंचाई क्षेत्र को बढ़ाने के लिए, कार्य योजनाओं और रोजगार वृद्धि के लिए राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर इन विषयों को आगे लाना चाहिए, तभी इन समस्याओं का स्थायी समाधान होगा। धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; thank you very much. Shri Naresh Agrawal. नरेश जी, आपकी पार्टी के लिए बिल्कुल टाइम नहीं है, पूरा टाइम खत्म हो गया है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): हमारे लिए आपके दिल में टाइम है?

श्री उपसभापति: मैं यह सभी के लिए बोल रहा हूँ।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: कल यह तय हुआ था कि इस पर कोई टाइम लिमिट नहीं रखी जाएगी, क्योंकि यह किसानों से जुड़ा मुद्दा है और इसका कोई एक स्थायी समाधान निकलना चाहिए। इसलिए माननीय उपसभापति जी, मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि इस पर थोड़ा सा ज्यादा टाइम दिया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी (बिहार): सर, सभी सदस्यों को बोलने का मौका दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो बोलना चाहते हैं, उनको बोलने का टाइम दिया जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am only ...**(Interruptions)**... I agree ...**(Interruptions)**... Sit down, sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... I am only making a general request that because I have twenty names before me, and because I want to accommodate everybody, I

am only making a request that, if possible, limit your speech within five to seven minutes. Not more than that.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मुझे खुशी है कि क्रिकेट जैसा महंगा खेल खेलने वाले आज किसानों के संबंध में कहीं कुछ बोल देते हैं, तो थोड़ा-सा कहीं लगता है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Anyhow, after five minutes, I will ring a bell. After seven minutes, the second bell and then ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, इस मामले में मुझे आपसे एक अनुरोध करना है। हम दुनिया की बातों के लिए यहां वक्त निकाल लेते हैं और ऐसे मुद्दे पर चर्चा के लिए, जिसमें तीन हज़ार से ज्यादा लोगों ने आत्महत्याएँ की हों, उस पर हम टाइम लिमिट फिक्स करना चाहते हैं? हम बाहर जाकर लोगों को क्या मुँह दिखाएँगे? यानी, किसानों की मौत के लिए हमारे पास वक्त नहीं है। मैं हाथ जोड़कर अनुरोध कर रहा हूँ कि कृपा कर इस पर आप पाबंदी मत लगाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अश्विनी कुमार (पंजाब): सर, मैं इनका समर्थन करता हूँ। इस पर टाइम की कोई पाबंदी नहीं हो सकती। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): जो भी माननीय सदस्य इस पर बोलना चाहते हैं, चाहे वे इस पर दो ही मिनट क्यों न बोलें, उन्हें मौका दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): सर, हम इससे सहमत हैं कि इस पर कोई समय-सीमा न हो। जो भी सदस्य इस पर बोलना चाहें, बोल सकते हैं। अगर इस चर्चा को आगे भी काटिन्यू करना है, तो हम कर सकते हैं।

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: ठीक है, सर। सबको बोलने का मौका दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, okay. Now, you start. ...(Interruptions)...

Now, Nareshji, you start.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, हमने कल भी यह मांग की थी और वह मांग कोई राजनीतिकरण करने के लिए नहीं की थी कि अगर इस चर्चा का जवाब प्रधान मंत्री जी दें, तो देश के सामने शायद एक नया संदेश जाएगा। श्रीमन्, हम लोग हर सत्र में किसानों के ऊपर लगातार चर्चा जरूर करते हैं, लेकिन कोई समाधान नहीं निकलता है। मुझे याद है कि पिछले सत्र में शरद जी ने कपास वालों की बात उठाई थी और हम लोगों ने भी धान किसानों की बात कही थी। उस पर चर्चा हो गई, लेकिन कुछ समाधान नहीं निकला। मुझे यह कहते हुए दुःख हो रहा है कि उस सूखे की स्थिति का अभी तक कोई पैसा राज्य सरकारों के पास नहीं पहुँचा है। उसके बाद अतिवृष्टि और ओलावृष्टि भी आ गई।

श्रीमन्, इस देश के लिए किसानों का योगदान कम नहीं है। अगर आज़ादी की लड़ाई लड़ने वालों का देश में योगदान है, तो किसानों का भी कम योगदान नहीं है। मुझे याद है कि जब मैं छोटा था, तो इस देश में अमेरिका का लाल गेहूँ आता था। श्रीमन्, अमेरिकन, गोरे लोग उस गेहूँ

[श्री नरेश अग्रवाल]

से बियर निकाल लेते थे और तब उसको हिन्दुस्तान में भेजते थे। इस गेहूं का नाम पीएल 48 था और इस देश के लोग लाइन लगाकर अपना पेट भरने के लिए उस गेहूं को लेते थे। फिर इस देश में हरित क्रांति हुई और आज हमने देश में इतना अनाज उत्पादित किया कि हमारी पॉपुलेशन तीन गुना ज्यादा होने के बावजूद हम आत्म-निर्भर हो गए और विश्व के तमाम देशों को अनाज देने लगे, लेकिन किसानों का क्या हश्र हुआ? महोदय, उस समय जीडीपी में किसानों का योगदान 45 प्रतिशत था और आज वह घटकर 13 प्रतिशत रह गया है। उस समय जोत बड़ी थी, लेकिन आज जोत छोटी हो गयी है, परिवारों में बंटवारा हो गया है। आज जोत uneconomical होती चली जा रही है, जिसका नतीजा हो रहा है कि आज किसान के बेटे की रुचि खेती की तरफ नहीं है। आज किसान का बेटा भी चाहता है कि मैं बड़ा अफसर बनूं, मुझे भी अच्छी जगह नौकरी मिले, उसके बच्चे भी शहरों में रह सकें और वे भी आधुनिक भारत में आधुनिक जिंदगी जी सकें, लेकिन क्या यह संभव हो पा रहा है? हमारी कौन सी ऐसी नीति या योजना बनी है, जिससे कि सर्व-हित का समाधान निकलता हो?

मैं चाहूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी इस चर्चा का जवाब दें। मैंने कल इस बात को कहा था कि इस विषय से रामविलास पासवान जी का भी विभाग जुड़ा है, डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान जी का भी विभाग जुड़ा है। अभी जो दिल्ली में घटना हुई, उससे गृह मंत्रालय भी जुड़ा हुआ है और वित्त मंत्री का भी विभाग जुड़ा है। इसलिए अगर जवाब प्रधान मंत्री जी देते तो ज्यादा अच्छा होता, लेकिन यह तो सरकार को तय करना है। श्रीमन्, मैं चाहता हूं कि इस पर सार्थक बहस हो और उससे सार्थक समाधान भी निकलना चाहिए, जिससे देश के किसानों को लगे कि किसान के हित में इस सरकार ने कुछ फैसला किया है क्योंकि आज भी यह बात सत्य है कि हमारी 70 प्रतिशत आबादी खेती पर निर्भर है। आज हमने कह दिया कि 13,000 रुपये प्रति हैक्टेयर डेमेज लॉस देंगे, तो आप कौन सा बहुत बड़ा डेमेज लॉस दे रहे हैं? आज बैंक्स का एनपीए 2 परसेंट से बढ़कर 6 परसेंट हो गया है, लेकिन इस 6 परसेंट में कौन लोग हैं? मैंने तो कहा है कि इस बारे में सार्थक बहस हो जाए कि देश के बैंकों का पैसा कौन नहीं लौटा रहा है, क्या किसान नहीं लौटा रहा है या बड़े पूंजीपति नहीं लौटा रहे हैं? अगर किसान पर 10 हजार रुपये भी कर्जा होगा तो आरसी पहुंच जाएगी और किसान से वसूली शुरू हो जाएगी, किसान के बेटे ने अगर पढ़ाई के लिए कर्ज ले लिया, तो उसकी वसूली के लिए तुरंत कार्यवाही हो जाएगी। उसके लिए कोई नियम नहीं बने हैं, लेकिन अगर उद्योगपति पैसा नहीं देगा, तो वह अपनी इंडस्ट्री को बीएफआर में डाल देगा और एनपीए में चला जाएगा। मैंने तो कल भी मांग की है और आज भी कहता हूं कि अगर आप किसानों का कर्जा माफ कर देंगे तो कोई बहुत बड़ा एहसान नहीं कर देंगे। आज वोटों के लिए कर्जा माफ नहीं होगा, पिछली बार तो वोटों के लिए हुआ था, लेकिन आज किसान की हालत फटेहाल हो गयी है। आज देश में जिस प्रकार से किसान आत्म-हत्या कर रहा है, क्या यह सोचने का प्रश्न नहीं है? मैं संख्या पर नहीं जाता। कृषि मंत्री जी परसों लोक सभा में बयान दे रहे थे और उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश के संबंध में कुछ बयान दिए जोकि तथ्यों से परे थे। मैंने उनसे कहा कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 6,700 करोड़ का लॉस दिखाया है, लेकिन आपने सिर्फ 231 करोड़ रुपये अब तक उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को दिए हैं। क्या इतने बड़े लॉस के लिए 231 करोड़ देने के बाद आप समझ लेंगे कि उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान हो जाएगा? अभी बालियान जी कई जिलों के दौरे पर गए थे, आप वहां बयान भी दे आए और धमका भी

आए, लेकिन सत्यता तो बताइए। आप 6700 करोड़ का 50 परसेंट तो दे दीजिए जबकि 1100 करोड़ उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने दे दिए हैं। श्रीमन्, देश की पहली सरकार है जिसने किसान के आत्म-हत्या करने पर उसके परिवार को 7 लाख रुपए राहत के रूप में दिए। मैं वह रकम भी पर्याप्त नहीं मानता क्योंकि इस देश में किसान की कीमत रुपयों में नहीं होनी चाहिए। इस देश में किसान की कीमत इंसानियत के आधार पर होनी चाहिए। श्रीमन्, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 7 लाख रुपए दिए। हम लोगों ने तो मुख्य मंत्री जी से यह भी मांग की है कि अगर कोई भी किसान मर गया है, तो उसे अपने discretionary fund से 5 लाख रुपए दे दीजिए। इस से उसका परिवार अपने आंसू पोंछने और फिर से खड़े होने लायक तो बन जाएगा, लेकिन आपने क्या किया है? कल प्रोफेसर साहब ने बीमा कंपनियों की बात कही। उत्तर प्रदेश में बीमा कंपनीज 2000 करोड़ रुपए ले लें, उसमें 141 करोड़ रुपए किसानों का अंशदान हो। और अभी तक बीमा कंपनियों ने कंपनसेशन के रूप में सिर्फ 1.69 करोड़ या दो करोड़ रुपये दिए हैं और फिर यह कह दिया जाता है कि बीमा कंपनियों को आपने चूज किया था, लेकिन बीमा कंपनी तो वित्त मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत आती हैं। आपने बीमा कंपनियों को क्यों नहीं कहा? हमने फसल के लिए तो घोषणा कर दी कि फसल बीमा योजना लागू कर रहे हैं, लेकिन फसल बीमा योजना की सत्यता क्या है? मैं आपको जो फिगर्स दे रहा हूँ, आप इन फिगर्स को चेक कर लीजिए। एक-एक फिगर सारी सत्य हैं। मंत्री जी, आज यह घोषणा हो जाए कि देश का जो भी किसान होगा, जो भी फसल पैदा करेगा, उसका बीमा करने की जिम्मेदारी केंद्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार की मिल कर होगी, तो मैं समझूंगा कि किसानों को कुछ मिला है। आप कहीं न कहीं तो किसानों को देने की बात कीजिए, किसानों के कर्जों का ब्याज ही माफ कर दीजिए। इससे किसान कम से कम यह तो समझेगा कि उसके कर्जे में से उसे कुछ तो राहत मिली।

उपसभापति जी, मैं आत्महत्या पर कोई राजनीतिकरण नहीं करना चाहता हूँ। अभी भूपेंद्र भाई दिल्ली के कांड पर बोल रहे थे। हम किसी सरकार को दोष नहीं देना चाहते, लेकिन उस कांड ने देश को हिला कर रख दिया, विश्व को हिलाकर रख दिया और हम मजबूर भी हो गए, जो हम इस पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। अब इसके लिए दिल्ली की सरकार पर आरोप हो या केंद्र की सरकार पर आरोप हो, मैं इसके पक्ष में नहीं हूँ। आज भी मुझसे मीडिया वाले पूछ रहे थे कि नरेश जी, यह जो दिल्ली सरकार और दिल्ली पुलिस, दोनों के बीच में झगड़ा है, तो कौन क्या करे? यह झगड़ा नहीं होना चाहिए। यहां सवाल यह है कि वह किसान क्यों मरा? देश का किसान मरा है, उसने आत्महत्या की है, यह एक डेवलपिंग कंट्री के लिए बहुत शर्मनाक बात है। रामविलास पासवान जी यहां बैठे हैं, इन्होंने अखबारों में तमाम घोषणाएं कर दीं कि हमने एफसीआई को डायरेक्शन दे दी हैं कि किसान का जैसा भी गेहूं होगा, एफसीआई खरीदेगी। मैं आपको बता दूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश में आपकी एफसीआई 70 परसेंट किसानों को वापस भेज रही है। अभी आपने मानक कम किए, आपने 6-7 परसेंट टूट को 10 परसेंट किया, आपने चमक का कह दिया कि 50 परसेंट कम हो, लेकिन जब किसान के चेहरे, खेत से चमक ही चली गई, तो फिर इस ऑर्डर का क्या फायदा है? आप कहते हैं कि आप गरीबों के नेता हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में आपके भाषण भी मैं पढ़ लेता हूँ, आपके वक्तव्य पढ़ लेता हूँ। यह ठीक है कि राजनीतिक बात अलग है, लेकिन एज ए मंत्री कम से कम आप यह घोषणा तो करिए कि जो भी किसान एफसीआई के सेंटर पर गेहूं लेकर जाएगा, उसका गेहूं चाहे किसी रूप का हो, प्रदेश की सरकार उसको खरीदेगी।

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): सर, मैं फिर यह कहना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री के. सी. त्यागी (बिहार): आप अपना जवाब बाद में दीजिएगा। और भी सवाल आएंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: नरेश जी, आपने यील्ड कर दिया?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, एंड नहीं किया है। अगर वे बोलना चाहते हैं, तो बोलें।

श्री रामविलास पासवान: जैसा आप कहिए अगर आप अभी कहेंगे, तो हम अभी क्लैरिफिकेशन दे देंगे और अगर बाद में कहेंगे, तो बाद में दे देंगे। हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: यह तो चेयर पर है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you are yielding, then, he can intervene.

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Sir, what do you mean by 'yielding'? मैं यील्ड नहीं कर रहा हूँ, मंत्री जी बाद में जवाब दे दें।

श्री उपसभापति: मंत्री जी, जरा यील्ड कीजिए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय पासवान साहब, शरद जी जब कृषि मंत्री थे, तो उन्होंने पीपीपी के नाम से एफसीआई में एक योजना चलाई, पब्लिक प्राइवेट पार्टनरशिप के नाम पर योजना बनी। चूंकि देश में गोदामों की कमी है तो उन गोदामों की कमी को कैसे पूरा किया जाए, जिससे अनाज रखा जा सके और इसके लिए यह एक योजना बनी है। आपने योजना को सार्वजनिक किया। आप सिर्फ इतना बता दीजिए कि इस योजना में कितने प्रतिशत योगदान आया? श्रीमन्, दस प्रतिशत योगदान नहीं आया। आज एफसीआई और सेंट्रल वेयरहाउसिंग कॉर्पोरेशन, दोनों की जो स्थिति है, शायद उससे शर्मनाक स्थिति और क्या होगी? इसमें आप पूरा का पूरा परिवर्तन करिए। जितना बड़ा करप्शन एफसीआई और सीडब्लूसी में है, उससे बड़ा करप्शन कहां होगा? मैं समझता हूँ, पासवान साहब, इतना बड़ा मेंडेट मिला है, तो आप कोई ऐसा निर्णय लीजिए, निर्णय लेने में घबराने की क्या जरूरत है, आप तो एक विद्वान और बहादुर मंत्री हैं। आप एक ऐसा निर्णय लीजिए, एफसीआई के गोदामों की कमी को दूर करिए, अपनी पॉलिसी को बदलिए। अगर आपने पॉलिसी को नहीं बदला, तो देश में आपके पास गेहूँ, चावल और किसान की दूसरी उपज खरीदने के लिए स्थान नहीं रहेगा। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... श्रीमन्, अभी तो बहुत चीजें कहने को हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; take two, three minutes more.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं सरकार से यह भी चाहूंगा कि सरकार यह स्पष्ट कर दे कि किसानों का बीज, खाद और किसानों को मिलने वाला पानी मुफ्त कर दिया जाएगा। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रदेश के किसानों का पानी मुफ्त कर दिया है। हमारे प्रदेश में मुफ्त पानी की घोषणा इसलिए की गई, क्योंकि हमारे चुनाव घोषणापत्र में इसका उल्लेख था। आपने अपने घोषणापत्र में कही गई कोई बात पूरी नहीं की। कल यहां एक माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि आपने अपने घोषणापत्र में लिखा कि किसान को उसकी उपज की लागत का डेढ़ गुना मूल्य देंगे, लेकिन डेढ़ गुना तो छोड़ दीजिए, उसे उसकी लागत का मूल्य भी नहीं मिल रहा है।

महोदय, मैं आज आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह आज यह घोषणा करे कि निरन्तर खाद की सब्सिडी में जो कमी कर रहे हैं, निरन्तर बीज पर सब्सिडी में जो कमी कर रहे हैं, किसान को मिलने वाली बिजली की दर जो निरन्तर बढ़ रही है, यह नहीं बढ़ेगी। कम से कम इसी की घोषणा आज कर दीजिए। यदि बढ़ाने की कर दीजिए, तो मैं समझूंगा कि इस आपात् स्थिति में जब किसान दर्द से कराह रहा है और जब देश के ग्रामीण अंचल की रीढ़ टूट रही है, तब इस देश की सरकार उनके लिए कुछ कर रही है या नहीं, कम से कम इस बात को देश जान तो सके।

महोदय, जैसा मैंने पहले कहा, मैं इस पक्ष में बिल्कुल नहीं हूँ कि किसान पर राजनीति की जाए या आरोपों की बात की जाए, लेकिन मैं इस पक्ष में जरूर हूँ कि इस बहस का कोई सार्थक हल निकलना चाहिए। इस बहस का अंत ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए जैसे कि सदन में हर चर्चा का अन्त होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस चर्चा का सार्थक हल निकलना चाहिए, फिर चाहे वह कैसे भी निकले। यह सरकार का काम है। मैं कहता हूँ कि आप देश में तमाम तरह की सब्सिडी देते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप उन्हें बन्द कीजिए और सिर्फ किसान को सब्सिडी दीजिए। देश का किसान जिन्दा रहेगा, तो देश जिन्दा रहेगा। यदि देश का किसान मर जाएगा, तो देश समाप्त हो जाएगा, मेरा ऐसा मानना है। मैं इस बात को बड़े विश्वास के साथ कहता हूँ।

श्रीमन्, गन्ना किसानों की बात आई है। आज केवल उत्तर प्रदेश के गन्ना किसानों के 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए से ऊपर चीनी मिलों पर बकाया हैं। पूरे देश के किसानों के संभवतः 19 हजार करोड़ रुपए बकाया हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश की जो फिगर मैं बता रहा हूँ, वह इसी सरकार की फिगर है। मैं ऐसा कह कर कोई चीनी मिलों की पैरवी नहीं कर रहा हूँ। इस बात को आप भी समझ रहे हैं कि उनकी क्या स्थिति है। हम आपसे कहते हैं कि आप बाहर की चीनी हिन्दुस्तान में क्यों आने दे रहे हैं? WTO की शर्तों में यह तो नहीं लिखा कि आप चीनी पर टैक्स नहीं लगा सकते हैं। शायद अब आप लगाने जा रहे हैं, क्योंकि हमने कहीं ऐसा पढ़ा है, लेकिन आपने ऐसा पहले क्यों नहीं किया? अगर किसान गन्ना देगा और चीनी सस्ती मिलेगी, तो चीनी मिल मरेगी या गन्ना किसान मरेगा। दोनों में से एक जिन्दा रहेगा, दोनों जिन्दा नहीं रह सकते। इसलिए आपको ऐसी पॉलिसी तय करनी चाहिए जिससे किसान भी जिन्दा रहें और शुगर मिलें भी जिन्दा रहें। ऐसा नहीं है कि खाली शुगर मिलों को मार देंगे, तो किसान जिन्दा रह जाएगा और यदि ऐसा हुआ, तो किसान भी खड़ा नहीं रह जाएगा।

महोदय, मैं उस दिन वित्त मंत्री जी से मिला, मैंने कहा था कि अगर किसान के गन्ने का मूल्य 270 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल होगा, तो चीनी कम से कम 30 रुपए प्रति किलो में बिकनी ही चाहिए। अगर इससे कम में चीनी बिकी, तो किसान खड़ा नहीं रह जाएगा। मेरी इस बात को किसानों ने भी माना। इतने दिनों से यह बात उठ रही है, लेकिन अभी तक हमारे देश में इस विषय में कुछ विशेष नहीं हुआ है।

महोदय, पूरे विश्व में, अमेरिका में भी, जो इतना सम्पन्न देश है, जहां एक आदमी के पास मिनीमम 200 एकड़ जोत है और आस्ट्रेलिया में 100 एकड़ से कम जोत का कोई किसान नहीं है। वहां इतनी बड़ी जोत के किसानों को यदि वह राष्ट्र सब्सिडी भी दे रहा है और उनकी उपज को खरीदने की भी जिम्मेदारी ले रहा है, तो यहां एक एकड़ या एक बीघा जोत के किसान की कौन जिम्मेदारी लेगा?

[श्री नरेश अग्रवाल]

महोदय, आपने महिला बैंक बनाया। उसी प्रकार आज घोषणा कर दीजिए कि किसान बैंक भी बनेगा और किसान बैंक से जो किसान ऋण लेगा, उस का एक परसेंट भी ब्याज किसान पर नहीं पड़ेगा, तो मैं समझूंगा कि आप किसान के पक्ष में हैं। आपने महिला बैंक बनाया मैं उसका विरोधी नहीं हूँ, लेकिन किसान के लिए बैंक क्यों नहीं बनेगा? आपका Libor Rate क्या है, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि आप 2% ब्याज पर पूरे विश्व से ऋण लेते हैं और 14% ब्याज पर किसान को ऋण देते हैं। 12% का मुनाफा ही कम कर दीजिए और किसान बैंक बनाकर आप किसानों को 2% ब्याज पर ऋण दे दीजिए। इस देश का किसान अपने आप खड़ा हो जाएगा। तब तो लगेगा कि कुछ सार्थक बहस हुई और कुछ सार्थक नतीजा निकला, लेकिन बहस के बाद लीपापोती, एक दूसरे पर दोषारोपण होता है। अगर सिर्फ यही हुआ, तो मैं समझूंगा कि किसानों के हित में कुछ नहीं हुआ और हम अपनी बात कहते चले जाएंगे और अन्त कुछ नहीं निकलेगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay Nareshji; you took double time.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: ठीक है, श्रीमन्, किसानों पर हो रही ज्यादतियों पर बोलते हुए मैं ज्यादा बोला, लेकिन मैं इन शब्दों के साथ इस सरकार से उम्मीद करता हूँ कि इसे राजनीतिक मांग मत मानिएगा और आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से हम सबकी तरफ से अनुरोध कर दीजिएगा कि राष्ट्रहित में, प्रधान मंत्री जी, आपको कश्मीर से कन्याकुमारी तक, अगर इस देश के किसान ने, गरीब ने मँडेट दिया है, तो उस किसान और गरीब को कुछ रिलीफ देने के लिए अगर इस सदन से आप घोषणा कर देंगे, तो उसका पूरा श्रेय आपको मिलेगा और कहीं न कहीं हम समझेंगे कि हम वकीलों ने भी किसान की वकालत की और मुकदमा जीता। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैं गजेंद्र की आत्महत्या को उनके द्वारा देश के किसानों के लिए की गई शहादत मानता हूँ और यह ज्यूडिशियल इनक्वायरी का मुकदमा नहीं है। इसके मुजरिम कुछ मंत्रालय हैं, जिनकी वजह से तीन लाख किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है और उसमें गजेंद्र की शहादत भी शामिल है। इसका सबसे बड़ा मुजरिम एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री है। इसके दूसरे मुजरिम का नाम है फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री एंड बैंकिंग। तीसरे मुजरिम का नाम है फर्टिलाइजर्स एंड केमिकल्स। चौथे मुजरिम का नाम है फूड एंड सिविल सप्लाय। पांचवें मुजरिम का नाम है होम मिनिस्ट्री (डिज़ास्टर मैनेजमेंट)। छठा मुजरिम कॉमर्स है और सातवां मुजरिम है ट्राइबल अफेयर्स।

सर, अभी एक शर्मनाक वक्तव्य मुझे देखने को मिला कि पार्लियामेंटेरियन, प्रेस और सिविल सोसायटी, ये नीरो के बाराती हैं। नीरो ने रोम में एक बार रात को जश्न मनाने की सोची, लेकिन अकाल पड़ा हुआ था। उसने बाराती बुलाए-पार्लियामेंटेरियन, प्रेस के लोग और सिविल सोसायटी के लोग और जब लकड़ी नहीं मिली, तो मुर्दे उखाड़े गए और जो भिखारी और गरीब थे, रात को जलाकर रोशनी की गई। तो हम लोग, जो पार्लियामेंटेरियन हैं, प्रेस के साथी भी बैठे हुए हैं और सिविल सोसायटी के लोग, तो हम नीरो के बाराती बनकर न रह जाएं।

सर, मैं अपनी बात स्वामीनाथन आयोग से शुरू करना चाहता हूँ। 2004 में माननीय नेता प्रतिपक्ष की सरकार थी और उन्होंने स्वामीनाथन आयोग का गठन किया था। 2004, 2005 और 2006 में उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी कि जो मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस है, उसकी लागत बढ़ गई है, लिहाज़ा उसमें बढ़ोतरी करनी चाहिए और कम से कम पचास परसेंट की बढ़ोतरी करनी चाहिए।

हमारे सरकारी पक्ष के जो मित्र हैं, उनको इसमें नाराज़ नहीं होना चाहिए। जो किसान बैकग्राउंड के हैं, गांव के लोग हैं, उन्हें गुस्सा आना चाहिए। उनके मेनिफेस्टो में लिखा गया। जो उनके उस समय के अध्यक्ष थे, राजनाथ सिंह जी और जो प्रधान मंत्री पद के दावेदार थे, उन्होंने देश के किसानों को भरोसा दिलाया। जब इंश्योरेंस पर दोनों पार्टियां एक हो सकती हैं, ग्लोबलाइजेशन पर एक हो सकती हैं, दाओस में इकट्ठा बैठ सकते हैं, तो स्वामीनाथन आयोग की सिफारिशों को पूरा करने के लिए दोनों पार्टियां इकट्ठा क्यों नहीं बैठती हैं? आपका दो घंटे में याराना होगा इंश्योरेंस को लेकर ! दाओस में दोनों वित्त मंत्रियों की भाषा एक जैसी है। बाली पैक्ट पर दोनों पार्टियों के कॉमर्स मिनिस्टर्स की भाषा एक जैसी है। तो स्वामीनाथन आयोग में मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस के साथ पचास परसेंट दे दिया जाए, इस पर क्यों नहीं दोनों दलों की, जो मेनस्ट्रीम की पार्टियां हैं, इकट्ठा होकर फैसला करतीं? बीच वाली पार्टी इसके लिए तैयार है। हमारे अंगूठे लगवा लो, साइन करवा लो, लेकिन दोनों पार्टियां मिलकर इसको तय करें। तो सरकार की तरफ से जो इस तरह की लापरवाही है और जब भी कोई इस तरह की बात आएगी, तो हमारे इधर के मित्र कहेंगे, आपने क्या किया? तो उन्होंने तो इतना बुरा किया कि आप यहां बैठ गए। आप इतना बुरा मत करो कि आप भी वहां चले जाओ। सर, इंश्योरेंस समेत कॉरपोरेट के ग्लोबलाइजेशन से लेकर जितने भी सवाल आते हैं, इनमें फर्क नहीं है, तो फिर स्वामीनाथन में क्यों फर्क है? यह गांव के लोग पूछते हैं कि साहब, आप सारी चीजें एक साथ तय कर लेते हो !

सर, दूसरा मैं इंश्योरेंस के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं, जिसका जिक्र अभी हमारे मित्र नरेश जी कर रहे थे। सब बोगस है और रामविलास जी, मेरे साथ पानीपत चलिए। मैं सदन में बोलूंगा ही नहीं किसानों के बारे में, अगर उनको मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस मिल रहा हो। मैं कभी नहीं बोलूंगा। मैं शर्म से मर जाऊंगा अगर मथुरा में किसानों को एम.एस.पी. मिल रही होगी तो। मैं रात को टी.वी. देख रहा था, 1450 रुपए आपने घोषित किया, जो बहुत कम है। अगर मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस लागत के हिसाब से तय करते हो, तो 7,000 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के हिसाब से होना चाहिए। पहले मैं इसी को साबित करके फिर अपनी बात शुरू करूंगा। एम्प्लाईज की जो सैलरी की हाइक है, वह 300 परसेंट है। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप में से कोई कन्डेम करे कि मैं गलत कह रहा हूं। स्टील, सीमेंट, सोप, क्लॉथ — 300 परसेंट, फर्टिलाइजर का प्राइस 300 से लेकर 1,000 रुपए तक बढ़ा है और पेस्टीसाइड्स का प्राइस 400 से लेकर 1,200 रुपए बढ़ा। जो मनरेगा है, उसमें कम से कम सौ रुपए और ज्यादा से ज्यादा तीन सौ या साढ़े तीन सौ रुपए है और एग्रीकल्चर प्राइस — 3.5, I ask you, why? Why for the kissan alone? सर, एनएसएसओ के मुताबिक— जिसको एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री, हमारे मित्र रामविलास पासवान जी की मिनिस्ट्री समेत सारी मिनिस्ट्रीज कोट करती हैं, मैं चाहता हूं कि इसको भी आप कन्डेम करें — किसान की मासिक आमदनी 3,078 रुपए है और पे कमीशन की जो लेटेस्ट रिपोर्ट आयी है, उसके मुताबिक, जो फोर्थ क्लास एम्प्लॉई है, उसको 25,000 रुपए प्रति माह सैलरी मिलती है। Shame on you and shame on me too! किसान की आमदनी सिर्फ तीन हजार रुपए और जो फोर्थ क्लास एम्प्लॉई है, उसकी आमदनी 25,000 रुपए! देश की कोई भी पार्टी, खास तौर से मेन स्ट्रीम की पार्टी से मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अब अगला पे कमीशन बैठ जाएगा, सातवां और फिर आठवां पे कमीशन बैठ जाएगा, कभी गांव के लोगों के लिए आपका कोई कमीशन नहीं बैठता। सर, 1970 में गेहूं का समर्थन मूल्य, मेरे दोनों साथी नेता बैठे हुए हैं, 76 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल था। 2015 में

[श्री के.सी. त्यागी]

वह 1,450 रुपए हो गया, हालांकि 200 रुपए कम मिल रहा है। खैर, छोड़िए। इसमें सिर्फ 19 गुणा की वृद्धि हुई है। केंद्र सरकार के कर्मचारियों की 120 गुणा, स्कूल शिक्षक की 320 गुणा, कॉलेज शिक्षक की 170 गुणा — मैं इन सबके खिलाफ नहीं हूँ — और कॉर्पोरेट कर्मचारी की 1,000 गुणा ज्यादा की सर्वेसिज़ में बढ़ोतरी हुई है, तनखाह में बढ़ोतरी हुई है। अन्य चीज़ों के मुकाबले इसकी कीमत भी अगर 100 परसेंट बढ़ाते हैं तो 7,600 रुपए क्विंटल हमें गेहूँ के दाम मिलने चाहिए। मिल रहे हैं — 1,450, सरकार ने कहा। इसमें पिछले साल से सिर्फ तीन परसेंट की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। आप कह रहे थे कि पचास परसेंट की होगी। ऐसी स्थिति में किसान अगर आत्महत्या न करे तो कहां जाए? उसकी जो miseries हैं, वे यहां से शुरू होती हैं। पहली पंक्ति के जो सीनियर नेता बैठे हुए हैं। मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि दर्जनों बार पार्लियामेंट का विशेष सेशन बुलाया गया है, इस सवाल पर जो बहस हो रही है, वह नाकाफी है। आप पार्लियामेंट का स्पेशल सेशन बुलाइए और रूरल डिस्ट्रेस पर डिटेल में तीन-चार दिन चर्चा कीजिए। हम आपकी मदद करेंगे। इसमें कोई दिक्कत क्यों आनी चाहिए? सर, यूरिया के मंत्री यहां बैठे हुए हैं। वे कह रहे हैं कि यूरिया की कोई कमी नहीं है। हरियाणा के मेरे मित्र अगर बैठे हों, पंजाब के मेरे साथी यहां बैठे हैं, उन्हें मैं गवाह के तौर पर पेश कर रहा हूँ, फसल के दिनों में चार-चार सौ रुपए पर-डे के हिसाब से ब्लैक हुआ है। क्या आपने कभी खेती की है? चार सौ रुपए पर-बैग! आप अपनी सहयोगी पार्टी अकाली दल वालों से पूछिए। मैंने कल आपका बयान पढ़ा कि एक नए पैसे की कालाबाज़ारी नहीं हुई, यूरिया बहुत उपलब्ध है। मैं यहीं से, कैमिकल और फर्टिलाइज़र से शुरू करना चाहता हूँ। एक बैग पर चार सौ रुपए। हरियाणा से आपकी पार्टी के सदस्य होंगे, उनसे आप कन्फर्म कर लीजिए। सर, शान्ता कुमार जी बहुत ईमानदार नेता हैं।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्या बाकी बेईमान हैं?

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूँ। इसमें कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री की जो आफतें हैं, वे माननीय रामविलास जी, आपको भी झेलनी पड़ रही हैं। हमारे नेता शरद यादव जी इस विभाग के मंत्री रहे हैं। अब डब्ल्यूटीओ के साथ जो एफटीए साइन हो रहा है, आनन्द शर्मा जी उसके एक्सपर्ट थे, उसके तहत 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा प्रोक्योरमेंट आप कर ही नहीं सकते। बाकी बाजार के हवाले। Minimum Government, maximum bazaar. उसके तहत 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, इस पर आप बोलने की इजाजत दीजिए, हमारी कटौती किसी और समय कर लीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति : दस मिनट हो गए हैं।

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : आप तय कीजिए कि किसान जितना भी गेहूँ लेकर बाजार में आएगा।

रामविलास जी, यह जो प्रोक्योरमेंट है, हमने और आपने 30-35 साल काम किया, आप तो ऐसे न थे, आप 25 परसेंट का प्रोक्योरमेंट कैसे करेंगे? आप कहिए कि किसान जो भी तिलहन लेकर, दलहन लेकर, दाल लेकर, गेहूँ लेकर बाजार में आएगा, I make it mandatory कि कोई भी किसान वापस नहीं जाएगा। इसमें तो कुछ खर्चा नहीं होता। मेरी जानकारी है, निर्मला जी यहां नहीं हैं, कि डब्ल्यूटीओ के साथ एफटीए साइन होने वाला है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now conclude in two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मेरा काम दो मिनट में नहीं चलेगा। मेरा अभियोग पत्र इतना लंबा है। सर, 25 परसेंट से ज्यादा का प्रोक्वोरमेंट अब नहीं होगा। रामविलास जी, मैंने पहले ही चैलेंज किया, फिर कर रहा हूँ। रात एनडीटीवी के दो पत्रकार रवीश कुमार और एक दूसरे सज्जन मथुरा के, मथुरा की एमपी गायब हैं, चलो कोई बात नहीं, वह तो वहां पर गायब होने के लिए ही गई थीं, माफी चाहता हूँ, लेकिन वहां पर 1,200 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल मिला। जिसने भारतीय जनता पार्टी को वोट दिया है, वह किसान रो रहा है। रवीश कुमार फिर सोनीपत जाता है, वहां 1,150 रुपए, 1,250 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल मिला। आप जो कह रहे थे, वहां माँइश्चर का भेदभाव भी हो रहा है। जो ब्रोकर गेहूँ है, ब्रोकर ही लेंगे और माँइश्चर वाला नहीं लेंगे, आप पता लगाइए। आप दस अफसरों को टांग दीजिए, गजेंद्र की तरह से नहीं, उनको सजा दे दीजिए, कल से प्रोक्वोरमेंट ठीक हो जाएगा। लेकिन डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट, जैसे लैंड एक्विजीशन एक्ट का 1894 का कानून था, जब मैंने पढ़ा तो पता लगा कि आपासी का जो कानून है, वह भी अठारह सौ कुछ का है। अंग्रेजों के टाइम में 100 परसेंट इरिगेशन सरकारी नहरों से हुआ करता था, उसको आपासी कहते थे। मुलायम सिंह जी पहली बार आपासी के आन्दोलन में 1956 में जेल गए, अगर मैं सही याद कर रहा हूँ, जिसे डा. लोहिया ने चलवाया था। हमारे नेता पहली बार आपासी को लेकर जेल गए थे। सर, यह कानून अठारह सौ का बना हुआ है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tyagiji, please conclude.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैं पांच मिनट में खत्म करने का प्रयास करता हूँ। सर, यह इतना बड़ा सवाल है। पता नहीं, हम किन-किन सवालों पर बहस करते हैं। एक तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसको रिव्यू किया जाए। आप सारे पुराने कानून रिव्यू कर रहे हैं, सौ साल पुराना भी, डेढ़ सौ साल पुराना भी। डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट की परिभाषा बदली जाए। गांव में टिड्डी हैं। अब बहुत सारे मंत्रियों ने टिड्डी का नाम भी नहीं सुना होगा, what is this? अभी मैंने सुना कि नीलगाय मारने के आरोप में आपने एक आदमी को गिरफ्तार कर लिया। How is he the murderer of the cow? जब आपको नीलगाय और गाय में फर्क मालूम नहीं है, तो आप भला क्या करेंगे? नीलगाय की वजह से गांव की खेती बरबाद हो रही है। हम रोज डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट को फोन करते हैं कि नीलगाय को पकड़ो। अब आप कह रहे हैं कि Nilgai is also a holy cow. अब आपको यही पता नहीं है कि नीलगाय और गाय में क्या फर्क है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नीलगाय के खिलाफ मुकदमा दर्ज हुआ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान) : हर प्रदेश के अपने नियम हैं।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : मैं आप पर आरोप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बालियान जी, मैंने अभी आप पर आरोप नहीं लगाया है, मैं अभी आपके ऊपर आरोप पर आ रहा हूँ। मैं तो अधिकारियों की इग्नोरेंस बता रहा हूँ। यह कोई* ने आदेश नहीं दिया है कि ऐसा करो। यह अधिकारियों की सोच है, मैं उसका जिक्र कर रहा हूँ। आप उस पर बौखलाइए मत। यह 1890 का कानून है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर इतने मंत्री बोलेंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक आदमी पर चार-चार मंत्री और वह भी अकाल की समस्या से जूझने वाले मंत्री। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, मैंने डब्ल्यूटीओ के प्रेशर का जिक्र किया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार) : सर,* हाउस के मेम्बर नहीं हैं।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैंने* का ज़िक्र अपमानजनक रूप में नहीं किया है। प्लीज़। मैंने आदरपूर्वक कहा कि उन्होंने भी ऐसा प्रस्ताव नहीं किया है। आप थोड़ा पढ़ लीजिए, मैं अभी फर्टिलाइजर पर भी आ रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... आप चुप रहिए प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मंत्री जी को बोलने से मना किया जाए।

श्री अनंत कुमार : सर, ये ऐसा क्यों बोलते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... क्या ये खुद अकेले गांव के बारे में जानते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैं यील्ड नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैंने* का ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If it is defamatory, I will expunge it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : पूरे देश भर का ...(व्यवधान)... इनके पास है क्या? ...(व्यवधान)... इनको जितना समय मिला है, उतना भारतीय जनता पार्टी को और हमें भी किसानों के बारे में समय मिला है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : मैं प्रेज़ कर रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If it is defamatory, I will expunge it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : मैं उनकी तारीफ कर रहा हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति : अगर defamatory है, तो मैं एक्सपंज करूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): श्रीमन्, मेरी आपसे विनती है कि हर चीज़ गलत नहीं होती। वह जो कह रहे हैं वह एक मजाक के तरीके में हैं नीलगाय की बात। क्यों काट रहे हैं उसको? क्यों निकाल रहे हैं उसको?

श्री उपसभापति : मैंने सिर्फ यह बोला है कि अगर वह defamatory है, तो मैं एक्सपंज करूंगा। अगर कुछ डिफेमेट्री बोला है तो मैं एक्सपंज करूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : सर, हमारा इतना ही निवेदन है कि त्यागी जी को किसानों के बारे में जितनी संवेदना है, बाकी सभी मंत्रियों को भी है। यानी, वे ऐसा नहीं समझें कि वे किसानों के अकेले ही* हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : त्यागी जी, प्लीज़ कन्क्लूड करें। ...(व्यवधान)... आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... I am not able to follow anything ...(Interruptions)... I am not able to follow anything. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): The Minister made an unparliamentary remark. ...(Interruptions)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One of you should speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tapan Kumar Sen, what you are doing! ...*(Interruptions)*... What you people are all doing! ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Sukhendu Roy, what is the problem? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : अगर कोई किसानों के पक्ष में बोलेगा तो क्या आप उसको* कहेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप लोग बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, the hon. Minister has made a derogatory remark against the hon. Member, Shri K.C. Tyagi. The hon. Minister cannot make such a derogatory remark against the hon. Member. The Minister must withdraw his remark. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right, the word* is unparliamentary. It is expunged.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैं कन्क्लूड कर रहा हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति : एक्सपंज कर दिया। ...*(व्यवधान)*... That is expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, there is a very serious problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please understand that it is not only a question of one particular expression used by one hon. Minister. You can expunge that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already expunged it.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You may expunge it. Once you read the proceedings, you can take your decision, but the point is that in the House, a comment has been made which goes against the entire duty and responsibility of the Parliament of India. Sir, the question is: तुम हो क्या*? The meaning of that is whether you are the only ones responsible for the Indian farmers. We are responsible. I am not denying that point, but the point is that everybody should be responsible; the Government should be responsible. And they are not owning up that responsibility; that is the charge. This is a much serious charge. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश): यह बहुत सीरियस मामला है। अगर कोई किसी के पक्ष में बोलेगा तो क्या बोलना बंद कर दें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: It is not only a question of expunging remarks; the Government will have to rescind from that point. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government will have to rescind from that position. ...*(Interruptions)*...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

12.00 NOON

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : पहली बात तो यह है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने किसी बुरे भाव से नहीं बोला है। अगर इतने संवेदनशील और इतने गंभीर मुद्दों पर विपक्ष जो कुछ खास तौर से चाहता है, उस पर उनका रवैया ठीक नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस संबंध में अगर आप चाहते हैं तो माननीय मंत्री जी स्पष्ट कर सकते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : एक्सपंज कर दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : श्रीमन्, एक मंत्री को इस तरह से बोलने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: The Minister should withdraw that. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please ask him to withdraw that remark. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, this is the time for Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... Discussion over ...**(Interruptions)**... For now, this discussion is over. We will take it up at 5.00 p.m. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, it is time for Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**...

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

APPEAL TO WITHDRAW REMARK

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Members, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Question Hour.

SHRI DEREK O BRIEN (West Bengal): This remark should be withdrawn by the Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, may I make a point? ...**(Interruptions)**... Please understand this, Sir. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point?

SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Sir, he has to withdraw the remark. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, it is a very serious issue. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is the point?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, the point is that we do not intend to disrupt the Question Hour. We want it to continue but there is a very grave point that came up in this transition period. The hon. Minister made certain comment which, according to me, and, according to most of us, is not merely derogatory in terms

of usage of unparliamentary language, and, as the Chairman, you can correct that, and, you can remove those expressions. But, it was...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the Deputy Chairman has already decided that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, no. Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... In our opinion, the statement amounts to a derogation of the entire House of the Indian Parliament and our responsibility. We want the Minister to withdraw that statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, if he is not withdrawing, then, we think, the Government... ...*(Interruptions)*... This cannot be said in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, what is required is withdrawal of remarks while apologizing for insulting this House and the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, आपने कल बिजनेस सस्पेंड किया और उसके बाद किसान पर डिस्कशन शुरू हुआ। वे अपने बात रख रहे हैं, तो उस पर मंत्री जी यह एतराज कर रहे हैं कि आप तो ऐसे बोल रहे हैं, जैसे आप अकेले* हैं, तो हम लोग इसका मतलब क्या समझें? अगर हम किसान के पक्ष में अपनी बात रखेंगे, तो हमको इनसे यह सुनना पड़ेगा कि आप यह बात क्यों कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार): सभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(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, allow the Minister to clarify the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, let us hear the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मेघराज जैन (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, त्यागी जी का पूरा भाषण देख लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उस भाषण में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : आप सुन लीजिए।

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): सर, मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना है कि आपने ठीक बात नहीं की है। आप इसको वापस लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह ठीक बात नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप इसको वापस लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री अनंत कुमार : सभापति जी, जब माननीय सांसद श्री त्यागी जी बोल रहे थे, तो उन्होंने बोलते-बोलते उर्वरक और खाद के बारे में भी चर्चा की। जब इन्होंने इसकी चर्चा की तो उस समय यह कह दिया कि क्या तुमने कभी खेती की है? ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं बोल रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं बोल रहा हूँ। आप मुझे allow कीजिए। उन्होंने मेरी तरफ ऐसे इशारा करते हुए कहा। ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)... हम जानते हैं, यानी हमारे देश में पिछले कई सालों से हर विषय के बारे में यह समस्या है। ऐसे ही खाद के बारे में भी है, यूरिया के बारे में भी है। कोई यह दावा नहीं कर सकता कि पिछली सरकार में सब ठीक-ठाक था। ...(व्यवधान)... तब भी समस्या थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

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

श्री अनंत कुमार : जब वे ऐसे लहजे में बोल रहे थे, ...(व्यवधान)... तो मैंने कहा कि माननीय सांसद ऐसे न सोचें, वे खुद किसानों के प्रतिनिधि हैं। यहां बैठे हुए सभी सदस्यों को किसानों के बारे में संवेदना है। हम सब ...(व्यवधान)... येचुरी जी, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)... येचुरी जी, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं आप से हाथ जोड़कर कह रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : येचुरी जी, आप उनको बात तो करने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप इनकी बात सुन लीजिए।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : मंत्री जी अपनी apology देकर अपने शब्द वापस ले लें। आप मामला खत्म करके हाउस चलाएं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : येचुरी जी, आप इनकी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनंत कुमार : देखिए, जब येचुरी जी जैसे एक वरिष्ठ सांसद इस विषय के बारे में व्याख्या कर रहे हैं, तो मुझे भी अपना पक्ष रखने के लिए एक अवसर देना चाहिए।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : मैं कोई व्याख्या नहीं कर रहा हूँ, मैं केवल आपसे यही निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि आपने गलत बात बोली थी, इसलिए आप अपने शब्दों को वापस लीजिए।

श्री अनंत कुमार : सर, मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा, माननीय त्यागी जी को किसानों के बारे में जितनी संवेदना और कंसर्न है, उतनी ही हम सभी को है, मैं केवल यही बात कह रहा था। यदि उस शब्द के प्रयोग के बारे में सदन को, माननीय सदस्यों को एतराज है, तो मैं अपने शब्दों को वापस लेता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, very much.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**Establishment of national common agricultural market**

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

(a) whether Government has taken note of the need for marketing reforms and privatisation in agriculture and food sectors, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Economic Survey 2014-15 has also stressed the need for creation of a National Common Agricultural Market by removing restrictions and bottlenecks for free trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the stand of Government in this regard?

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

Statement

(a) 'Agriculture Marketing' is regulated by the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. In order to remove restrictive provisions of the State marketing laws and Agricultural Product Market Committees (APMCs), provide better price realization to the farmers through improved, competitive and transparent systems, enhance investment in development of post-harvest marketing infrastructure, etc. the Central Government has been engaging with the States for more than a decade to implement reforms in the sector. The reforms include development of alternative marketing channels involving greater private sector participation. Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) formulated the State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act, 2003 (Model Act) and State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Rules, 2007 (Model Rules) which were shared with the States/UTs for implementation. This has been followed by a number of interactive discussions with and advisories to States on market reforms.

Ministry of Agriculture has identified 7 vital areas of market reforms to pursue with the States/Union Territories. Progress of Reforms in terms of these 7 vital areas, is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Economic Survey, 2014-15 has highlighted the restrictions and bottlenecks to free trade in the present agricultural marketing system like fragmentation of market, multiple point levy of market fee, imposition of other taxes/Value Added Tax (VAT), multiple licensing requirement, etc. and has stressed the need for creation of a liberalized 'National Market for Agricultural Commodities'.

In order to develop efficient, barrier free agricultural marketing across the State with multiple alternative channels of marketing, the Central Government has been advocating reforms including the State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2003 (Model Act) and State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Rules, 2007 (Model Rules) and various advisories on doing away with market area concept, deregulation of marketing of fruits and vegetables outside the market yards, etc. Further, in order to build a modern transparent and efficient marketing system that could facilitate barrier free trade across the country, the Government proposes to launch a common e-marketing platform that is deployable in markets across the country. Towards this end, the Government has also approved a Central Sector Scheme for “Promotion of National Agricultural Market through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF)” for ₹ 200 crores to be implemented during 2014-15 to 2016-17.

Statement-I

*Area-wise progress of market reforms as per major areas identified
in model APMC Act*

Sl.No.	Area of Reforms	States which have adopted the suggested area of market reforms in the Act
1	2	3
1.	Establishment of private market yards/private markets managed by a person other than Market Committee.	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa (excluding for paddy/rice), Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Telangana, Punjab, UT of Chandigarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, West Bengal (provision not clear).
2.	Direct purchase of agricultural produce from agriculturist by Processor/Bulk buyer/Bulk retailer/exporter, etc.	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Telangana, Punjab, UT of Chandigarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, West Bengal. U.P. (only for bulk purchase under executive order issued time to time)
3.	To promote and permit e-trading,	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Haryana, H.P., Karnataka, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Telangana, Uttarakhand .

1	2	3
4.	Establishment of farmers/ consumers market managed by a person other than a market committee (Direct sale by the producer)	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, West Bengal
5.	Contract Farming Provision	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab (separate Act), Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Telangana, Uttarakhand.
6.	Single point levy of market fee	Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim, UT of Chandigarh, Punjab, Mizoram, Jharkhand, Telangana, Uttarakhand.
7.	Single registration/ license for trade/ transaction in more than one market	Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram Nagaland, Sikkim, Telangana, Jharkhand .

डा. प्रदीप कुमार बालमुचू : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि 10 साल से इस विषय पर काम हो रहा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार की ऐसी भी कोई योजनाएं हैं, जो National Common Agriculture Market बनाने में बाधक हों, जैसे Essential Commodities Act और Land Tenancy Act. क्या इनमें संशोधन करने का आपका कोई विचार है?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति महोदय, इस बारे में सरकार का निश्चित रूप से विचार है। चूंकि यह प्रदेशों से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है, इसलिए केंद्र सरकार ने लगातार सभी प्रदेश सरकारों से इसके लिए रिक्वेस्ट की है। केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से राज्य सरकारों को 5-Points भेजे गए हैं, जिन पर विचार करके, राज्य सरकारों को अपने सुझाव देने हैं। ये प्वाइंट्स हैं—Establishment of private yards and direct purchase of agricultural produce from agriculturists, establishment of private market yards, establishment of consumer farmer market, provision of contract farming, unified single registration, e-trading, single point levy of market fee.

कुछ प्रदेश सरकारों ने लिखकर अपने जवाब भेज दिए हैं और उन्होंने अपने APMCs में संशोधन भी कर लिया है, लेकिन कुछ प्रदेश सरकारों की तरफ से अभी संशोधन नहीं हुआ है। सरकार की मंशा एक National Common Market बनाने की है। जैसे ही सभी प्रदेश सरकारों की तरफ से इस पर विचार आएंगे, वैसे ही इस कार्य की शुरुआत कर दी जाएगी।

डा. प्रदीप कुमार बालमुच्च : सभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा सप्लिमेंट्री है, जैसे कि अभी किसानों की बात चल रही है, मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि किसानों का जो एग्रीकल्चरल प्रॉडक्ट है, उसको बाजार तक ले जाने के लिए उन्हें जो असुविधाएं हो रही हैं, उन असुविधाओं को देखते हुए क्या सरकार किसानों को कोई सुविधा या कोई सब्सिडी देने का विचार रखती है?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति महोदय, एक सुविधा पर सरकार का लगातार विचार है, वह है ई-मार्केटिंग। इसके द्वारा अगर किसान अपनी कोई भी एग्रीकल्चरल कमांडिटी वेयरहाउस में रखता है, तो ई-टेंडरिंग के द्वारा उसकी बिक्री की जा सकती है। इसके लिए ट्रांसपोर्ट सब्सिडी का प्रावधान करने के लिए अभी तक सरकार का कोई विचार नहीं है।

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Thank you, Chairman, Sir. This is a very important issue. In the Minister's answer, paragraph (a) states that 'the Central Government has been engaging with the States for more than a decade to implement reforms in the sector. The reforms include development of alternative marketing channels involving greater private sector participation.' Sir, agricultural markets should not be privatized. If these are privatized, the farmers will be treated as bonded labour and then the black-markets will be encouraged. The price of agricultural products will be fixed by the corporate sector. Then, the farmers of the entire nation will be doomed. This is not advisable.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, in the recent Budget speech, our Finance Minister has announced and page number 8 and paragraph 33 of his speech states that 'While the farmer is no longer in the clutches of the local trader, his produce still does not command the best national price.' ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please ask your question?

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: 'To increase the income of farmers, it is imperative that we create a National Agriculture Market..' What happened to that? In the Budget speech itself, the Finance Minister announced it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Yes, I am coming to the question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. You have taken too long to come to the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: It relates to farmers' suicide. It is a very important issue. The National Agriculture Market has been announced in the Budget speech by the Finance Minister. But instead of that, now the Agriculture Minister is saying

that it is going to be privatized. Then, it will be very harmful to the farmers. What happened to the National Agriculture Market Scheme announced by the Finance Minister? How much budgetary provision to the States was given under the National Agriculture Market Scheme?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: सभापति महोदय, नेशनल एग्रीकल्चर मार्केट का जो कंसेप्ट है, उसे मैं माननीय सदस्य को समझाना चाहूंगा। इसके लिए केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से 200 करोड़ रुपये का प्रॉविजन है। इसके द्वारा हम पूरे देश में 500 मंडियों को सेलेक्ट कर के हर मंडी को 30 लाख रुपये जल्दी ही देने जा रहे हैं, जिससे पूरे देश की मार्केटिंग ई-मार्केट से जुड़ जाए। नेशनल एग्रीकल्चर मार्केट का कंसेप्ट प्राइवेटाइजेशन नहीं है, वह इसका एक छोटा-सा पार्ट है। इसका कंसेप्ट है कि पूरे देश की एग्रीकल्चर कमोडिटीज़ की ई-मार्केट के साथ बिक्री की जा सके, वे एक साथ जुड़ सकें और सारे प्रदेशों में ई-मार्केटिंग की शुरुआत की जा सके। कर्णाटक में कर्णाटक सरकार की तरफ से इसकी शुरुआत कर दी गई है और कर्णाटक की 52 मंडियों में ई-मार्केटिंग शुरू हो चुकी है। उसी पैटर्न पर पूरे देश को एक साथ जोड़ने की योजना केंद्र सरकार की है और जल्दी ही इसकी शुरुआत होने जा रही है।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Respected Chairman, these are the days of agrarian agony. Agricultural marketing through e-trading is gaining ground all across the nation, including in my State of Telangana. And the reforms proposed by the Union Government have been accepted by several States, including my State of Telangana. I want to know whether the Union Government is on the way to develop e-platform model as a pilot project for the national market for agricultural commodities and whether it is envisaging to first take up the commercial crops like cotton, sugarcane and other products so that new examples can come up to evaluate the total national agricultural market.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति महोदय, नेशनल एग्रीकल्चर मार्केट में एग्रीकल्चर की सभी कमोडिटीज़ का ध्यान रखा गया है, न कि कॉटन, शुगर, हार्टिकल्चर क्रॉप्स, वेजिटेबल्स, फ्रूट्स का। इसमें सभी चीजें इन्क्लूड हैं। मैं माननीय सांसद को बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि तेलंगाना उन प्रदेशों में शामिल है, जिन्होंने इन सुधारों की वकालत की है। इसमें सभी फसलें आएंगी, सभी एग्रीकल्चर कमोडिटीज़ की ई-ट्रेडिंग होगी और कॉटन सहित सभी चीजें इसमें शामिल होंगी।

Scheme to encourage students in agriculture-related fields

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

(a) the number of Agricultural Universities in the country at present, location and State-wise;

(b) the number of students who got graduation/post graduation degrees in the said Universities during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate any scheme to encourage the students to engage in agriculture-related fields and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) At present there are 73 Agricultural Universities (AUs), including 5 Deemed-to-be universities, 2 Central Agricultural Universities, 4 Central Universities with agriculture faculty. The location wise list of AUs is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) the number of students who got graduation/post graduation degrees in the said universities during the last three years, year-wise is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The course on Experiential Learning for agricultural graduates has been initiated inculcating hands on training and developing entrepreneurship skills to build confidence amongst UG students.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under its Twelfth Plan Scheme “Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India” has initiated a programme of ‘Student READY’. The programme aims to provide rural entrepreneurship awareness, practical experience in real-life situations in rural agriculture and creating awareness in undergraduate students for pursuing a better career in agriculture farming. For this an enhanced rate of stipend has been built into the scheme.

The Government of India has launched a Central Sector Scheme, ‘Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers (ACABC) Scheme, during the year 2002 and revised in the year 2010 for the benefit of the unemployed graduates in agricultural and allied subjects as well as to provide supplementary extension services to the farmers through agri-ventures established by qualified candidates. The details of the scheme are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

The Scheme Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) has been recently sanctioned for the Twelfth Plan period at a cost of ₹ 100 Crores, and is conceived to be operated through selected Krishi Vigyan Kendras from different States all over the country. The project will cover around 400 rural youth in each

identified district centre in the country. A total of 10000 youths is targeted to be supported in a five year period. The selection of youth would be considered with due representation to gender and social classes. The project will provide support towards income generating technologies, services and enterprises, which are essentially required in the villages. The project proposes to provide technical and financial support to upscale/commercialize promising innovations that provide the required incentive to youth to engage in agriculture related field.

Statement-I

Details of Indian Agricultural Universities Location-wise and State-wise

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
State Agricultural universities		
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad	Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030 Andhra Pradesh
2.	Dr. YSRHU (APHU) Venkataramannagudem (AP)	Dr YSR Horticultural University, Administrative office, Venkataramannagudem, PB No. 7, West Godavari Dist., Tadepalligudem-534101 Andhra Pradesh
3.	Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati	Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Administrative Office, Dr YSR Bhawan, Tirupati-517502, Andhra Pradesh
Assam		
4.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat-785013 Assam
Bihar		
5.	Rajender Agricultural University, Pusa Samstipur	Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur-848125 Bihar
6.	Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur	Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur-813210 Bihar
Chhattisgarh		
7.	Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Raipur	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishak Nagar, Raipur-492006 Chhattisgarh

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
8.	Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur	Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Anjora, Durg-491001 Chhattisgarh

Gujarat

9.	Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada	Sardarkrushinagar-Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar, Dantiwada-385506 Gujarat
10.	Anand Agricultural University, Anand	Anand Agricultural University, Anand-388110 (Gujarat)
11.	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari	Navsari Agricultural University, Eru Char Rasta, Navsari-396450 Gujarat
12.	Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh	Junagadh Agricultural University, Near Motibagh, Vanthali Road, Junagadh 362001 (Gujarat)
13.	Kamdhenu University, Amreli	Kamdhenu University, Amreli (Gujarat)

Haryana

14.	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Haryana
15.	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar, Haryana

Himachal Pradesh

16.	Ch. Sarwan Kumar Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur	CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur-176062 Himachal Pradesh
17.	Dr. Yaswant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan	Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan-173230 Himachal Pradesh

Jharkhand

18.	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi	Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur-813210 Bihar
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Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
Jammu and Kashmir		
19.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Srinagar	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shalimar Campus, Srinagar 190025 Jammu and Kashmir
20.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Jammu	Sher-e-Kashmir Univ of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu, Administrative Bldg, Main Campus, Chatha, Jammu-180009 (J&K)
Karnataka		
21.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore	University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK Campus, Bangalore-560065 Karnataka
22.	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, PB No 6, Nandinagar, Bidar-585401 Karnataka
23.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur	University of Agricultural Sciences, PB 329, Raichur 584102 Karnataka
24.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	University of Agricultural Sciences, Yettinagudda Campus, Krishi Nagar, Dharwad-580005 Karnataka
25.	University Horticulture Science, Bagalkot	University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot-587103 Karnataka
26.	University Agriculture and Horticulture Science, Shimoga	University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, No.126, Navile, Shimoga-577204 Karnataka
Kerala		
27.	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur	Kerala Agricultural University, PO KAU, Vellanikkara, Thrissur-680656 Kerala
28.	Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Panangad	Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies, Panangad P.O., Kochi-682506 Kerala
29.	Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Lakkidi	Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode, Lakkidi P.O., Wayanad-673576 Kerala

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
Madhya Pradesh		
30.	Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior-474002 (MP)	Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa-vidhyalaya, Opposite Mela Ground, Race Course Road, Gwalior-474002 Madhya Pradesh
31.	Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu Chikitsa Visva Vidyalaya, Jabalpur	Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur Madhya Pradesh
32.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Krishi Nagar, Adhartal, Jabalpur-482004 Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra		
33.	Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Kokan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli	Dr Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Ratnagiri-415712 Maharashtra
34.	Maharashtra Animal and Fisheries. Sciences University, Nagpur	Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Futala Road, Telangkhedi, Nagpur-440001 Maharashtra
35.	Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani (Maharashtra)	Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidapeeth, Prabhani-431402 Maharashtra
36.	Matatam Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Tal Rahuri, Dist. Ahmednagar-413722 Maharashtra
37.	Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Akola	Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, P.O. Krishi Nagar, Akola-444104 Maharashtra
Odisha		
38.	Orissa University of Agricultural and Technology, Bhubaneswar	Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar 751003 Odisha

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
Punjab		
39.	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana-141004 Punjab
40.	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana	Punjab Agricultural University, Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana-141004 Punjab
Rajasthan		
41.	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur	Maharana Pratap Univ. of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur-313001 Rajasthan
42.	Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner	Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Beechwal, Bikaner-334006 Rajasthan
43.	Rajasthan University of Veterinary & Animal Science, Bikaner	Rajasthan Univ. of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bijay Bhawan Place Complex (Pt Deen Dayal circle) Bikaner 334001 Rajasthan
44.	SKN Agriculture University, Jobner	Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner-303329
45.	Agriculture University, Kota	Agriculture University Kota, Borkhera, Kota-324001
46.	Agriculture University, Jodhpur	Agriculture University Jodhpur, Mandor, Jodhpur-342304
Tamil Nadu		
47.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Lawley Road, Coimbatore-641003 Tamil Nadu
48.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Madhavaram Milk Colony Campus, Madhavaram, Chennai-600051 Tamil Nadu
49.	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, Nagapattinam	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, First Line Beach Road, Nagapattinam-611001, Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
Telangana		
50.	Sri Konda Laxman Teleangana University	Sri Konda Laxman Teleangana State Horticulture University, HQ at Rajendra Nagar Campus, hyderabad
51.	Sri. P. V. Narsimha Rao Telangana State University	Sri. P. V. Narsimha Rao Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad
52.	Prof. Jayashankar Teleangana State Agricultural University	Prof. Jayashankar Teleangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad
Uttarakhand		
53.	Govind Ballabh Bhai Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar-263145 Uttarakhand
54.	Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar	Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar-246123 Dist. Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand
Uttar Pradesh		
55.	Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agricultural and Technology, Kanpur	Chandra Shekar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur-208002, Uttar Pradesh
56.	Narendradeo University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad	Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad-224229, Uttar Pradesh
57.	Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut	Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel Univ. of Agriculture and Technology Roorkee Road, Modipuram, Meerut-250110 Uttar Pradesh
58.	U.P. Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwa Vidhyalaya Evem Go Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura	UP Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwa Vidhyalaya Evam Go Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
59.	Manyavar Shri Kashiram ji University of Agricultural and Technology, Banda	Manyavar Shri Kanshiram ji University of Agriculture and Technology, Chilla Road, Banda-210001 Uttar Pradesh

West Bengal

60.	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Mohanpur	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, P.O. Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia-741252 West Bengal
61.	West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata	West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, 37 and 68 KB Sarani, Kolkata-700037 West Bengal
62.	Uttar Bang Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Cooch Behar	Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, PO Pundbari, Cooch Behar-736165 West Bengal

Central University

63.	Central Agricultural University, Imphal	Central Agricultural University, Iroisemba, Imphal-795004, Manipur
64.	Rani Laxami Bai Central Agricultural University	Rani Laxami Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh

Deemed University

65.	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa-110012, New Delhi
66.	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Panch Marg, Off Yari Road, Versova, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400061 Maharashtra
67.	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly-243122, Uttar Pradesh
68.	Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Allahabad	Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (Formerly Allahabad Agricultural Institute) Rewa Road, Allahabad-211007

Sl.No.	Name of University	Address
69.	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal-132001, Haryana
Central University with Agricultural Faculty		
70.	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202 002
71.	Nagaland University, Medziphema	Nagaland University, Lumani, Nagaland
72.	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005, Uttar Pradesh
73.	Vishwa Bharti, Sriniketan	Vishwa-Bharati University, Shantiniketan 731 235, Birbhum Dist, West Bengal

Statement-II

The number of students, who got graduation/post-graduation degrees in the said universities during the last three years, year-wise:

Year	2012	2013	2014
UG	19824	20656	23595
Master's	8814	8304	9223
Doctoral	1217	1426	1670
TOTAL	29855	30386	34488

Statement-III

Details of Central Sector Scheme, "Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centers (ACABC) Scheme

(a) This scheme is aimed at providing opportunities to unemployed graduates in agriculture and allied subjects from SAUs/CAUs, Universities recognized by ICAR/UGC etc.

(b) The scheme has following objectives :

- To supplement efforts of public extension by necessarily providing extension and other services to the farmers on payment basis or free of cost as per business model of agri-preneur, local needs and affordability of target group of farmers;
- To support agriculture development; and

- To create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed agricultural graduates, agricultural diploma holders, intermediate in agriculture and science graduates with PG in agri related courses.

(c) Components of the Scheme :

- (i) **Training Component:** Handled by MANAGE, Hyderabad. Selected candidates are provided with a training of 60 days at selected Nodal Training Institutes on establishment of venture related to agricultural and allied activities.
- (ii) **Subsidy Component:** Implemented by NABARD, Mumbai. Subsidy is extended for establishment of agri-ventures by the candidates who have completed training under the scheme.

Ceiling of project cost for subsidy is:

1. ₹ 20 lakh for individual project (₹ 25 lakh in case of extremely successful projects)
2. ₹ 100 lakh for group projects.

Subsidy pattern is:

1. 44% of project cost for women, SC/ST and candidates from NE and Hill States.
2. 36% of project cost for all other categories.

The candidates who have undergone training have established ventures all over the country, which include the following major services in rural areas:

1. Agri Clinics
2. Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business
3. Dairy/Poultry/Piggy/Guttery
4. Veterinary Clinics
5. Farm Machinery Unit
6. Nursery
7. Seed Processing and Marketing
8. Fisheries Development
9. Vermi-compost/Organic Manure

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: The Minister in his reply has stated that we have 73 agricultural universities all over the country and the total number of students in 2014 is 34,439. My question is this. India is a vast country. Do you think the

number of agricultural universities in the country at present is sufficient? Have you made any investigation as to how many more technically sound universities are needed to be set up in the country? Also, do you think the old universities ought to be modernised at present?

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question at a time.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Some of the universities are based on old model. Bidhan Chandra Viswavidyalaya in West Bengal is an old model. I want to know whether the Government is going to modernise all these agricultural universities.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, सरकार की पिछले बजट में ही दो नई एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज और दो नई हार्टिकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज खोलने की योजना थी, जिनमें से एक आंध्र प्रदेश, एक तेलंगाना, एक राजस्थान और एक हरियाणा में खोलने की योजना है। इसके अलावा दो नई आईएआरआई, जिनमें से एक झारखंड और एक असम में खोलने की सरकार ने पिछले साल announcement की थी। इन पर सरकार का लगातार कार्य चल रहा है।

जहां तक पुरानी यूनिवर्सिटीज के माडर्नाइजेशन की बात है, चूंकि ज्यादातर यूनिवर्सिटीज स्टेट एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, इसलिए इसमें जो भी शुरुआत होनी है, वह प्रदेश सरकार की तरफ से होनी है। केंद्र सरकार इसमें मदद करती है। यह initiative प्रदेश सरकार की तरफ से होगा।

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, public sector banks have directed the Financial Literacy and Credit Counselling Centres (FLCCC) in rural areas to guide and urge the farmers to sow crops that require less care and irrigation to control damages in case of insufficient monsoon. I want to know whether the Minister of Agriculture is aware of the decision of the banks; if so, tell us what steps the Ministry has taken to spread this idea among the farmers.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, पूरे देश में 641 कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रों के द्वारा ICAR के जो भी नये researches हैं, उनको किसानों तक पहुँचाने की व्यवस्था है। उसके अलावा भी स्टेट एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट द्वारा sponsored scheme ATMA है, उसके द्वारा जो भी नये रिसर्च या सुझाव हैं, उनको किसानों तक पहुँचाने का काम सरकार करती है।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: महोदय, इस सवाल के जवाब में देश भर में यूनिवर्सिटीज का जो नेटवर्क है, बताया गया है कि 73 एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, जिनमें 5 डीम्ड यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, 2 सेंट्रल एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं और 4 ऐसी यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, जहां पर एग्रीकल्चर पढ़ाया जाता है।

सर, आज का नौजवान एग्रीकल्चर के क्षेत्र में जाने से hesitate करता है। वह एग्रीकल्चर को एडॉप्ट करना नहीं चाहता। तो मेरा एक सिम्पल क्वेश्चन है कि सरकार क्या उपाय करेगी ताकि आज का नौजवान एग्रीकल्चर करने के लिए आकर्षित हो? अपने फादर के खेती के काम को आगे जारी रखने की, जो उसकी परम्परा है, तो नौजवान भी खेती के लिए जाए, उसके लिए सरकार की क्या योजना है?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, सरकार की तरफ से इसमें तीन initiatives पहले से ही मौजूद हैं। ये initiatives शरद पवार जी के समय के ही हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहूँगा कि वे हमारे समय के हैं। सरकार की एक स्कीम Student READY scheme है। इसमें पहले एक हजार रुपये प्रति माह प्रत्येक स्टूडेंट को वजीफा मिलता था, अब उसको बढ़ा कर तीन हजार रुपये प्रति माह किया जा रहा है। एक और स्कीम ARYA Scheme (Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture) है। उसके द्वारा हम 25 कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रों में 400 students per Krishi Vigyan Kendra, यानी हम पूरे देश से total 10,000 students लेंगे। यह जो स्कीम है, इसमें एक लाख रुपये प्रत्येक छात्र के ऊपर खर्च होगा। एक तीसरी स्कीम Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres है। यह भी एक बहुत पुरानी स्कीम है। ये तीनों स्कीम्स लगातार चल रही हैं, जो यूथ को एग्रीकल्चर की तरफ attract करने के लिए हैं।

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता: सर, अगर आप देखें, तो पूरे देश में एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज का जाल है। लेकिन, मैं जो पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें न तो research and development का कोई इतना प्रावधान है और न ही हमारे सामने इतना रिजल्ट आ रहा है। अगर आप देखें, तो दुनिया एग्रीकल्चर में और floriculture में, कहां से कहां पहुँच गयी। इजराइल जैसा मुल्क, जहां पर पानी नाम की चीज नहीं है और रेत के सिवाय कुछ नहीं है, वहां के लोगों ने इसमें बहुत डेवलपमेंट की है। तो क्यों नहीं हम अपनी एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज को more technically sound basis पर डेवलप करें, rather than increasing numbers? आज भी हमारे यहां ये 73 हैं, 5 deemed Universities हैं तथा आप 5 और खोलने जा रहे हैं। आपकी यह बात ठीक है। इस देश के हर हिस्से में यह होनी चाहिए। लेकिन, जो technical development होनी चाहिए तथा research and development होनी चाहिए, अगर आप किसी यूनिवर्सिटी में जायें, तो आप देखेंगे कि वहां पर इसकी जो स्थिति है, वह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है।

मान्यवर, शरद पवार साहब यहां बैठे हैं। इनके क्षेत्र में हम लोग गये हैं। अगर आप वहां जाकर देखेंगे तो आप भूल जायेंगे कि आप यूनिवर्सिटी में हैं या उससे बाहर हैं। आप देखिए कि इन्होंने वहां पर अपने क्षेत्र में खेती की फील्ड में और फ्रूट्स की फील्ड में क्या डेवलपमेंट की है। तो क्यों नहीं हमारी यूनिवर्सिटीज को और research and development-oriented बनाया जाए?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सांसद महोदय ने जो कहा है, वह बिल्कुल ठीक है। मैं शरद पवार जी के क्षेत्र में गया हूँ, तो मुझे भी वहां देख कर ऐसा ही लगा है कि पूरे देश में कम से कम हॉर्टिकल्चर के फील्ड में ऐसा ही होना चाहिए, जो उन्होंने अपने क्षेत्र में किया है।

सर, यह भी सच है कि आज जो एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, चूँकि मैं भी एक एग्रीकल्चर यूनिवर्सिटी का छात्र रहा हूँ और मैंने वहीं से Ph.D की है, तो जो रिसर्च का सिस्टम है, वह उतना अच्छा नहीं है। यह ICAR के Institutes में उससे बेहतर है। इसके लिए यह बात भी है कि रिसर्च के मामले में जो State Agricultural Universities हैं, उनको लगातार इतना फंड नहीं मिल पाया। चूँकि यह विषय केंद्र और प्रदेश दोनों से जुड़ा हुआ है, इसलिए मैं अपनी तरफ से तो कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे द्वारा लगातार इस बात के प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं कि रिसर्च में बजट कुछ बढ़े, लेकिन प्रदेश सरकारों को भी इसमें आगे आना पड़ेगा, क्योंकि State Agricultural Universities का जो भी बजट का प्रोविजन है, वह ज्यादातर प्रदेश सरकार की तरफ से है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Parida. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता: बजट कम या ज्यादा होने का यह मसला ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prem Chandji, your question is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता: उसमें research and development के ऊपर फोकस क्यों नहीं जा रहा है? ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question is over. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Parida.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Sir, there are a number of Agricultural Universities in the country and they are engaged in research work. As my friends have already mentioned, the level of research is not very high which could be utilised for the purpose of developing agriculture. But the seats in agricultural universities are limited. Our country is vast. Is there any plan to introduce Agriculture in the Science stream in colleges where it could be studied as a subject, or taken up as an Honours subject, so that a large number of students could then be educated and trained in the colleges and not necessarily in agricultural universities? Are you thinking on those lines?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल किया है, अगर वे व्यक्तिगत रूप से मुझसे पूछें, तो मैं इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि एग्रीकल्चर एज ए सब्जेक्ट होना चाहिए, लेकिन यह मैटर प्रदेश सरकारों से और दूसरी मिनिस्ट्री से जुड़ा हुआ है। मैंने व्यक्तिगत रूप से भी कई मिनिस्टर्स से बात की थी, एक बार एचआरडी मिनिस्टर से भी इस बारे में लगातार बात की थी। शरद पवार जी इसको ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से समझेंगे, क्योंकि यह इतना कॉम्प्लेक्स सब्जेक्ट है, इसमें मेरे द्वारा कोई जवाब नहीं दिया जा सकता। मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से माननीय सदस्य की बात से सहमत हूँ। जहां तक सीट बढ़ाने की बात है, उस संबंध में मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमने इस वर्ष देश भर में जितने भी वेटेरनरी कॉलेजेज़ हैं, उनमें जो 60 स्टूडेंट्स प्रति कॉलेज की लिमिट थी, उसको बढ़ा कर पहले ही इस वर्ष से 100 स्टूडेंट्स प्रति कॉलेज कर दिया गया है।

Auction of mobile phone airwaves

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

(a) whether Government has successfully auctioned mobile phone airwaves spectrum during March, 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount Government will receive from the mobile companies in future; and

(c) the criteria and guidelines fixed by Government for mobile operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Government has successfully auctioned spectrum in 2100/1800/900/800 MHz bands during March 2015.

(b) The details of the Auction of spectrum conducted in March, 2015 are as given below:—

Band	On Offer			Realization			
	No. of Service Areas	Quantum of Spectrum (MHz)	Value of spectrum on offer at Reserve Price (₹ cr)	No of Service Areas where Spectrum allocated	Quantum of Allocated Spectrum (MHz)	Value of spectrum at Reserve Price MHz (₹ cr)	Value realized at Winning Price (₹ cr)
2100 MHz	17	85	17555.00	14	70.00	9620.00	10115.41
1800 MHz	15	99.2	8936.20	14	93.80	8292.40	9636.17
900 MHz	17	177.8	40223.80	17	168.00	37841.00	72964.54
800 MHz	20	108.75	13562.50	18	86.25	9710.00	17158.79
	69	470.75	80277.5	63	418.05	65463.40	109874.91

An amount of ₹ 32377.85 crores has been received as upfront payment from successful bidders. An installment of ₹ 15133.36 crores per year would be received from successful bidders, from 2018 onwards for ten years.

(c) Successful Bidders had to make either full upfront payment or Deferred payment, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) An upfront payment of 33% in the case of 1800 MHz band, and 25% in case of 900 MHz and 800 MHz bands of the final bid amount to be made within 10 days of declaration of successful bidders and final price;
- (ii) There is a moratorium of 2 years for payment of balance amount of one time charges for the spectrum, which shall be recovered in 10 equal annual installments with interest applicable at SBI Base rate.
- (iii) The 1st installment of the balance due shall become due on the third anniversary of the scheduled date of the first payment. Subsequent installment shall become due on the same date of each following year.

- (iv) The successful bidder shall securitize the annual installment for the deferred payment through a financial bank guarantee (FBG) of an amount of one annual installment.
- (v) In case of overdue payments, penal interest shall be charged on the delayed amount from the due date at the prime lending rate of the State Bank of India, applicable on the due date, plus 2% (compounded monthly), and a part of the month shall be reckoned as a full month for the purpose of calculation of interest.
- (vi) If due payments are not received within time plus a grace period of 10 days, the sum shall be recovered by encashing the Financial Bank Guarantee.
- (vii) In the event of default in payment of installments, in addition to the action as provided in the paras above, DOT may terminate the license and spectrum allotment/assignment, in which case, the allotted/assigned spectrum will revert back to DOT. The FBGs in such cases will be encashed. This would be without prejudice to any other remedy DOT may decide to resort to.

Failing deposit of upfront payment and requisite Bank Guarantees by the successful bidders, the Earnest Money Deposit shall stand forfeited. In case of the date of payment being Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday, the effective date of payment was to be considered as next working day. All payments were to be made by the Successful Bidders through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) into the designated account specified by DoT.

श्री संजय राउत: सर, स्पेक्ट्रम को ऊंची कीमतों पर बिना घोटाले के बेचना मोदी सरकार की सबसे बड़ी सफलता है और इस नीलामी से सरकार को करीब 1.10 लाख करोड़ रुपए मिले। उससे जीरो लॉस वाली जो थ्योरी थी पहले की सरकार की, वह गलत साबित हुई। सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो अभी ऑक्शन हुआ है, उस ऑक्शन का असली मकसद क्या था? स्पेक्ट्रम ऑक्शन का मकसद कंज्यूमर्स को कम रेट पर अच्छी सर्विस, अच्छी सेवाएं देना होता है, लेकिन यहाँ ऑक्शन का जो उद्देश्य दिखता है, वह है, ज्यादा से ज्यादा रेवेन्यू सरकार को मिलना चाहिए। उस मकसद से ऑक्शन किया गया और प्रधान मंत्री जी का 'डिजिटल इंडिया' का जो सपना है, वह हमारे देश का सपना है। हमारे देश में लगभग 90 करोड़ मोबाइल यूजर्स हैं और 30 करोड़ से भी ज्यादा इंटरनेट यूजर्स हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस ऑक्शन से आपको जो रेवेन्यू मिला है, उससे सरकार को तो पैसा मिला है, लेकिन जो लाखों-करोड़ों कंज्यूमर्स हैं, उनको क्या सेवा मिलेगी, ज्यादा सुविधाएं क्या मिलेंगी?

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: सभापति जी, नई सरकार बड़े पारदर्शी तरीके से इसको पिछले मार्च महीने से शुरू करके देश के सामने लेकर आई है। अभी जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि लगभग

एक लाख दस हजार करोड़ का मुनाफा सरकार को हुआ है। मैं इसको थोड़ा और विस्तार से बताता हूँ। Upfront हमको लगभग 32 हजार करोड़ रुपए मिला और आने वाले दस सालों में सालाना 15 हजार करोड़ से थोड़ा ज्यादा मिलेगा, अगर आने वाले बारह सालों में 2018 से आने वाले टोटल रेवेन्यू को जोड़ दें, तो यह कुल 1 लाख 83 हजार करोड़ रुपए हो जाएगा। इस प्रकार से यह एक बड़ी उपलब्धि हुई है। हमें विरासत में जो मिला था, उससे देश के अंदर एक confidence पैदा हुआ कि स्पेक्ट्रम में भी यह हो सकता है और उसको यह सरकार ने करके दिखाया। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने जो महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाया है कि उससे आखिर ग्राहकों को क्या फायदा मिलेगा।

सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को और मान्यवर सदस्य को अवगत कराना चाहूंगा कि सबसे ज्यादा लाभ ग्राहकों को मिलेगा। इससे स्पेक्ट्रम का दायरा बढ़ा है, नई स्पेक्ट्रम आई है। डिफेंस मिनिस्ट्री से लंबे समय से हमारी बातचीत चल रही थी कि हमको कुछ additional spectrum मिले। पिछले सात सालों के विवाद को सुलझाते हुए डिफेंस से additional spectrum आया। Spectrum की band width बढ़ी, उसके कारण सर्विस की क्वालिटी बढ़ेगी। जो कॉल ड्रॉप आउट होती था, अभी भी जो कॉल ड्रॉप आउट ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता: सर ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: प्रेम चन्द जी, मुझे अपना उत्तर दे देने दीजिए, फिर आपकी supplementary भी ले लूंगा। अभी जो कॉल ड्रॉप आउट होता है, उस कॉल की क्वालिटी बढ़ेगी, ग्रामीण इलाके में विशेष करके उसकी सर्विस बढ़ेगी। दूसरी बात यह है कि पहले टेलीफोन सर्विस voicing होती थी, धीरे-धीरे data आई, data के कई प्रकार के नए-नए आयाम आए। आने वाले दिनों में सरकार की जो एक महत्वाकांक्षी योजना है, वह है, भारत के आम जन को 'डिजिटल इंडिया' के साथ जोड़ना। महोदय, यह उसका व्यू है, यह उसकी foundation है, उसमें ग्राहक सबसे ज्यादा फायदे में रहेंगे।

श्री संजय राउत: सर, जो ऑक्शन हुआ, उसमें बड़ी-बड़ी कंपनियों ने बोली लगाई, ऊँची कीमत पर बोली लगाई। यह कोई चैरिटी वर्क नहीं था, यह कोई चैरिटी का काम नहीं था। जिसने भी यह बोली लगाई, वह कंपनी अपना मुनाफा कमाएगी और उसका बोझ कंज्यूमर पर भी पड़ेगा। हमने यह सुना और पढ़ा है कि ये सारी कंपनियां कॉल रेट्स बढ़ाने की फिराक में हैं। उनकी योजना 15 परसेंट कॉल रेट्स बढ़ाने की है। इस बारे में सरकार क्या करेगी, उन पर कैसे कंट्रोल करेगी? दूसरी बात, आपने 1 लाख 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये के रेवेन्यू की जो बात कही है, वह आपको वर्ष 2018 से मिलेगा, लेकिन अभी आपको क्या मिला है, यह भी मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ।

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: सभापति जी, अभी तो upfront में सीधा-सीधा 32 हजार करोड़ रुपये मिले हैं। यह पूरा ट्रांसपैरेंट है और यह वेबसाइट पर है। दूसरी बात, इन्होंने यह शंका व्यक्त की है कि कॉल रेट्स 15 परसेंट बढ़ जाएंगे। महोदय, एक तो कई सालों से हमने यह तय किया हुआ है कि देश के टेलिकॉम सेक्टर में "ट्राई" ही टैरिफ तय करेगी। दूसरा, टेलिकॉम सेक्टर के प्राइस मेकेनिज्म का जो इतिहास है, उससे यह शंका वाजिब है, इसको मैं अस्वीकार नहीं करता हूँ। जिन्होंने निवेश किया है, क्या वे अपने निवेश का मुनाफा कमाना नहीं चाहेंगे, वे इसे कंज्यूमर्स

के ऊपर पास ऑन करना चाहेंगे, यह एक स्वाभाविक शंका है। सभापति जी, हम यह न भूलें कि इस देश में जब टेलिफोन कंपनियों ने अपना काम शुरू किया, तब वह 17-18 रुपये के एक कॉल पर शुरू हुआ था। आज जब हम टेलीकॉम में स्पेक्ट्रम के बैंडविड्थ बढ़ा रहे हैं, इसके गेटवे को बढ़ा कर रहे हैं, इसमें कॉम्पिटिशन बढ़ रहा है और सरकार ने जान-बूझकर इसको टेक्नोलॉजी न्यूट्रल किया है और अब इसमें किसी सीडीएमए या जीएसएम को प्राइऑरिटी देने अथवा इसको ज्यादा उसको कम देने जैसी बात की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं रह गई है। यह टेक्नोलॉजी न्यूट्रल रहेगी और धीरे-धीरे यह भी संभव है कि यह शंका शायद गलत साबित हो। यह बात भी सुनने में आई है कि 4जी में फ्री टॉकिंग टाइम होगा, यानी बात तो मुफ्त में होगी ही, उसके साथ-साथ सर्विस में भी पैसे आएँगे। इसलिए यह शंका अभी premature है। आने वाले दिनों में सभी ग्राहकों को और सहूलियतें मिलेंगी और उसके साथ-साथ और सेवाएँ भी मिल सकती हैं।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि एयर वेक्स के ऑक्शन के समय क्या इस बात का भी ध्यान रखा गया या यह कंडीशन इम्पोज़ की गई कि ग्राहकों के हित की रक्षा की जाएगी? आपकी kitty में करोड़ों रुपये तो आ रहे हैं, मगर साथ ही साथ कॉल ड्रॉप की समस्या भी सामने आ रही है, यानी एक कॉल में तीन-तीन, चार-चार कॉल्स हो रहे हैं। अगर उन कंपनियों के 20-22 करोड़ कंज्यूमर्स हैं, तो इस वजह से प्रति मिनट उनकी kitty में कितना पैसा जा रहा होगा? इसके साथ ही, ऐड-ऑन सर्विसेज़ के नाम पर वे कभी 30 रुपये तो कभी 50 रुपये का बिल भेज देते हैं। ये जो दंड उपभोक्ता के ऊपर लग रहा है, इससे उनको प्रोटेक्ट करने के लिए सरकार ने कोई व्यवस्था की है, ताकि कंपनियाँ इस प्रकार का जो शोषण कर रही हैं, वे ऐसा न करें?

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: सभापति जी, "ट्राई" की यह प्रमुख जवाबदेही है कि मोनोपली न हो और "ट्राई" की जो भूमिका है, वह जो निर्णय करेगी, उससे सरकार भी बँधी हुई है और कंपनियाँ भी बँधी हुई हैं। बाकी उन्होंने सही कहा है। इसलिए इस बार, मैं स्पेक्ट्रम के बारे में एक ही उदाहरण देता हूँ, क्योंकि इसके साथ कई सारे टेक्नोलॉजी इश्यूज़ जुड़े हुए हैं। पहले 2100, 1800, 900 और 800 मेगाहर्ट्ज़ की अलग-अलग नीलामी होती थी। इसी को एक बड़े बैंडविड्थ के साथ simultaneously नीलामी की गई है, ताकि इसकी टेक्नोलॉजिकल सहूलियत रहे। इन्वेस्टर्स अपने सारे कारोबार करते हुए technology savvy भी हो पाएँ और कोशिश है कि उसमें ग्राहकों को दिक्कत न आए।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, we have learnt that 48,72,027 units of calls have emanated from one telephone number, No. 24371515 in the month of March 2007 alone, which is indicative of the massive multimedia transfer in the underlying connections. It is just one of the 323 lines accounted for over 48 lakh call units in March 2007 alone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please put your question.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Almost 49 call units in one month have gone from 323 phone connections.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, it has unlawfully robbed the BSNL during January 2007 to April 2007 and now the BSNL is under a very massive crisis that this year alone, ₹ 7287 crores are lost for BSNL in 2012-13 and in 2011...

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, the supplementary question is not connected with this question.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: It is related to this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Mobile phone Airways spectrum...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow speeches during Question Hour.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: In the Spectrum alone,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You just put your question.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, every year, BSNL is incurring a loss of ₹ 10,000 crores. Is this true or not? I want to know that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can just answer the question.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: This is altogether a separate question. I honour the question. With your permission, Sir, I will inform the hon. Member separately.

श्री अजय संचेती : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो स्पेक्ट्रम के माध्यम से जो पैसा कलेक्ट हुआ है, उसमें मैं एक जानकारी लेना चाहूंगा कि आजकल सारे शहरों में कॉल ड्रॉप्स बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गए हैं। जब कॉल ड्रॉप होते हैं तो एक ही बार बात करने के लिए तीन-तीन, चार-चार बार एक ही जगह टेलीफोन लगाने पड़ते हैं। तो इसका जो पेमेंट है वह कंज्यूमर को करना पड़ता है। तो जिस तरीके से कम्पनियां स्पेक्ट्रम के लिए पैसा दे रही हैं, क्या वे अपने इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को भी बढ़ाएंगी, ताकि अल्टीमेटली कंज्यूमर के ऊपर बोझा न पड़े?

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान : सर, कई सदस्यों ने इस विषय के बारे में चिंता की है। मैं सदन को आपके माध्यम से आश्वस्त करना चाहूंगा कि स्पेक्ट्रम की मल्टी डॉयमेंशनेलटी बढ़ाने का यही उद्देश्य है कि इसमें ग्राहकों को इस प्रकार की दिक्कत आगे न आए। यह प्रश्न वाजिब है, विभाग इसकी चिंता करेगा।

Area under Micro-Irrigation

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

(a) the details of area under micro-irrigation, including drip and sprinkle irrigation, across the country; and

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the extent of areas under micro-irrigation in view of increasing water shortage across the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The total area covered under Micro Irrigation across the country as on 28.02.2015 is approximately 76.23 lakh ha. The details of area covered under micro-irrigation, including drip and sprinkler irrigation, are given in the Statement (*See below*).

With a view to increase the area coverage under micro-irrigation in the country, the Government of India has been implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation (MI) since January, 2006, which was up-scaled as the National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June, 2010. From 1st April, 2014, NMMI was subsumed under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and implemented as “On Farm Water Management” (OFWM).

An announcement has been made in the Budget (2015-16) for providing funds for Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) under the Budget Heads of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC); and Department of Land Resources. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation would continue to promote Micro Irrigation with the resources earmarked for PMKSY in the DAC budget. An amount of ₹ 1000 crore has been provisioned for Micro Irrigation under PMKSY in the budget of 2015-16 in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Statement

*State-wise area covered under Micro Irrigation (Drip and Sprinkler)
as on 28.02.2015 in hectare.*

Sl. No.	State	Drip	Sprinkler	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8,23,833	3,26,221	11,50,054
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	613	0	613
3.	Assam	116	129	245
4.	Bihar	4,375	95,352	99,728
5.	Chhattisgarh	15,554	2,41,420	2,56,974

Sl. No.	State	Drip	Sprinkler	Total
6.	Goa	954	876	1830
7.	Gujarat	4,23,771	4,00,891	8,24,662
8.	Haryana	24,524	5,48,608	5,73,133
9.	Himachal Pradesh	116	581	697
10.	Jharkhand	6,303	9,919	16,222
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA
12.	Karnataka	3,93,172	4,23,406	8,16,578
13.	Kerala	21,056	6,466	27,522
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,61,897	1,84,270	3,46,168
15.	Maharashtra	8,81,550	3,71,093	12,52,643
16.	Manipur	47	30	77
17.	Mizoram	1,679	174	1,853
18.	Meghalaya	NA	NA	NA
19.	Nagaland	200	5,005	5,205
20.	Odisha	17,705	78,180	95,885
21.	Punjab	31,018	11,628	42,645
22.	Rajasthan	1,81,943	15,02,329	16,84,272
23.	Sikkim	5,349	2,589	7,938
24.	Tamil Nadu	2,69,150	29,937	2,99,087
25.	Telangana	26,135	4,457	30,592
26.	Tripura	100	392	492
27.	Uttar Pradesh	15,860	20,490	36,350
28.	Uttarakhand	523	79	602
29.	West Bengal	604	50,576	51,180
TOTAL		33,08,147	43,15,098	76,23,247

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, irrigation consumes more than 80 per cent of water resources of our country. In the reply, it has been stated that the total area covered under Micro Irrigation is 76.23 lakh hectares. The total cultivable land is 615 lakh hectares. So, the area under Micro Irrigation is very less. If we bring more areas under Micro Irrigation, we can save more water. Sir, my question is: What steps the Government has taken to promote Micro Irrigation projects in a big way in order to save water, to have good yield and income enhancement? Sir, in the last

paragraph of the reply, it has been stated that an amount of ₹ 1,000 crore has been provided under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति जी, जैसा कि उत्तर में स्पष्ट है कि इस वर्ष से प्रधान मंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना की शुरुआत होने जा रही है, जिसके लिए 5,300 करोड़ रुपए के टोटल बजट से 1,800 करोड़ रुपए कृषि मंत्रालय को मिले हैं, उस 1,800 करोड़ रुपए में से 1,000 करोड़ रुपए माइक्रो इरिगेशन के लिए अलग से विभाग द्वारा रखे गए हैं। अभी इसका एलॉटमेंट प्रदेश सरकारों को किया जाएगा। सरकार का लगातार इस ओर ध्यान है, चूंकि माइक्रो इरिगेशन से फसल की प्रोडक्टिविटी भी बढ़ी है और पानी की बचत और एनर्जी की बचत भी है। इसलिए सरकार का ध्यान निश्चित रूप से इस पर है कि माइक्रो इरिगेशन के अंदर कृषि के क्षेत्र में और एरिया को लाया जा सके।

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, Andhra Pradesh is one of the leading States in the country to cover 11.5 lakh hectares under the Micro Irrigation benefiting nearly ten lakh farmers and there is a huge potential to be covered under Micro Irrigation in Andhra Pradesh. To tap the potential, the Government of Andhra Pradesh requested to provide ₹ 420 crores to implement Micro Irrigation in 79,900 hectares under the National Mission Sustainable Agriculture. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action the Ministry has taken on the above request.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति जी, जैसा मैंने बताया कि सरकार नई सिंचाई योजना जो प्रधान मंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना के अंतर्गत शुरू करने जा रही है, इसमें डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल से प्लान बनने शुरू होंगे, पहले डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लान बनेगा, फिर स्टेट प्लान बनेगा, फिर केंद्र सरकार के पास योजना भेजी जाएगी। महोदय, पहली बार चार मिनिस्ट्रीज मिलकर सिंचाई योजना के कार्य को आगे बढ़ा रही हैं। इसमें मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एग्रीकल्चर, मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ वाटर रिसोर्सेस, डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ लैंड रिसोर्सेस और रूरल डवलपमेंट मिनिस्ट्री इनवॉल्वड हैं। महोदय, जैसे 1100 ब्लॉक्स में पहले से माइक्रो इरिगेशन का काम चल रहा है, उनको तो हम आगे बढ़ाएंगे। उसके अलावा नए सिरे से स्टेट्स से प्रोजेक्ट्स मंगाए जाएंगे और जब भी प्रदेश सरकार का प्रोजेक्ट आएगा, उस पर विचार किया जाएगा।

श्री मधुसूदन मिश्री : सर, नर्मदा योजना गुजरात की एक बहुत बड़ी योजना है और उसकी बड़ी-बड़ी कैनाल्स भी तैयार हो चुकी हैं, लेकिन उन कैनालों से किसानों के खेत तक पानी पहुंचाने के लिए छोटी कैनाल्स बनाने का काम अभी तक नहीं हुआ है। अब तो मिनिस्टर भी गुजरात राज्य से ही हैं क्योंकि अभी तक तो कहा जा रहा था कि केंद्र में दूसरी सरकार है और स्टेट में दूसरी सरकार है, इस वजह से यह काम नहीं हो रहा है जबकि 20 साल बीत चुके हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि छोटी कैनालों के द्वारा sprinkle irrigation और drip irrigation की व्यवस्था आप करोगे या फिर ऐसा ही कहा जाएगा कि यह प्रदेश का प्रश्न है? सर, नर्मदा योजना में पानी होने के बावजूद, कैनाल में पानी होने के बावजूद पूरे इलाके-के-इलाके सूखे पड़े हैं। मेरी आपसे विनती है कि मेहरबानी कर के इस काम को जल्दी करवाइए। साथ ही क्या आप राज्य सरकार को छोटी कैनाल से drip irrigation और sprinkle irrigation शुरू करवाने के लिए कहेंगे?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने पहले भी कहा है कि चार मिनिस्ट्रीज इकट्ठे मिलकर एक योजना बना रही हैं कि जिससे इरिगेशन का सोर्स भी बन सके और अगर कैनाल्स बन सकती हैं तो वे बनें और उसके साथ drip या sprinkle irrigation भी हो सके। हम इस के लिए मनरेगा के पैसे का भी यूज कर रहे हैं। यह एक इस तरह की योजना है, जिस में सारे फैक्टर्स को ध्यान में रखा गया है। अब तक की योजनाओं में माइक्रो इरिगेशन बिल्कुल अलग था, इरिगेशन का सोर्स अलग था, नहर अलग थी और पांड अलग था। हमने सब योजनाओं को जोड़कर इस के लिए एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री को नोडल मिनिस्ट्री बनाया है। माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात उठायी है, निश्चित रूप से प्रदेश सरकार ने भी कुछ रकम का प्रावधान रखा है और केंद्र सरकार की ओर से भी निश्चित मदद की जाएगी और पानी वहां तक पहुंचाया जाएगा।

SHRI PAVAN KUMAR VARMA: Sir, this is an important question in the light of the current agricultural crisis. I want to ask the hon. Minister that the question relates to what is to be done to increase the area of micro irrigation. Now, we are aware that 64 per cent of our agricultural sector is dependant on the vagaries of monsoon. We are also aware that only 30 per cent of already sanctioned irrigation projects are, actually, under implementation; 70 per cent are not. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister – before we speak of increase – what is the assessment of the functioning of existing projects, utilization of existing budget and allocation of funds that are required for this purpose and if these funds are sufficient.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं पहले ही कह चुका हूं कि प्रधान मंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना का सब से पहला ध्यान उन्हीं योजनाओं पर है, जो अभी तक पूरी नहीं हुई हैं। सब से पहले प्रिफरेंस उन्हीं योजनाओं को दी जाएगी, जो incomplete हैं और उनके लिए धन की आवश्यकता है। उसके बाद हम नई योजनाओं को लेकर आगे बढ़ेंगे।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने काफी लंबा प्रोसेस बताया है कि इस में इतनी मिनिस्ट्रीज इनवॉल्व्ड होंगी और फिर प्लान स्टेट्स को जाएगा। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि आप sprinkle और drip irrigation को जिस तरह शुरू करने जा रहे हैं, क्या आपने सेंटर के लेवल पर अपने डिपार्टमेंट से कोई सर्वे करवाया है कि कहां किस की जरूरत है, किस स्टेट को ज्यादा दिया जाए और किस स्टेट में कामयाब बनाने के लिए उन्हें आईडेंटिफाई किया जाए? क्या इन्होंने ऐसा सोचा है कि सभी स्टेट्स को इस योजना के अंतर्गत लाएं? जैसे हमारे यहां पहाड़ी इलाके में drip irrigation कामयाब हो सकती है या नहीं, क्या आपने ऐसा सर्वे करवाया है?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहूंगा कि पहाड़ों में sprinkle irrigation कामयाब है और सर्वे हम नहीं कराएंगे, वह काम प्रदेश सरकार कराएगी। पहले डिस्ट्रिक्ट इरिगेशन प्लान बनेगा, उसके साथ पूरे स्टेट का इरिगेशन प्लान बनेगा। वह सेंटर के पास आएंगे और यहां से मदद दी जाएगी। इरिगेशन प्लान बनाने का काम स्टेट सरकार का है।

Development of horticulture sector

*20. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's share in the global horticulture sector has been increasing slowly but steadily and its production is set to rise 4 per cent during the current year;

(b) whether in spite of having vast scope and potential, the horticulture sector is still at a nascent state in the North-Eastern Region due to lack of infrastructure and poor and unfriendly policies of Government; and

(c) if so, whether Government would frame a policy for development of horticulture sector by providing adequate infrastructure, financial aid and support including incentives to the horticultural farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) India's share in the global horticulture (fruits and vegetables) during the years 2011-12 to 2013-14 has been increasing, and its production is estimated to rise by 2.1% during the year 2014-15 (provisional). Details are given in Statement- I (*See below*).

(b) The share of area covered under horticulture crops and production in North Eastern States including Sikkim has been increasing steadily during the past three years. Details are given in Statement-II (*See below*). With improvement in horticulture sector, additional area has been brought under various horticulture crops besides creation of infrastructure facilities for improving the productivity, post harvest management, marketing and processing of horticulture produce.

(c) The scheme of Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEH) under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, is being implemented especially for holistic development of the horticulture sector in the North East (NE) and Himalayan States. HMNEH covers all the horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables. The HMNEH envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruit and vegetable crops through coverage of area with improved varieties, rejuvenation of

senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, including *in-situ* generation of organic inputs. The Central Institute of Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland is engaged in capacity building of farmers and technicians for adopting improved technologies.

Statement-I

Table:1 : India's Share in Global Production of Fruits and Vegetables

(Production in Lakh Tonnes; India's Share in %)

Year	Total Production of Fruits and Vegetables		India's Share in Global Fruits and Vegetable Production
	World	India	
2011-12	17775.75	2327.50	13.1
2012-13	18059.37	2434.72	13.5
2013-14	18143.39	2574.07	14.2

Source: Indian Horticulture Database and Horticulture Statistics Division, DAC

Table-2: Growth Trends in Total Horticulture

(Production in Lakh Tonnes)

Year	India	Growth in Total Horticulture (in %)
2012-13	2688.5	
2013-14	2773.5	3.2
2014-15 (Provisional)	2832.1	2.1

Source : India: Horticulture Statistics Division, DAC

Statement-II

Table-3: Area and Production of Total Horticulture Crops in North East including Sikkim

A: Area in '000 Ha

P: Production in '000 Tonnes

State/UTs		Total Horticulture Crops					
		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15 (Provisional)	
Sl. No.		A	P	A	P	A	P
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	103.7	523.3	106.8	532.1	108.0	548.3
2.	Assam	626.0	5971.5	624.3	5546.3	646.2	6304.7
3.	Manipur	84.1	684.6	91.4	812.7	93.1	830.0

Sl.No.		A	P	A	P	A	P
4.	Meghalaya	113.6	823.9	122.1	979.0	123.8	1026.1
5.	Mizoram	120.3	761.2	130.0	835.8	143.2	950.9
6.	Nagaland	74.5	533.4	90.6	954.2	91.1	954.4
7.	Sikkim	67.0	243.1	74.4	232.3	77.0	237.8
8.	Tripura	126.2	1503.5	136.6	1617.1	124.4	1216.5
TOTAL (North East)		1315.4	11044.3	1376.2	11509.4	1406.7	12068.7
All India		23694.1	268847.5	24198.5	277352.0	24388.1	283210.4

Source: Horticulture Statistics Division, DAC

Table-4: Percentage share of North Eastern States in total area and production under horticulture crops

State/UTs		Total Horticulture Crops (% share in All India)					
		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15 (Provisional)	
Sl. No.		A	P	A	P	A	P
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2
2.	Assam	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.0	2.6	2.2
3.	Manipur	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
4.	Meghalaya	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
5.	Mizoram	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.3
6.	Nagaland	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
7.	Sikkim	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1
8.	Tripura	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4
TOTAL (North East)		5.6	4.1	5.7	4.1	5.8	4.3

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you. There is an encouraging growth in horticulture in this country. The growth in 2013-14 has been 3.2 per cent. The provisional growth this year is calculated as 3.2 per cent whereas the target has been kept at 4 per cent. Is the Government confident of achieving its target for the year 2014-15?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, टारगेट जरूर रखा गया था, लेकिन अभी तक जो प्रोविजनल फिगर्स आई हैं, वे 2.1 तक हैं। इसमें सबसे बड़ा कारण यह है कि इस वर्ष शुरू में सूखे की समस्या थी, पूरे देश में सूखा पड़ा और उसके बाद ओलावृष्टि, अतिवृष्टि हुई। ये जो समस्याएं थीं, उसके बावजूद अगर हम 2.1 पर हैं, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इन सब समस्याओं के बावजूद शायद हम 2.1 पर रहेंगे। मैं नहीं समझता कि शायद हम 4.0 परसेंट तक पहुंच पाएंगे।

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, the horticulture mission has been announced for the North-Eastern Region and the hilly States. Many areas have been covered. In spite of that, we see a lot of damage due to lack of marketing, lack of cold storage facilities. Is the Government thinking of including marketing and creation of cold storage facilities into the mission?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, इसमें मार्केटिंग और स्टोरेज पहले से ही जुड़े हुए हैं। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट रीजन में जितनी भी स्टोरेज कैपेसिटी है, काफी कम है। कई स्टेट्स तो ऐसी हैं, जहां एक ही कोल्ड स्टोरेज है। जहां तक मार्केटिंग का सवाल है, मार्केटिंग का क्वेश्चन अभी समाप्त हुआ है, उसमें मैंने लगातार बताया है कि पूरे देश में हम एक नेशनल मार्केट बनाने जा रहे हैं। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की हॉर्टिकल्चर क्रॉप्स के बारे में जो सबसे बड़ी समस्या है, विशेष रूप से वह ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की है। सरकार का ध्यान लगातार उस ओर है और स्टोरेज कैपेसिटी बढ़ाने के लिए भी सरकार की मदद लगातार आ रही है।

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, I thank you very much. In relation to the development of horticulture, the answer given by the hon. Minister is an expression of a sense of complacency which is absolutely unacceptable to me. The point is, besides the stagnant share of fruits and vegetables in the world production of fruits and vegetables, two major challenges that are faced in this sector are the wastage and the lack of value addition.

Sir, India being the second largest producer of fruits and the third largest producer of vegetables, one-third of fruits and vegetables are wasted and not more than five per cent are processed. In order to overcome the agrarian crisis and help the farmers, will the Ministry give special consideration to increase the value addition, not just in raw forms, but even in taking sufficient and stronger steps to avoid the tremendous amount of wastage of fruits and vegetables, which is also contributing, in a way, to inflation during the seasonal variations? Thank you very much, Sir.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, हॉर्टिकल्चर में करीब 6 से 18 प्रतिशत तक का लॉस है, अगर वेल्यू में बात करें तो देश में करीब यह 44 हजार करोड़ रुपए बैठता है, जो स्टोरेज फैसिलिटीज, ट्रांसपोर्टेशन फैसिलिटीज और मार्केटिंग की प्रॉब्लम की वजह से है। जहां तक माननीय सदस्य ने वेल्यू एडिशन की बात की है, तो इसके लिए मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ फूड

प्रोसेसिंग एक अलग से मिनिस्ट्री है। जहां तक मार्केटिंग की बात है, मैं पहले ही बता चुका हूँ कि इसके लिए लगातार प्रयास हो रहे हैं, लॉस ज्यादा हैं, इन लॉस को कम करने का सरकार का ध्यान लगातार है।

श्री शरद यादव: श्रीमन, यह जो सवाल सब्जी को, फ्रूट्स को लेकर है, इसमें एक बात जरूर है कि ये सारे कोल्ड स्टोरेज और सारी चीजों का मंत्री जी ने बताया और जैसा फूड प्रोसेसिंग डिपार्टमेंट का कह रहे हैं, तो उसमें कुछ नहीं है। यह विभाग सिर्फ दिल्ली में टिका हुआ विभाग है, उसमें कुछ काम नहीं होता। महोदय, एक तो मेरा कहना यह है कि इस मिनिस्ट्री को मजबूत कीजिए, तभी हम इस मामले को सुलझा सकते हैं।

महोदय, मेरी दूसरी बात यह है कि किसान सिर्फ कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनाते हैं और सरकार ने स्कीम बनाई, तो उनसे वेयरहाउस बनवाए। वे ईट के भट्टे बनाते थे और उन्हें कोई दूसरा धंधा नहीं आता है। मैं उस पर नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ कि आज उनकी कितनी बुरी हालत हो रही है। उन्होंने किसी तरह से कर्ज लेकर के वेयरहाउस बना दिए।

यहां फूड प्रोसेसिंग की मिनिस्टर बैठी हुई हैं। वे खुद ही जानती हैं कि वह डिपार्टमेंट किस हालत में है।...(व्यवधान)... नहीं आप हमारे बाद बोलिएगा।

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल: माननीय यादव जी, आप ऐसा मत कहिए। आपने पढ़ा ही होगा कि हाल ही में 17 नए मैगा फूड पार्क की कई हजार करोड़ रुपए की सैंक्शन सरकार की ओर से की गई है। इससे वेस्टेज को रोकने के जो प्रश्न उठाए जा रहे हैं, इस दिशा में इन मैगा पार्कों का बहुत बड़ा योगदान होगा। अभी हाल ही में एक-दो हफ्ते पहले, कोल्ड चेन के लिए भी कई हजार करोड़ रुपए सैंक्शन किए गए हैं। इसलिए पिछले 10 साल से जो नहीं हुआ था, उसे हम 10 महीने में करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हम यह भी एंशोर करेंगे कि टाइमली इनका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन जरूर हो। पहला स्टेप हमने ले लिया है और सैंक्शन कर दी है और अगला स्टेप इम्प्लीमेंटेशन का भी हम एंशोर करेंगे और चार साल बाद आप यह जरूर कहेंगे कि वेस्टेज घटी है। इसलिए आप यह न कहें कि अब भी मंत्रालय वैसे ही डिफंक्ट पड़ा है। हां, पहले यह मंत्रालय डिफंक्ट जरूर पड़ा हुआ था, लेकिन अब इसमें सुधार किया गया है।...(व्यवधान)...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद): सर, यह पुरानी स्कीम है और जब यू.पी.ए. गवर्नमेंट थी, तब यह स्कीम चली थी।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, Sir...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to ask a question?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I want to ask a supplementary question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute, please...(Interruptions)... शरद जी, क्या आपका सवाल खत्म हो गया?

श्री शरद यादव: नहीं।

श्री सभापति: शरद जी, कृपया सवाल को सवाल की तरह पूछिए।

श्री शरद यादव: महोदय, मैं सवाल ही पूछ रहा था, लेकिन मेरा सवाल उनकी तरफ चला गया। उस मंत्रालय के बारे में मेरी जानकारी थोड़ी पहले की है और आपने खुद ही मान लिया कि आपकी सरकार आने के बाद आपने इस कार्यक्रम को और इस डिपार्टमेंट को एक्सपीडाइट किया है। आप खुद ही मान रही हैं कि पहले यह डिफ़क्ट था। मेरा असली सवाल बालियान जी से है।

मेरा सवाल यह है कि किसानों ने बैंकों से और अन्य जगहों से कर्ज लेकर वेयरहाउस और कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनाए हैं। यहां फूड मिनिस्टर बैठे हुए हैं। आप यह बताइए कि लोगों ने जो कोल्ड स्टोरेज और वेयरहाउसेस बनाए हुए हैं, उन्हें केंद्र सरकार और राज्य सरकारों ने उनसे बनवा तो लिया, लेकिन आज उनकी क्या हालत है, आपने सी.एल.यू. बना लिए हैं। इन लोगों ने Changed Land Use कर के उनसे वेयरहाउसेस और कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनवा लिए, अब उनकी खेती और जमीनों को बैंक अटैच कर रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं श्री बालियान जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि यह गंभीर मामला है और यह मामला भी किसानों का ही है। इसे ठीक करने के लिए आप क्या कदम उठा रहे हैं? जिन्होंने कोल्ड स्टोरेज और वेयरहाउसेस बनाए हैं, उनकी जमीनों और खेती को बैंकों द्वारा अटैच करने से बचाने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

डॉ. संजीव कुमार बालियान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, शरद यादव जी ने सवाल के रूप में जो कहा, वह चाहे वेयरहाउस हों या कोल्ड स्टोरेज, यह निश्चित रूप से जमीनी हकीकत है। जो नैशनल मार्केट की बात, हम पिछले एक घंटे से कर रहे हैं, अगर नैशनल मार्केट और ई-मार्केटिंग शुरू हो जाती है, तो जो कोल्ड स्टोरेज और वेयरहाउसेस हैं, गवर्नमेंट की ओर से उनकी सर्टीफिकेशन की जाएगी, उसके माध्यम से यदि कोई भी किसान कोल्ड स्टोर अथवा वेयरहाउस में अपना सामान रखता है, तो उस सामान की ई-मार्केटिंग के द्वारा बिक्री हो सकती है। मुझे उम्मीद है, जैसे ही नैशनल मार्केट और ई-मार्केटिंग शुरू होगी, तो इन सबका सदुपयोग ज्यादा बेहतर तरीके से होगा।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, अभी कुछ देर पहले सदन में माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह बात कही गई कि भारत में फलों और सब्जियों का जो उत्पादन है, उसे महेनजर रखते हुए, फूड प्रोसेसिंग की ओर कोल्ड स्टोरेज की आवश्यकता है, जो अभी चर्चा में आई, क्योंकि कम से कम 35 से 40 प्रतिशत फसल खराब हो जाती है, न वह बाजार में आती है और न वह देश के बाहर निर्यात की जा सकती है। इसीलिए सरकार ने पहले भी और अभी भी इस बारे में निरन्तर कहा है कि इसमें सब्सिडी देना, इसमें कर्जा देना और साथ में राज्यों को भी समर्थन देना और 46 फूड पार्कों की स्थापना करना शामिल है। मेरा एक प्रश्न है कि इसमें निवेश के लिए, देश की पूंजी लगे, विदेश की भी पूंजी लगे और टेक्नोलोजी का भी इस्तेमाल हो, इन बातों को देखकर बहुत सोच-समझ कर निर्णय किया गया था कि फॉरेन डायरेक्ट इन्वेस्टमेंट, मल्टी ब्रांड रिटेल में हो। वह नोटीफाई कर दिया गया था। उस पर आपकी सरकार का क्या मत है, उस पर आपकी सरकार की चुप्पी है, उस पर हम जवाब चाहते हैं।

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आनन्द शर्मा जी बड़े सीनियर नेता हैं। उन्होंने मुझसे ऐसा सवाल पूछा है, जिसका डायरेक्ट जवाब शायद मैं नहीं दे पाऊंगा, इसलिए इस सवाल का जवाब न देने के लिए मैं माफी चाहूंगा।

Relaxation in food procurement norms

*21. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make any relaxation in food procurement norms; and

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Due to unseasonal rains and adverse climatic conditions relaxations in quality norms of wheat for procurement during RMS 2015-16 have been allowed with nominal value cut in the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab as under:

State	Refractions	
	Shrivelled and Broken grains	Luster Lost grains
1	2	3
Gujarat		(i) upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 25% with 1/4th of one value cut flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal.
Madhya Pradesh	Upto 10% with value cut @ 1/4th of one value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or part thereof, <i>i.e.</i> for above 6 upto 8% @ ₹ 3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @ ₹ 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.	(i) Upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 40% with 1/4th of one value cut on flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal
Rajasthan	Upto 9% with value cut @ 1/4th of one value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or part thereof, <i>i.e.</i> for above 6 upto 8% @ 3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 9% @ ₹ 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.	(i) Upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with 1/4th of one value cut on flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal

1	2	3
Haryana*	Upto 10% with value cut @1/4th of one value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or upto 8% @ ₹ 3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @ ₹ 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.	(i) Upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 90% in Mewat, Sonapat, Jind, Palwal and Faridabad districts and upto 50% in rest of the State with 1/4th of one value cut on flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal
Uttar Pradesh	Upto 10% with value cut @1/4th of one value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or upto 8% @ ₹ 3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @ ₹ 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.	(i) Upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with 1/4th of one value cut on flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal
Punjab*	Upto 10% with value cut @1/4th of one value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or upto 8% @ ₹ 3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @ ₹ 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.	(i) Upto 10% without value cut (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with 1/4th of one value cut on flat basis or say ₹ 3.63 per quintal
Uniform specifications	6%	Full Luster

* Wheat can be procured with damaged and slightly damaged grains put together upto 6% with the condition that damaged grains alone may not be exceed more than 4%.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 21 – Questioner not present. Let the answer be given.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, the broadness of the question is about the relaxation in food procurements due to the seasonal complications, wherein the answer has been just confined to wheat, and only to a few States. There is distress all along in Maharashtra, Telangana and several other States due to these unseasonal climatic complications which are against the monsoon. These are anti-monsoon rains. The answer just pertains to wheat only. Why are you not looking after other agrarian commodities? I would like to know about the information of the complications in Maharashtra and Telangana as well.

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, जो मेन प्रश्न है, वह यह है कि क्या सरकार खाद्य खरीद मानकों में कोई छूट देने की योजना बना रही है; और यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं तथा तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है? तो जो छूट के मानक हैं, वे अधिकांश फसलों में हैं। गेहूं में भी हैं, धान में भी हैं, चावल में भी हैं, बारले में भी हैं, ज्वार में भी हैं, बाजरा में भी हैं, मक्का में भी हैं, रागी में भी हैं, तो इन सबमें हैं। उनके अलग-अलग मानक तय हैं। अब प्रश्न उठता है कि अभी जो छूट का मामला है, उसमें मेन प्रॉब्लम गेहूं की है। तो जहां-जहां जो फसलें नष्ट हुई हैं, जैसे गेहूं की फसल नष्ट हुई है, तो ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज... प्लीज...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : यदि माननीय सदस्य कहेंगे, तो मेरे पास जानकारी है कि जैसे गेहूं का है कि उसमें जो सिकुड़े हुए दाने हैं, जो टूटे हुए दाने हैं, उसमें 6 परसेंट तक छूट देनी चाहिए। अभी जिन-जिन राज्यों से हमारे पास चिट्ठी आई है, हम एक मिनट का डिले नहीं करते हैं, उल्टे हम तो हरियाणा में गए और प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में कहा कि आप जल्दी से चिट्ठी भेजो। बिहार से अभी तक चिट्ठी नहीं आई है। हम बिहार में भी गए, राजस्थान में भी गए, तो जिन-जिन राज्यों में किसानों के ऊपर आपदा आई है, हम सभी राज्यों से कह रहे हैं। रात में एक मांग आती है और हम अगली सुबह ही पूरी कर देते हैं। मध्य प्रदेश में हमने 6 परसेंट के अगेन्स्ट 10 परसेंट की छूट दी है। राजस्थान में 9 परसेंट तक छूट दी है, जो सिकुड़ा हुआ और टूटा हुआ दाना है, उसके लिए। हरियाणा में 6 परसेंट के अगेन्स्ट 10 परसेंट छूट दी है। उत्तर प्रदेश में 6 परसेंट के अगेन्स्ट 10 परसेंट छूट दी है। पंजाब में 6 परसेंट के अगेन्स्ट 10 परसेंट छूट दी है। जो luster loss है, चमकहीनता है, वह नहीं होनी चाहिए, लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी किसानों की जो त्रासदी है, उसके लिए हमने गुजरात में 25 परसेंट तक छूट दी है। मध्य प्रदेश में 40 परसेंट तक दी है, राजस्थान में 50 परसेंट तक दी है, हरियाणा के पांच जिलों में हमने 90 परसेंट दी है, शेष जिलों में 50 परसेंट दी है, उत्तर प्रदेश में 50 परसेंट दी है, पंजाब में 50 परसेंट दी है, तो इसलिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू : मंत्री जी, जहां नहीं दी है, हम उसके बारे में पूछ रहे हैं।

श्री रामविलास पासवान : इसलिए महाराष्ट्र और तेलंगाना की जो बात है, वहां से हमारे पास कोई डिमांड ही नहीं आई है। आप डिमांड भिजवाइए, हम आपको दे देंगे।

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर : सर, मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि अभी इन्होंने कहा है कि पंजाब में हमने जो value cut है, उसमें 10 परसेंट का रिलैक्सेशन दिया है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे पास पंजाब में तो कोई लैटर नहीं गया और हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने तो अपनी तरफ से कल अनाउंस किया कि किसानों को जो लॉस होगा, हम अपनी तरफ से देंगे, लेकिन आपके पास हमने लैटर भेजा है, इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि आप यहां एश्योरेंस दें कि पंजाब में जो किसानों को लॉस होगा, जिसे स्टेट गवर्नमेंट पे करेगी, तो वह सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को पे करना चाहिए।

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, चार दिन पहले हमारे पास पंजाब से चिट्ठी आई थी, परसों ही हमने उसका जवाब भेज दिया, प्रेस को भी कह दिया और वहां से कैरो साहब, उनके मंत्री यहां आए थे, उनको भी हमने बता दिया। अब जो दूसरी बात आपने कही है, वह दूसरा सवाल

है। वह वेल्यु कट का सवाल है। वेल्यु कट के सवाल का मतलब होता है कि हमने रिलेक्सेशन तो दे दिया, मानक में छूट दे दी कि चमकहीनता इतनी होनी चाहिए, टूटा हुआ इतना चाहिए, लेकिन उसमें क्या होता है कि हमें, जो फूड सिक्योरिटी एक्ट है, उसके मुताबिक उसके कन्ज़म्प्शन को भी देखना है। इसलिए नमी वाला जो मामला है, उसमें हमारे हाथ में ज्यादा पावर नहीं है। जो वेल्यु कट का मामला है, यानी जो अनाज खराब हुआ है, उनको एमएसपी के प्राइस पर खरीदा जाए या थोड़ा कम करके खरीदा जाए, उसके संबंध में अभी तक का, जितना सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है, सबको मैंने देखा है और जितना होता था, उसका हमने वन-फोर्थ — वन-फोर्थ का मतलब है कि मान लीजिए गेहूं है, उसमें सिकुड़न और टूटन में, चमकहीनता में तीन, साढ़े तीन पैसे से सात पैसे प्रति किलो की छूट रखी है। तीन पैसे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर आप किलो में देखेंगे, अगर 3 रुपए 63 पैसे प्रति क्विंटल है तो वह हो जाता है, तीन पैसे प्रति किलो। उसी तरीके से सात रुपए है तो सात पैसा हो जाता है। यह मिनिमम रखा है। अगर नहीं रखेंगे तो ब्लैक मार्केटिंग शुरू हो जाएगी, इधर का सामान उसमें और उधर का सामान इसमें मिला देंगे। हमें इस बात की खुशी है और हम पंजाब की सरकार को धन्यवाद देना चाहते हैं कि पंजाब की सरकार ने कहा है कि जो उसमें एक्स्ट्रा पैसा लगेगा, जो दस-बीस करोड़ लगेगा, उसे वे अपने खजाने से दे देंगे। हम लोगों ने इस संबंध में सबसे बातचीत की है, जैसे हरियाणा के चीफ मिनिस्टर हैं, कोई ऐसी स्टेट नहीं है जिससे हमने बात नहीं की है। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि हम राज्य सरकारों से भी आग्रह करेंगे कि इतनी बड़ी विपदा आयी है, जिसमें हम इतना अधिक रिलेक्सेशन कर रहे हैं इसलिए राज्य सरकारें भी उसमें कुछ योगदान करें।

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Sir, my question is whether the Government is planning to give any relaxation to the farmers. The question is not about the relaxation which has already been made. I am talking in the context of unseasonal rains and the climate change. Such things can happen again and again. So, will the Government prepare a different set of norms in this new situation so that the farmers stand benefited? I do not mean that we should relax the standards for preservation of food. We must uphold those standards. My question is: What kind of relaxations can we give to the farmers?

Instead of the hon. Minister going from one State to another and declaring concessions after concessions, will the Government make a general statement in this regard?

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, इनका सवाल कृषि मंत्रालय से संबंधित है। कल हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है, प्रधान मंत्री जी ने ऑलरेडी घोषणा की है कि जहां कहीं इस तरह की आपदा आयी है, उसके संबंध में पहले जो मानक बना हुआ था, वह पचास परसेंट डैमेज के ऊपर था। अब उसको घटाकर जहां पर 33 परसेंट क्षति हुई है, उसको भी केंद्र सरकार मुआवजा देगी और मुआवजे की राशि को पहले से डेढ़ गुणा कर दिया है। हमारा जो मंत्रालय है, उसका काम — स्टैंडर्ड में रिलेक्सेशन किया है या नहीं, जैसे ओलावृष्टि के कारण, बारिश के कारण गेहूं सिकुड़ गया, टूट गया या चमकहीनता हो गयी, उसमें सरकार ने खरीदने में कोई रियायत दी है या नहीं दी है — इससे संबंधित है। उसके संबंध में हमने कहा है कि हमने रियायत दी है और इतनी रियायत दी है, जितनी अभी तक कभी नहीं दी गयी है।

Setting up of a urea plant in iran

*22 DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up a Urea plant in Iran, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when the proposed plant is likely to start manufacturing various soil nutrients?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHS KUMAR): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. In order to ensure long term availability of Urea in the country, the Governments is facilitating setting up of a Urea/Ammonia Joint Venture Project in Iran with capacity to produce 1.3 Million MT Urea for import to India. A consortium of Indian Companies viz. Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd (RCF), Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (GSFC) and Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (GNFC) has appointed SBI Caps for advisory and due diligence services to identify a prospective Iranian JV partner in the project. The project is in consultation stage to identify an Iranian JV partner.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, the time is very short. So, I will try to coalesce my two supplementaries into one. The hon. Minister, in his reply, has not clarified the likely deadline for the completion of the project. And, that deadline cannot be fixed till a long-term gas supply contract is entered into. And, since no such gas supply contract has been entered into, can he identify the possible deadline and tell when the production will start? How will we bring it to India in view of the various sanctions that are already in force against Iran?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, the issue is in preliminary negotiations because we all know that there are sanctions of the US, the UN and the European Union on Iran.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the Question Hour is over. The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Achievement of targets by Railways**

*23. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have been able to add only 60.7 kilometers of new lines to the railway network against the target of 300 kilometers for 2014-15 and only 241.07 kilometers were completed in respect of doubling of lines as against the target of 710 kilometers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have been able to electrify only 493 kilometers as against the target of 1350 kilometers and in respect of gauge conversion, 161.55 kilometers have been converted as against the target of 450 kilometers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Indian Railways have laid 313 Km. of New Lines and 705 Km. of Doubling against targets of 300 Km. for New Line and 700 Km. for Doubling for the year 2014-15. 1375 Route Km. (RKM) have been electrified against the target of 1350 RKM during 2014-15. The achievements have exceeded target set.

(d) Do not arise.

Central assistance for crop loss

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

(a) whether crops in various regions of North India have suffered huge loss recently due to torrential rain and hailstorm;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Governments of various affected States have sent proposals for Central assistance in order to compensate for the loss of crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Central Government, so far, on the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the month of February-March 2015, many States including Uttar

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala suffered crop losses due to unseasonal excessive rains and hailstorms. As per information received from States, State wise crop area affected on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The State Governments were advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted. Memoranda have been received from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana demanding ₹ 6677.65 crores, ₹ 11885.25 crores and ₹ 1135.91 crores from NDRF, respectively. Inter Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have visited the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana for assessing the ground situation.

Statement

(Area: in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	Total Area (As on 16.4.2015)
1.	Gujarat	1.75
2.	Madhya Pradesh	5.70
3.	Maharashtra	9.89
4.	Rajasthan	16.89
5.	Haryana	22.24
6.	Punjab	2.94
7.	Uttar Pradesh	29.64
8.	Uttarakhand	0.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.67
10.	Bihar	1.86
11.	J&K	1.33
12.	Telangana	0.01
13.	Kerala	0.01
14.	West Bengal	0.49
TOTAL		93.81

Selling of China-made mobile handsets

*25. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mobile service provider is marketing and selling 4G technology China-made handsets which will support all bands of spectrum;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that these China-made handsets are of inferior quality and the company is not giving any guarantee/warranty on these handsets; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to ensure that all China-made mobile handsets are sold with one year proper guarantee/warranty?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) It has been reported by Telecom Service providers who won Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum in 2300 MHz band and have launched Long Term Evolution (LTE), commonly known as 4G technology, that they are not marketing or selling 4G technology China-made handsets which will support all bands of spectrum.

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

Fall in prices of agricultural produces

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

(a) the impact of the fall in prices of agricultural produces like wheat and oil on the Agricultural economy in the country;

(b) the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for grains and oilseeds in the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to reduce the impact of this fall in prices on the livelihood of farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of major agricultural commodities has shown some fluctuations from month to month. For the commodity groups of cereals and pulses, the index has increased between April 2014 to March 2015. In case of edible oil it decreased marginally over the same period while for oil seeds the WPI declined from 210.8 in April 2014 to 204.2 in March 2015. Within these groups, commodities such as wheat, maize, gram, arhar, rapeseed, mustard and mustard oil registered an

increase while rice, soyabean and soyabean oil have registered a decline in WPI over the same period. The movement of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) (Base Year 2004-05) of major agricultural commodities like cereals, pulses, oil seeds and edible oil between April 2014 to March 2015 is given in given in the Statement-I (*See below*). Decline in the prices of any agricultural commodity may induce a partial shift in cropping pattern towards more profitable crops.

(b) The details of the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of major foodgrains and oilseed crops for the last three years are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Government's seeks to ensure remunerative prices to growers for major agricultural commodities, such as wheat, paddy, maize, gram, soyabean, cotton etc. through Minimum Support Prices (MSP). Government offers to purchase at MSP, however, farmers are free to sell to Government agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them. In addition, Government is also implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of the State/ UT Government for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, generally perishable in nature, and not covered under the price support scheme for MSP. Through these schemes Government seeks to protect farmers from price volatility.

Statement-I

Monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI)

(Base Year 2004-05=100)

Commodities	2014			2015	
	April	July	October	January	March
1	2	3	4	5	6
Cereals	230.5	235.6	235.4	233.8	230.9
Rice	234.1	244.7	247.0	239.2	233.6
Wheat	212.6	208.8	209.5	216.6	215.5
Maize	245.6	253.9	230.5	241.5	249.3
Pulses	228.9	234.1	238.2	255.4	257.8
Gram	201.3	190.8	192.5	203.9	209.2
Arhar	213.1	220.5	231.3	240.9	258.0
Oil Seeds	210.8	214.0	205.6	203.3	204.2
Groundnut Seed	199.8	204.7	217.3	207.1	222.4
Rape & Mustard Seed	186.4	189.9	193.9	202.2	202.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
Cotton Seed	169.8	182.7	181.1	155.7	157.4
Copra (Coconut)	173.5	187.1	193.0	180.0	179.4
Soyabean	243.7	241.9	181.0	203.2	197.4
Edible Oils	146.1	146.3	143.5	146.5	145.4
Groundnut Oil	162.3	161.9	163.3	179.7	180.1
Mustard & Rapeseed Oil	154.2	154.7	156.1	165.2	160.8
Soyabean Oil	157.8	156.4	151.5	153.9	151.1

Source: Office of the Economic Adviser, DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Statement-II

Minimum Support Price

As on 29.10.2014

(₹ per Quintal)

Commodity	Variety	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Kharif Crops				
Paddy	Common	1250	1310	1360
	Grade 'A'	1280	1345	1400
Jowar	Hybrid	1500	1500	1530
	Maldandi	1520	1520	1550
Bajra		1175	1250	1250
Maize		1175	1310	1310
Ragi		1500	1500	1550
Arhar (Tur)		3850	4300	4350
Moong		4400	4500	4600
Urad		4300	4300	4350
Groundnut In Shell		3700	4000	4000
Sunflower Seed		3700	3700	3750
Soyabean	Black	2200	2500	2500
	Yellow	2240	2560	2560
Sesamum		4200	4500	4600
Nigerseed		3500	3500	3600

Commodity	Variety	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Rabi Crops				
Wheat		1350	1400	1450
Barley		980	1100	1150
Gram		3000	3100	3175
Masur (Lentil)		2900	2950	3075
Rapeseed/Mustard		3000	3050	3100
Safflower		2800	3000	3050
Toria		2970	3020	3020

Sreedharan Committee report on railways

†*27. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Sreedharan Committee report almost ₹10,000 crore are being looted every year in railway procurement;

(b) the steps being taken by the Ministry to correct the railway management in view of findings of the Committee report that Railways are suffering from centralization, lack of transparency and accountability; and

(c) in view of the fact that the Committee did not find the working of the Railway Board satisfactory, the steps being taken to reform it?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU):

(a) No, Sir. The report does not mention so.

(b) and (c) Government is aware of the need for adequate delegation of power to senior functionaries for speedy decision making including that for projects within the overall framework of delegation in Government and system of checks and balances connected therewith to ensure financial propriety. Such delegation is a continuous process and powers at various levels are notified on the entire spectrum of subjects covering inter alia operation, maintenance and projects. Government has a strong system of checks and balances to detect stray cases of financial improprieties and take appropriate punitive and corrective action.

As part of this process, all powers to deal with tenders were delegated by the Ministry of Railways to the General Managers. The powers for sanction of detailed estimates hitherto being exercised by the Minister have also recently been delegated to the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Board Members. Further, to suggest ways to implement the decision of delegation taken by the Minister for Railways, a one man Dr. E. Sreedharan Committee was appointed.

A group of three Executive Directors of Railway Board has been nominated to evaluate the recommendations of Dr. E. Sreedharan Committee for facilitating final decision on implementation.

Implementation of Bhoochetana project

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

(a) whether Central Government is aware of the Bhoochetana project adopted and implemented by Government of Karnataka in rain-fed areas of the State, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the project is evolved by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) for rain-fed areas, if so, the details of States where it is implemented;

(c) to what extent this has been beneficial to farmers; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to implement this project in Telangana, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):
(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has initiated a novel mission mode project 'Bhoochetana' from the year 2009-10 with the mission goal of increasing average productivity of selected rain-fed crops by 20%. Project implementation was in a phased manner from 2009-10 to 2012-13. Based on the success of the Bhoochetana first phase, extension of project from 2012-13 to 2016-17 has been approved for 2nd phase.

(b) This project is conceived and implemented by Government of Karnataka with the technical assistance of International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) based on their success of demonstration of technology in SUJALA project of Watershed Development Department during 2008.

(c) The project focused on activities like soil testing, training, awareness generation on soil fertility status, soil test based fertilizer application, crop specific best management practices, farmer field schools, making necessary inputs available to farmers at cluster village level at 50 per cent subsidy, seed treatment, major crop selection and crop cutting experiments.

The Bhoochetana programme created awareness among farmers regarding

integrated nutrient management and increase in application of micronutrients. Increase in yield by 25-40% is observed in rainfed crops through improved management in Bhoochetana treated plots.

(d) Bhoochetana has not been implemented in Telangana. Prior to bifurcation of the State, this project was implemented in Andhra Pradesh by ICRISAT in coordination with Department of Agriculture from 2011-12 to 2013-14 under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and to be continued till 2015-16.

After bifurcation of the State, the project was not included in RKVY, as it was observed that all the objectives furnished by ICRISAT were not fulfilled. Further the project which was implemented in Telangana districts during 2011-12 to 2013-14 has been taken up for evaluation.

Research and development projects for FPIs

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

(a) the number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) sanctioned and set up in various States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of the Research and Development (R&D) projects undertaken by Government for the development of FPIs in the country and the grants released to them, project/State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated during the Twelfth Five Year Plan for the FPIs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) The details of number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) sanctioned in various States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries (TUS) are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See* below).

(b) The details of the Research and Development (R&D) projects undertaken by the Ministry under the scheme of Quality Assurance, Codex, Research and Development and other Promotional Activities for the development of the FPIs in the country and the grants released to them, project/State-wise are at Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) During the Twelfth Five Year Plan an allocation of ₹ 5990 Crores has been made for various schemes of the Ministry for development of Food Processing Industries in the country.

Statement-I

The details of number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) sanctioned in various States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year towards committed liabilities of 11th Plan.

Sl. No.	State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		Nos. of Units	Nos. of Units	Nos. of Units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	225	145	144
2.	Assam	18	10	2
3.	Bihar	2	2	6
4.	Chandigarh	0	2	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	149	68	57
6.	Daman and Diu	0	0	1
7.	Delhi	2	6	2
8.	Goa	1	5	8
9.	Gujarat	52	79	70
10.	Haryana	88	34	26
11.	Himachal Pradesh	5	10	11
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	3	3
13.	Jharkhand	6	2	5
14.	Karnataka	78	68	74
15.	Kerala	14	43	21
16.	Madhya Pradesh	31	30	23
17.	Maharashtra	136	171	142
18.	Manipur	21	36	0
19.	Meghalaya	1	3	1
20.	Nagaland	2	1	0
21.	Odisha	15	5	14
22.	Puducherry	6	1	0
23.	Punjab	231	83	42
24.	Rajasthan	44	50	76
25.	Tamil Nadu	46	58	62
26.	Uttar Pradesh	38	59	65
27.	Uttarakhand	7	7	6
28.	West Bengal	6	18	27
TOTAL		1226	999	889

Note : In 2015-16, no sanction has been issued till date.

Statement-II

The details of number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) sanctioned in various States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year under National Mission of Food Processing (NMFP).

Sl. No.	State Name	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		Nos. of Units	Nos. of Units	Nos. of Units
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	3	0
4.	Assam	8	19	4
5.	Bihar	3	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	2	0	9
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	0	0	0
11.	Goa	0	0	0
12.	Gujarat	51	23	1
13.	Haryana	9	4	9
14.	Himachal Pradesh	5	12	4
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	4	8
16.	Jharkhand	0	0	0
17.	Karnataka	36	14	8
18.	Kerala	7	14	2
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	20	23	0
21.	Maharashtra	58	27	4
22.	Manipur	37	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Meghalaya	3	9	1
24.	Mizoram	2	2	7
25.	Nagaland	7	0	0
26.	Odisha	11	12	9
27.	Puducherry	3	0	0
28.	Punjab	3	5	1
29.	Rajasthan	9	39	27
30.	Sikkim	0	0	1
31.	Tamil Nadu	5	0	0
32.	Telangana	3	0	0
33.	Tripura	1	1	1
34.	Uttar Pradesh	39	7	0
35.	Uttarakhand	4	1	0
36.	West Bengal	10	36	21
TOTAL		359	255	117

Source: Data entered by State/UT Governments in NMFP MIS portal, accessed on 31st March, 2015.

Statement-III

The details of the Research and Development (R&D) projects undertaken by Government for the development of FPIs in the country and the grants released to them, project/State-wise.

Grant released during 2012-13

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	Grant-in-aid Sanctioned	Amount of grant-in-aid released (₹ in lakh)		
				1st inst	2nd inst	3rd inst
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh						
1.	Optimization of operational parameters for the extraction of Thiamine from Rice and Wheat brans and enrichment of Foods	Department of Biotechnology, GITAM Institute of Technology, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	19.00	8.50		
2.	Development of Piperine Conjugates to increase the bioavailability of Iron	Department of Biotechnology, GITAM Institute of Technology, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	30.00	7.50		
3.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad	33.34	23.17		

Assam

4.	Studies on functional properties of the dominant microflora found in rice beer of Assam	Tezpur University	046.02	40.31	
5.	Quality improvement of traditional method of rice beer production by the tribal people of North-East India	Tezpur University, Napaam, Assam	78.685		7.868
6.	Development of Degradable Food Packaging Technology 'Green-PACK'	Department of Chemical Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, Assam	29.97	28.07	
7.	Quality Assessment of traditionally processed dried fish of the North East India	Department of Biotechnology, Guwahati University Guwahati, Assam	32.93	24.79	
8.	Osmotic dehydration and Microwave vacuum drying of Kachkal Banana	Department of Food Engineering & Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Assam	20.81	17.59	

Chhattisgarh

9.	Kinetic of thermal degradation of Chlorophyll in Green Leafy Vegetables and increasing the Shelf life of the vegetables	Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Raipur, Chhattisgarh	11.714	8.874	
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Delhi						
10.	Enzymatic synthesis of Theanin: A nutraceutical using microbial glutamyltranspeptidase	Department of Microbiology, University of Delhi, South Campus, New Delhi	23.00	15.50		
11.	Utilization of deoiled soybean cake for production of enzymes, bioactive components and protein products	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	15.60		3.215	
Gujarat						
12.	Development and optimization of edible coating formulations to improve the postharvest quality and Shelf-life of underutilized short lived fresh fruits by using RSM	Department of BRD School of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat	17.128	13.708		
Haryana						
13.	Study on development of dietary fibre enriched designer meat products	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hissar	54.90	48.35		

Kerala

14. DNA barcoding to discriminate trade spices from their adulterants. Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut, Kerala 7.286 28.466

Karnataka

15. Comparative Evaluation of Enzymatic and Fermentative methods for Preparation of Chicken liver Hydrolystates: Recovery, Biofunctional Characterization and Application Meat, Fish & Poultry Technology Department, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka 35.46 41.64
16. Production of n-3 Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids Concentrate from Sardine Oil Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Surathkal Srinivasnagar, Mangalore, Karnataka 39.814 46.798
17. Development of Process for nanoencapsulation of polyphenols for food supplement applications Human Resource Development Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka 17.044 20.298
18. Nutritionally Enriched Innovative Convenience Foods suitable for Industrial production from underutilized Grains Department of Grain Science & Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka 15.16 20.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19.	Biotechnological approaches to regulate fermentation and drying process of cocoa.	Department of Plantation Products Spices & Flavour Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore-570020	20.36	14.18		
Maharashtra						
20.	Studies for the selective separation of proteins from milk whey.	NCL, Pune	20.74	13.67		
21.	Microwave (MV) Enhanced Air Heating and Drying System for value addition of Agro-based Products: Dehydration and Disinfestations	Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai	24.70	18.35		
22.	Development of Healthy and Nutrient Rich Noodles by Supplementation with Legumes and Leafy Vegetables	Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	31.13		12.452	
23.	Studies in Physico-Chemical properties of plasma processed Rice grains	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, Maharashtra	22.38	19.69		

24.	Development of Continuous and Energy Efficient Cooking Devices and Practices	Department of Chemical Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai	25.832	16.916
Meghalaya				
25.	Isolation, modification of non conventional sources of starch from North Eastern Region and their potential food application	College of Home Science, CAU, Tura,	40.184	35.592
Punjab				
26.	Development of Fortification Technology for Milk to Increase Bioavailability of Mineral	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana, Punjab	70.72	62.36
Rajasthan				
27.	Characterization of Colostrum Bio-active Components from different spices and their Application in the Formulation of Novel Dairy Products	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan	87.26	79.88
Tamil Nadu				
28.	Development of Shelf Stable Chicken Meat Products with Natural Preservatives-A Hurdle Technology Approach	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science University	31.90	24.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	Bacteriophages-A novel biopreservative for vegetable	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	67.09	63.423		
30.	Formulating value added products from minor tubers for food and industrial uses	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai	13.0825	7.842		
31.	Development stability and consumer acceptance of omega-3 enriched functional food	College of Food and Dairy Technology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Chennai	52.91	42.78		
32.	Development of Technologies for Novel Food Products based on Indigenous Technologies	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur	39.074	32.712		
33.	Enhancing the Shelf Life of Sapota (Manikara Zapota) by Value Addition	Department of Food Technology, Kongu Engineering College, Erode, Tamil Nadu	10.44	4.00		
34.	Design and Evaluation of a Tamarind Fruit dehuller and Deseeder	Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	10.44	7.22		
35.	Design and development of Ohmic Heating System for	Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering Agricultural	20.28	15.14		

	Pasteurization of Liquid Egg White and to Enhance the Functional Properties of Egg White Albumen	Engineering College & Research Institute, Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu		
36.	Prebiotic Efficacy of Xylitoligosaccharides (XOS) and their Food Applications	Centre for Food Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Anna University, Chennai & Post Harvest Technology Centre, Agricultural Engg. College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	27.708	18.854
37.	Feasibility Study of Pulse Power Technique: Alternative Technology for Water Treatment	Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai	29.995	25.49
38.	Ultrasound processing of liquid food: Feasibility and Efficacy	Department of Food Process Engineering, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur-613001	9.988	6.688
39.	Development of database for Indian seafood safety and traceability based on AFLP markers	Fisheries College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Thoothukudi-628008	31.456	25.128

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tripura						
40.	Development of ready-to-serve fish products through flexible retort pouch technology for Northeast Markets	College of Fisheries, Central Agricultural University, Agartala, Tripura	25.402	23.821		
Uttar Pradesh						
41.	Development and Production Technologies for Guava Pulp Enriched Fermented Dairy Products	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	41.27	32.51		
West Bengal						
42.	Development of Antimicrobial Polymeric nanocomposite film from PET waste for packaging of milk and milk products	Department of Polymer, Science and Technology, University of Calcutta, Kolkata	48.291	44.083		
43.	Ultra High Temperature (UHT) processing of liquids beverages and semi-solid food products by microwave and electrical energy heating	Jadavpur University, Kolkotta	44.00		17.60	
TOTAL					1027.28	

Grant released during 2013-14

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	Grant-in-aid Sanctioned	Amount of grant-in-aid released (₹ in lakh)		
				1st inst	2nd inst	3rd inst
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh						
1.	Studies on the preservation of vegetable Juices and Non-Acidic fruit juices by Microwave Heating and development of prototype model of continuous microwave pasteurization/sterilization system	CFTRI, Hyderabad	38.826		2.72176	
2.	Development of a three dimensional culture system to produce meat from chicken satellite cells	D/o Biotechnology, GITAM, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam-530045	15.00	7.50		
3.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad	33.34	1.50		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam						
4.	Development of enzyme based extraction process for improving quality and recovery of starch from different varieties of Colocasia Esculenta (Arbi) of Assam for food use	Tezpur University, Assam	27.26425		3.31357	
5.	Development of ready to reconstitute Misti Dahi Powder	Tezpur University	15.97		2.442	
6.	Development of value added products from Minor Fruits of Assam	Assam Agriculture University	65.93	45.40 As part payment of ₹ 59.47		
7.	Studies on development of cereal based functional breakfast food from the underutilized crops of North-East	Department of Food Engineering & Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur, Assam	29.024	25.262		
8.	Pilot Scale Process Technology for 'BHIM KOL' (MUSA BALBISIANA) Slice, Grits and Powder using Hybrid Drying Methods	Department of Food Engineering & Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur, Assam	35.324	31.912		

9.	Quality Assessment of traditionally processed dried fish of the North East India	Department of Biotechnology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam	32.92	3.00
Delhi				
10.	Biotechnology Production of xylitol from zylose rich lignecellulosic materials	IARI	23.116	5.34996
11.	Utilization of deoiled soybean cake for production of enzymes, bioactive components and protein products	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	15.60	2.40 Part payment
12.	Supercritical Fluid Extraction of Natural Antioxidant for Food Preservation	IIT, Delhi	61.00	6.2432
13.	In vitro assessment of the effects of commercially available nutraceuticals and oligosaccharides as prebiotics on the human gut microflora	Department of Biochemical Engineering & Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi	23.232	15.936
14.	Development of Phenolic Enriched Multigrain Bread with Improved Functional Quality	Division of Post Harvest Technology, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, 3rd floor, NRL Building, New Delhi	49.816	39.868

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Biotechnological approaches for utilisation of deoiled seed cakes in producing food enzymes and chemicals	Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas New Delhi 110016	22.91	16.19		
Gujarat						
16.	Development of Process of Technology for functional snack food using flaxseed	D/o Food Processing Technology, A.D. Patel Institute of Technology, P.O. Box No 52, behind GIDC New Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Karamsad, Anand-388121	4.0465	2.02325		
Haryana						
17.	Development of Strip based detection tests for selected adulterants and contaminants in milk	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	49.848	35.174		
18.	Healthy Foods: Production of Stable and Active Probiotics	Dairy Microbiology Division, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	35.824	29.912		
19.	Production of buffalo casein hydrolysates enriched with antioxidative and	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	50.00	38.648		

immunomodulatory peptides and their application for the development of functional beverage

20.	Mineral bound milk based ingredients: Preparation, characterization and application	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute Karnal-132001	46.852	35.176
21.	Development of Chromatographic and PCR Based Methodology to Ascertain the Quality of Milk Fat and its Validation under Filed Conditions	Division of Dairy Chemistry National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal-132001	14.8556	11.9496

22.	Preparation and Characterization of Nanoemulsions of Curcumin for their use in Functional Foods	Department of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	19.979	13.979
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Himachal Pradesh

23.	Processing of Apple for value added product development	IHBT, Palampur	107.44	10.744
24.	Bio processing and pilot scale production of high valued tea Nutraceuticals :Catechins and Theaflavins	IHBT, Palampur	163.00	16.30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jammu and Kashmir						
25.	Extraction of resistant starch from Horse chestnut and rice, its utilization as an encapsulating agent for targeted delivery into the clone	Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Kashmir, Srinagar	54.734	38.534		
Jharkhand						
26.	Use of Natural Resins and Gums for Preservation and Value Addition of Fishery Products	Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums Namkum, Ranchi-834010	6.752	3.376		
Karnataka						
27.	Red Sorghum flakes based snack bar for health and nutritional security	Department of Horticulture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka	36.916	32.208		
28.	Value added and Healthful Texturized Egg. Products	CFTRI, Mysore	38.51		1.60357	
29.	Biotechnological Production of Bioactive Metabolites from Therapeutic Fungal Biofactory Ganoderma sp. for Pharmaceutical Applications	Fermentation Technology and Bioengineering, Central Food Technological Research Institute Mysore-570020	26.76	18.38		

30.	Reverse Micellar Extraction of Lacto ferrin from whey: Continuous Process	D/o Chemical Engg. NIT, Karnataka, Surathkal, Shrivivanagar, Mangalore-575025	46.862	35.176
31.	Scale up of chitosan based coating formulation for preservation of selected fruits	Department of Meat and Marine Sciences, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore-570020	21.896	15.756
32.	Biotechnological approaches to regulate fermentation and drying process of cocoa.	Department of Plantation Products Spices and Flavour Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	20.36	1.88793
33.	Comparative Evaluation of Enzymatic and Fermentative methods for Preparation of Chicken liver Hydrolystates:Recovery, Biofunctional Characterization and Application	Department of Meat, Fish and Poultry Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	41.64	4.00
Maharashtra				
34.	Validation of Nutracitically important plant resources in India by DNA Barcoding using various Gene Markers of India	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad	147.240	131.540

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Processing and Packaging of Tender Coconut Water for Rural Market	IIP, Mumbai	46.664	31.582		
36.	Synthesis and Characterization of Nano-Cellulose and its Application in Biodegradable Polymer Composite Films for Food Packaging	Department of Polymer and Surface Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, University of Mumbai Matunga, Mumbai-400019	32.73	23.91		
37.	Microencapsulation of anthocyanin pigment extracted from kokam (<i>Garcinia indica</i>) processing industry waste	Department of Food Science and Technology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur-416004	33.47	29.739		
38.	Extraction and Concentration of Bioactive Compounds and Sugars from Horticultural Processing Waste using Microwave-Membrane Technology	Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Powai, Mumbai-400076	27.636	14.408		
39.	Studies on Post Harvest Application of 1-MCP on Shelf Life and Quality of Mango and Tomato Fruits	Department of Chemical Technology, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Aurangabad-431004	36.94	30.98		

40.	Biochemical composition of Bombay duck fish, and functional 180 haracterization of its muscle proteins	Division of Fisheries Resources, Harvest & Post-harvest Management, Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Maharashtra	21.30	9.10
41.	Use of Natural Resins and Gums for Preservation and Value Addition of Fishery Products	Mumbai Research Centre of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology CIDCO Admn. Building, Vashi Mumbai-400703	18.403	14.295
Punjab				
42.	Improving the microbial safety and nutritional quality of fresh meat using a low cost refrigerated cabinet for retail marketing of meat in street meat shops	Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana, Punjab	11.69	7.845
43.	Chemical, rheological and processing quality of fractions produced by successive size reduction milling of different wheat varieties	Department of Food Science and Technology, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab	69.208	62.104
44.	Development and Quality Evaluation of Gluten free Products for Celiac Disease Patients	Department of Food Science & Technology, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar-143005	45.42	35.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tamil Nadu						
45.	Phosphine and Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) Combinations as Alternative to Methyl Bromide to Manage Stored Pests of rice Under Bulk Storage	Department of Storage Entomology, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Pudukottai Road, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	39.804	33.292		
46.	Package of Technologies for On-farm Processing, Value Addition and Safe Storage of Onions	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	49.97	42.91		
47.	Ultrasound processing of liquid food: Feasibility and Efficacy	Department of Food Process Engineering, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	9.988	2.00		
48.	Developing New Technologies for Processing Sugarcane Juice	Division of Crop Production Sugarcane Breeding Institute (ICAR), Coimbatore-641007	37.40	30.492		
49.	Developing Post Harvest Mechanization Package for Banana Central Core	Department of Agriculture Structures and Process Engineering, Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering Coimbatore-641003	37.968	31.484		

Uttar Pradesh

50.	Nutritional approach for designing goat meat based functional products	Central Institute of Research on Goats, Mathura (U.P.)	107.29	10.729
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West Bengal

51.	Design of Novel Functional Food Supplements using Supercritical Carbon dioxide Extraction and Encapsulation Technologies	Jadavpur University	34.16468	2.3144
TOTAL			1097.73	

Grant released during 2014-15
(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	Grant-in-aid			Amount of grant-in-aid released		
			Sanctioned			1st inst	2nd inst	3rd inst
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		

Andhra Pradesh

1.	Utilization of Pumpkin for development of carotene rich extruded and other value added products	CFTRI, Hyderabad	29.76	21.73
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	33.34			3.50
3.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh				1.50
Assam						
4.	Development of value added products from Minor Fruits of Assam	Assam Agriculture University	65.93	14.07		
5.	Development of a Process for Effective use of Acetylcholinesterase (AChE) Biosensors for Quantification of Organophosphate and Organocarbamate Pesticide Residues in Produce	Department of Chemical Sciences, Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam	11.37	6.37		
6.	Development of Degradable Food Packaging Technology "Green-PACK"	Department of Chemical Sciences, Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam	29.97		1.10	

7.	Studies on development of cereal based functional breakfast food from the underutilized crops of North-East India	Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, Assam	29.02	1.50
8.	Studies on development of cereal based functional breakfast food from the underutilized crops of North-East India	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur Assam	35.32	1.50
9.	Development of Value added food products from Leaf Protein concentrate of Green Leafy Vegetables of Assam	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur Assam	21.55	15.77
Chhattisgarh				
10.	Kinetic of Thermal Degradation of Chlorophyll in Green Leafy Vegetables and Increasing the Shelf life of the vegetables	Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Raipur, Chhattisgarh	11.71	1.50
Delhi				
11.	Enzymatic synthesis of Theanin: A nutraceutical using microbial yglutamyl/transpeptidase	Department of Microbiology, University of Delhi, South Campus, New Delhi	23.00	3.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Biotechnology Production of xylitol from zylose rich lignecellulosic materials	IARI	23.116		1.45	
13.	In vitro assessment of the effects of commercially available nutraceuticals and oligosaccharides as prebiotics on the human gut microflora	Department of Biochemical Engineering & Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi,	23.23		5.00	
14.	Biotechnological approaches for utilisation of deoiled seed cakes in producing food enzymes and chemicals	Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, Delhi	22.91		5.00	
15.	Development of Phenolic Enriched Multigrain Bread with Improved Functional Quality	Division of Post Harvest Technology, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi	49.816		7.50	
Gujarat						
16.	Development and Optimization of Edible Coating Formulations to Improve the Postharvest Quality and Shelf-life of Underutilized Short Lived Fresh Fruits by using RSM	Department of BRD, School of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University, Sardar Patel Maidan, Vadtal Road, Post Box No. 39, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat	17.13		1.00	

17.	Development of Process of Technology for Functional Snack Food Using Flaxseed	Department of Food Processing Technology, A.D. Patel Institute of Technology, Po Box no. 52, New Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Karamsad, Anand, Gujarat	4.465	1.61
Haryana				
18.	Development of traditional fermented dairy products enriched with an indigenous probiotic strain for promoting the health and well-being of consumers	Molecular Biology Unit, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	67.83	0.34
19.	Study on development of dietary fibre enriched designer meat products	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hissar, Haryana	54.90	5.20
20.	Evaluation of Green Functional Foods fortified with Cereal grasses in reducing risk of Metabolic Syndrome	National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Plot No. 97, Phase-V, Sector-56, HSIIDC, Kundli, Sonapat, Haryana	27.50	17.16
21.	Production of buffalo casein hydrolysates enriched with antioxidative and	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	50.00	8.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	immunomodulatory peptides and their application for the development of functional beverage					
22.	Mineral bound milk based ingredients: Preparation, characterization and application	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	46.852		7.00	
23.	Development of Strip based detection tests for selected adulterants and contaminants in milk	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana	49.384		5.00	
Karnataka						
24.	Isolation and Screening for native wine yeast cultures for the production of Indian Wine	CFTRI, Mysore	53.01	44.33		
25.	Nutritionally Enriched Innovative Convenience Foods Suitable for Industrial Production from Underutilized Grains	Department of Grain Science & Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	20.00		2.80	
26.	Development of Process for nanoencapsulation of polyphenols	Human Resource Development, Central Food Technological Research	20.30	2.50		

	for food supplement applications	Institute, KRS Road, Mysore, Karnataka		
27.	Scale-Up and Down Stream Processing of Stable Pigment and Key Metabolites from Morus Alba	Department of Plant Cell Biotechnology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	27.58	17.19
28.	Edible Confectionery Chews and Functional Beverage Mix for Increased/Sustenance of Energy Levels in Sports Personnel	Lipid Science and Traditional Foods, CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	13.17	8.33
29.	Development of technology for production of multigrain semolina mixes and its food application	Flour Milling, Baking and Confectionery Technology Department, CSRI-Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	29.83	6.00
30.	Developing Inexpensiv, Disposable and Biodegradable Food Containers Using Agricultural Wastes	Center for Emerging Technologies, Jain Global Campus, Jain University, 45 km. NH-209, Jakkasandra Post, Ramanagara District, Bangalore, Karnataka	15.09	3.77
31.	Development of technology for production of multigrain semolina	Flour Milling, Baking and Confectionery Technology	29.83	11.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	mixes and its food application	Department, CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore				
Kerala						
32.	DNA barcoding to discriminate trade spices from their adulterants	Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut, Kerala	28.46			2.22
33.	Non destructive Nano-sensors for detecting chemical and biological food toxins using surface enhanced Raman Scattering	Amrita Centre for Nanosciences, Amrita Vishwavidyapeetham University, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences Campus, Elamakkara, Cochin	65.00			6.50
Maharashtra						
34.	Studies for the selective separation of proteins from milk whey.	NCL, Pune	20.74		3.94	
35.	Validation of Nutraceutically important plant resources in India by DNA Barcoding using various Gene Markers of India	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad	147.24		12.40	

36.	Use of Natural Resins and Gums for Preservation and Value Addition of Fishery Products	Mumbai Research Centre of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, CIDCO Admn. Building, Vashi, Mumbai, Maharashtra	18.403	1.61
Meghalaya				
37.	Approaches to Value Addition of the Chow-Chow Fruit by its Fermentation to a Nutritionally Improved Product	State Institute of Rural Development, Nongsder, Meghalaya	33.00	24.75
Puducherry				
38.	Development of Functional Mixed Starter Culture for Idli Using Microbial Biodiversity and Interrelationship	Department of Food Science and Technology, Pondicherry University, R.V. Nagar Kalapet, Pondicherry	47.19	36.33
Punjab				
39.	Novel Bioactive edible films for extending shelf life of meat based products	Department of Livestock Products Technology, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana, Punjab	56.20	8.16
40.	Reviving the Utilization of Millets and Minor Cereals in Chapatti to Deliver Bioactive Components	Department of Food Science and Technology, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab	52.88	44.94

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
41.	Encapsulation of Natural Bioactive Compounds and Micronutrients for the enhancement of Nutritive, Preservative and Processing functionality of Meat products	Department of Livestock Products Technology, College of Veterinary Science, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Science University, Ludhiana, Punjab	55.00	6.00		
42.	Encapsulation of Natural Bioactive Compounds and Micronutrients for the enhancement of Nutritive, Preservative and Processing functionality of Meat products	Department of Livestock Products Technology, College of Veterinary Science, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Science University, Ludhiana, Punjab	55.00		39.00	
43.	Isolation and Characterization of Dairy Flora of Punjab Region as Probiotic with Bio-therapeutic Potential and Development of Preservation Technology for Ready to Use Cultures	Department of Dairy Microbiology, College of Dairy Science and Technology, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Science University, Ludhiana, Punjab	62.16	24.86		
Rajasthan						
44.	Characterization of Colostrum Bio-active Components from different spices and their	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan	87.26		4.79	

Application in the Formulation of
Novel Dairy Products

Tamil Nadu

45.	Development stability and consumer acceptance of omega-3 enriched functional food	College of Food and Dairy Technology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Chennai	52.91	4.46	
46.	Development and Standardization of technique for preservation of nutrient rich Palmyra products	Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	8.75		0.87
47.	Post harvest technology and value addition of Cashew Apple	Post Harvest Technology Centre, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore-641003	13.24	03.51	
48.	Evaluation of Physiochemical, Nutritional, Pasting and Textural Characteristics of Processed Millets Based Foods	Department of Food Science and Nutrition, Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu	40.15	27.76	—
49.	Fabrication of Highly Sensitive nanocomposited MnO ₂ /CNTs Based Sensor for Detection of Hydrogen Peroxide in Milk	Research Department of Physics, Bishop Heber College, Vayalur Road, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu	39.82	30.14	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50.	Development of database for Indian seafood safety and traceability based on AFLP markers	Fish Processing Technology, Fisheries College and Research Institute, Tamilnadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu	44.67	—	4.50	—
51.	Prebiotic Efficacy of Xylooligosaccharides (XOS) and their Food Applications	Centre for Food Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	27.71	—	2.00	—
52.	Industrial Process Development for Meat Preservation by Natural extracts	Centre for Food Technology, A.C. Tech Campus, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	31.70	19.89		
53.	Lactic acid bacteria of functional interest in nutrition of finger millet	Department of Agricultural Microbiology, Agricultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	21.84	14.67		
54.	Prebiotic Efficacy of Xylooligosaccharides (XOS) and their Food Applications	Post Harvest Technology Centre, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	27.708		2.50	

55.	Prebiotic Efficacy of Xylitoligosaccharides (XOS) and their Food Applications	Centre for Food Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Anna University, A.C. Tech Campus, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	27.708	0.50
56.	Package of Technologies for On-farm Processing, Value Addition and Safe Storage of Onions	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	49.97	1.00
Uttar Pradesh				
57.	Development of intelligent packaging sensors for monitoring quality and safety of meat and meat products in supply chain	Department of Livestock Products Technology, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly District, Uttar Pradesh	44.67	32.89
58.	Development of Nano-Immuno Rapid Test to detect Mycobacterium avum subspecies paratuberculosis in milk samples	Animal Health Division, Central Institute for Research on Goats, CIRG Makhdoom, PO-FARAH, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh	65.78	46.23
West Bengal				
59.	Design of Novel Functional Food Supplements using Supercritical Carbon dioxide Extraction and Encapsulation Technologies	Jadavpur University, Kolkata-700032	33.01	0.07
GRAND TOTAL			638.66	

Suicides by potato growers in West Bengal

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

(a) whether it is a fact that suicides by potato growers have increased in West Bengal in the last two months, if so, the number of potato growers committed suicide in the State; and

(b) the remedial measures taken by Government to prevent the suicides?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):

(a) and (b) Government of West Bengal has reported that there has been no suicide by Potato growers due to distress sale of potato in the State in the last two months.

Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution. Therefore, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector including welfare of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. 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 this, 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.

Government of West Bengal has informed that keeping in view, the bumper potato production in 2014-15 and as a consequence, lower realization of prices by potato growers, State Government has initiated a series of measures including the following:

- (i) Direct procurement of potato from the farmers for supply to ICDS and Mid-day Meal beneficiaries.
 - (ii) Providing transport subsidy for Inter-State movement of potato by railways and
 - (iii) Providing subsidy for exporting potato from Kolkata Port.
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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Relief package to farmers affected by unseasonal rains and hailstorms**

111. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the large scale damages to the crops caused by the recent unseasonal rains and hailstorms in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the estimated crop damages along with the relief package being worked out to help the affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the month of February-March 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala were hit by hailstorm followed by untimely rainfall. As per inputs received from States, State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement (*See below*).

State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to address the notified calamities by utilizing the funds under SDRF. States have also been advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted. In addition, the calamity affected farmers are entitled for claims under various crop insurance schemes.

Statement

*State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and
unseasonal rains in the country*

(Area: In lakh ha.)

Sl.No.	States	Total Area (As on 16.4.15)
1.	Gujarat	1.75
2.	Madhya Pradesh	5.70
3.	Maharashtra	9.89
4.	Rajasthan	16.89
5.	Haryana	22.24
6.	Punjab	2.94

Sl.No.	States	Total Area (As on 16.4.15)
7.	Uttar Pradesh	29.64
8.	Uttarakhand	0.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.67
10.	Bihar	1.86
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.33
12.	Telangana	0.01
13.	Kerala	0.01
14.	West Bengal	0.49
TOTAL		93.81

Crop loss due to unseasonal rains and hailstorms

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

(a) the quantum of crops estimated to be destroyed due to unseasonal rains and hailstorms in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) whether the estimation of affected farmers and the losses suffered by them has been made;

(c) whether Government is taking steps to compensate the affected farmers for their losses; and

(d) if so, by when compensation would be provided to the farmers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) In the month of February-March 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala were hit by hailstorms and unseasonal rains. As per inputs received from States, State wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to address the notified calamities by utilizing the funds under SDRF. States have also

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted. In addition, the calamity affected farmers are entitled for claims under various crop insurance schemes.

Statement

*State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and
unseasonal rains in country*

(Area: in lakh ha.)

Sl. No.	States	Total Area (As on 16.4.15)
1.	Gujarat	1.75
2.	Madhya Pradesh	5.70
3.	Maharashtra	9.89
4.	Rajasthan	16.89
5.	Haryana	22.24
6.	Punjab	2.94
7.	Uttar Pradesh	29.64
8.	Uttarakhand	0.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.67
10.	Bihar	1.86
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.33
12.	Telangana	0.01
13.	Kerala	0.01
14.	West Bengal	0.49
TOTAL		93.81

Good cotton growing practices

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) and (c) To maximize the production and productivity of cotton, assistance is provided for Front Line Demonstration on High Density Planting System (HDPS), intercropping, for cultivation of Extra Long Staple (ELS), Desi Cotton besides programme on Insecticides Resistance Management (IRM) and Online Pest Monitoring and Advisory Services (OPMAS) under NFSM-Commercial Crop during Twelfth five year plan. An allocation of ₹ 1200.00 lakh was made for cotton under NFSM during 2014-15. The programme is implemented through the State Department of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, (ICAR), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) etc.

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

Suicide and distress sale of farm produce by farmers

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

(a) the number of cases of farmers' suicide, shock deaths and distress sale of farm produce and even land to pay off debts reported from some of the worst hit States, such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh due to untimely rains and hailstorms recently;

(b) the estimate of crop loss in these States, State-wise;

(c) whether financial assistance and compensation has been provided to the farmers who have suffered losses, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government will consider to waive off the debts of farmers, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The State Governments of Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan have reported 3 (three), 5 (five) and 1 (one) cases of farmers' suicide respectively, due to recent untimely rains and hailstorm. The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh have not reported any incident of farmers' suicide.

(b) As per inputs which are based on preliminary assessment by the States, 94.77 lakh (Ninety four lakh seventy seven thousand) hectare area under crops is reported to be affected. However, it is too early to arrive at the exact assessment of damage to Rabi crops.

Details of State-wise crop area affected in these States, during February and March, 2015 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) 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 farmers affected by natural calamities. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is concerned with coordination of relief measures necessitated by drought, hailstorm, pest attack, cold wave/frost. In the event of any or more of the listed natural calamities taking place in the State(s), fund is readily available with the State Governments under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum of State Government, in accordance with established procedure, keeping in view items and norms in vogue for assistance.

So far memoranda have been received from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana seeking financial assistance of ₹ 744.48 crores, ₹ 8252 crores and ₹ 1135.91 crores respectively from NDRF.

Inter Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have been constituted to visit the affected States to assess the damage to crops and recommend financial assistance in accordance with extant norms and procedure. IMCTs have already visited the States of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines, *inter-alia*, containing directions to banks to ensure that the meetings of District Consultative Committees or State Level Bankers' Committees are convened at the earliest to evolve a co-ordinated action plan for implementation of the relief programme in collaboration with the State/District authorities. Banks have been advised to consider moratorium period of at least one year in all cases of restructuring. Banks may also grant consumption loans upto ₹ 10000/- to existing borrowers without any collateral. The limit, however, may be enhanced beyond ₹ 10000/- at the discretion of the bank.

In the event of natural calamity, to provide relief to farmers whose crops have been damaged, refinance is extended by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks for conversion of short term agriculture loans into medium term loans thereby enabling them to become eligible for fresh loans for the ensuing season. The conversion/rephasing/reschedulement of current short term loans (crops loans) is based on the intensity of calamity and extent of crop loss. Generally, conversion is allowed for a period of 5 years for small and marginal farmers and 3 years for other farmers.

Statement

State-wise Area of Crops Affected Due to Hailstorm and Unseasonal rains in the country

Period: February and March, 2015

States/Crops	Wheat	Coarse cereals (Barley/ Jowar/Maize)	Pulses	Oilseeds (Mustard/ Safflower/ Castor)	Horticulture (Vegetable/ Fruits)	Cumin	Isabgol	Coriander	Other Crops	Total Area (as on 17.04.2015)
Madhya Pradesh	2.40	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.70	0.00	5.70
Maharashtra	1.32	4.80	1.50	0.03	2.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.89
Rajasthan	8.92	0.52	3.15	5.88	0.05	1.86	1.67	1.07	1.25	24.37
Haryana	19.48	0.03	0.01	2.14	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.24
Punjab	2.56	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	2.94
Uttar Pradesh*	16.51	0.00	6.58	1.12	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.74	29.64
TOTAL	51.18	5.37	13.25	9.18	4.17	1.86	1.77	1.77	6.23	94.77

*Crop-wise report have been updated based on the report collected from the State of Uttar Pradesh as on 16.04.2015 and revised memorandum sent by Rajasthan on 17.04.2015.

FRP of sugarcane

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

(a) the details of the factors taken into account for finalising the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane and the institutions involved for the purpose;

(b) whether Government has received requests/representations for hiking the FRP for sugarcane during the current season; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Department of Food and Public Distribution fixes Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane having regard to the factors mentioned in clause 3(1) of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 viz. cost of production of sugarcane; return to the growers from alternative crops and the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities; availability of sugar to the consumers at a fair price; price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by sugar producers; recovery of sugar from sugarcane; realization made from sale of by-products viz. molasses, bagasse and press-mud or their imputed values; and reasonable margins for the growers of sugarcane on account of risks and profits. The FRP so fixed is based on the recommendations of commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) and after consultations with State Governments and other stake holders.

No such representation has been received for hiking the FRP for sugarcane for the current sugar season.

Loans to landless farmers

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

(a) the number of landless farmers in the country with details regarding women farmers;

(b) whether these landless farmers face difficulties in getting loans from financial institutions, if so, how Government proposes to provide them finance at reasonable rates; and

(c) the details of facilities being provided to women farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Information on the

number of landless farmers is not maintained. As per the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, total number of operational holdings in the country was 138.35 million which includes 17.68 million holdings operated by the female farmers. As per Census, 2011 the number of agricultural labourers in the country, State/UT-wise is given below:

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Agricultural Labourers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,69,67,754
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4,781
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	36,171
4.	Assam	18,45,346
5.	Bihar	1,83,45,649
6.	Chandigarh	1,687
7.	Chhattisgarh	50,91,882
8.	Daman and Diu	772
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17,799
10.	Goa	26,760
11.	Gujarat	68,39,415
12.	Haryana	15,28,133
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1,75,038
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	5,47,705
15.	Jharkhand	44,36,052
16.	Karnataka	71,55,963
17.	Kerala	13,22,850
18.	Lakshadweep	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	1,21,92,267
20.	Maharashtra	1,34,86,140
21.	Manipur	1,14,918
22.	Meghalaya	1,98,364
23.	Mizoram	41,787
24.	Nagaland	62,962
25.	NCT of Delhi	39,475
26.	Odisha	67,39,993
27.	Puducherry	68,391

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Agricultural Labourers
28.	Punjab	15,88,455
29.	Rajasthan	49,39,664
30.	Sikkim	25,986
31.	Tamil Nadu	96,06,547
32.	Tripura	3,53,618
33.	Uttarakhand	4,03,301
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1,99,39,223
35.	West Bengal	1,01,88,842
	ALL INDIA	14,43,33,690

(b) and (c) To augment flow of credit to farmers, especially small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, share croppers/individuals for taking up farm activities who have no collateral to offer, National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) has piloted and developed an effective credit product *i.e.* financing of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs). The JLGs facilitate hassle free credit for longer term; fulfilling the credit needs of entire seasonal agricultural operation in a year of the farmers. As on March, 2014, 6.57 lakh JLGs have been formed and a loan amount of ₹ 677 crore have been disbursed by various banks. In the Union Budget 2014-15, Government has announced target for financing five lakh Joint Farming Groups of Bhoomiheen Kisan including women farmers through NABARD.

Bringing of cotton seed under ECA

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

(a) whether Government has brought cotton seeds under Essential Commodities Act (ECA) and at the same time it wants to deregulate their prices;

(b) whether this will help private seed companies to take undue advantage of the situation;

(c) whether Government proposes to make rules to regulate the prices of cotton seed under provisions of ECA;

(d) whether reintroduction of cotton seeds under ECA is not against policies of reforms, liberalization, market-led economy and WTO obligations; and

(e) whether Government would consider to empower States to regulate the Bt. Cotton seed, prices if it is not regulating the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Cotton seed was brought under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA, 1955) from 22.12.2009 to protect the interest of cotton producing farmers by regulating the production, supply, distribution and quality of cotton seeds. This acts as a deterrent against sale of spurious cotton seeds. The inclusion under ECA, 1955 does not provide for any price regulation of cotton seeds.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, there is no such proposal with the Government.

(d) The reintroduction of cotton seeds under the ECA, 1955 does not regulate the prices of cotton seeds and is not against the policies of reforms, liberalization, market-led economy and WTO obligations.

(e) At present, there is no such proposal with the Government.

Loss of crops due to untimely rains and hailstorms

118. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ascertained the quantum of crops damaged and losses suffered by farmers due to recent untimely rains and hailstorms in various States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether several farmers have either committed suicide or have died of heart attack due to the shock, if so, the steps taken by Government to provide help to the bereaved families;

(c) the quantum of relief given to the farmers who have lost their crops; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to waive off farm loans given to the small and marginal farmers, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) In the month of February-March 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala were hit by hailstorm and unseasonal rainfall. As per inputs received from States, State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 112 (Part a and b)].

(b) As per reports received from State Governments namely Punjab, Karnataka, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, there have been no incidents of farmers suicide due to agrarian distress caused by recent untimely rains and hailstorms.

(c) The Government of India, Ministry of Home affairs has issued order on revised items and norms of assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) on 8th April, 2015.

The extant norms *inter-alia* provide for assistance to the farmers in the form of agriculture input subsidy (where crop loss is 33% and above) for damage caused to all types agriculture and horticulture cropped areas due to the notified natural calamities. These are ₹ 6,800/- per hectare for rainfed crops, ₹ 13,500/- per hectare for irrigated crops, subject to minimum assistance not less ₹ 1000/- and restricted to sown areas and ₹ 18,000/- per hectare for all type of perennial crops, subject to minimum assistance not less than ₹ 2,000/- and restricted to sown areas, where crop loss is more than 33% and above. In addition, the calamity affected farmers are entitled for claims under various crop insurance schemes.

(d) In order to provide relief to the farmers, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines for relief measure by banks in area affected by natural calamities. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has already requested State Governments to organize meeting of State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) and District Level Consultative Committee (DLCC). RBI guidelines provide for conversion of short term loan in to term loan.

Damage to crops due to rains and hailstorms

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

(a) whether crops in various States of the country have been damaged due to unprecedented rains and hailstorms;

(b) whether any assessment has been made about the damage to crops and losses to farmers;

(c) the efforts being made to give relief to farmers whose crops have been damaged; and

(d) the details of compensation provided so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the month of February-March 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh,

Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala were hit by hailstorm and unseasonal rains. As per inputs received from States, State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the statement [Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ No. 112 (Part a and b)].

(c) and (d) State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to address the notified calamities by utilizing the funds under SDRF. States have been also advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted. In addition, the calamity affected farmers are entitled for claims under various crop insurance schemes.

Crop diversification plan for Green Revolution States

120. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated a crop diversification plan for the original Green Revolution States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked for the purpose; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to help Green Revolution States in breaking away from wheat-rice cropping pattern and facilitate smooth crop diversification keeping in view the stagnatory yields and over exploration of water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna, in the original Green Revolution States of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh since 2013-14 to diversify area under paddy to alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, maize and agro-forestry plantation to restore soil fertility and arrest the depletion of ground water. The allocation and release of funds under CDP from 2013-14 is as given below :-

(₹ in crore)			
Sl. No.	Year	Allocation	Release
1.	2013-14	500.00	224.25
2.	2014-15	250.00	250.60
3.	2015-16	125.00 (Central Share)	-

(c) Under CDP, assistance is provided for conducting cluster demonstrations to diversify cropping pattern from water guzzling paddy to alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, maize and agro-forestry, distribution of farm machinery, setting up of value addition facilities, laying of underground pipeline system (UGPL) and awareness through training of farmers, etc.

Government has also launched a National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency by promoting efficient on-farm water management technologies and equipment like drip and sprinkle, creation of farm ponds, efficient delivery and distribution systems, etc.

Propagation of prom

121. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) has been included in the Fertilizer Control Order in 2012;

(b) if so, the details of public and private companies producing PROM in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the efforts Government is making to propagate PROM in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) PROM was included in FCO (1985) in 2012 under Schedule IV, under the heading “Specifications of Organic Fertilizers”.

The State Governments issue authorization to public/private companies for production and sale of organic fertilizers including PROM in their jurisdiction. The State-wise details of companies engaged in the production of PROM, as per the Fertiliser Association of India are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government is promoting the use of Organic fertilizers in conjunction with Chemical fertilizers under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

Statement

State-wise details of companies engaged in the production of PROM

Sl.No.	State	Companies Engaged
1.	Delhi	IL&FS Environmental Infrastructure & Services Ltd.
2.	Gujarat	Narmada Bio-Chem Pvt. Ltd.

Sl.No.	State	Companies Engaged
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Coromendal International Ltd.
4.	Maharashtra	(i) Vasumitra Life Energies Pvt. Ltd. (ii) Varun Phosphates and Bio Organic Pvt. Ltd.
5.	Rajasthan	IL & FS Environmental Infrastructure & Services Ltd.

Increase in premium rate of crop insurance schemes

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

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Crop Insurance Schemes like Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme, the premium rates payable by the farmers have been increased by Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) A Central Sector Scheme “National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP)” with three components namely, Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) has been introduced from Rabi 2013-14 in the country. As NCIP is an improved version of the earlier schemes and various additional features like risk coverage for pre-sowing/prevented sowing and for post harvest losses due to cyclone in coastal areas; on account payment up to 25% off likely claims in areas suffering at least 50% crop yield loss; more proficient basis for calculation of threshold yield; two higher indemnity levels of 80% & 90% etc. Have been incorporated to facilitate the farmers in a better way the premium payable by the farmers has gone up undoubtedly. However, to lessen the burden of farmers the premium subsidy upto 75% in MNAIS and 50% in WBCIS is being paid by the Government.

Decrease in crop area

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

(a) whether it is a fact that of late there has been consistent decrease in crop area in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether with this decrease, negative agricultural growth looms over the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) As per the latest available Land Use Statistics, total cropped area in the country during 2008-09 to 2011-12 has been hovering at around 195 to 197 million hectares except for a dip in 2009-10 which was a drought year. During the above period, in Maharashtra, the cropped area has remained around 22-23 million hectares. State-wise details of total cropped area in the country during 2008-09 to 2011-12 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Details of growth in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Agriculture and Allied Sector (including crop sector) during 2008-09 onwards are given below:

Base Period	Year	Growth in GDP of Agriculture & Allied Sector including crop sector (%)
At 2004-05 prices	2008-09	0.1
	2009-10	0.8
	2010-11	7.9
	2011-12	3.6
At 2011-12 prices	2012-13	1.2
	2013-14	3.7
	2014-15	1.1

Source: Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

It may be observed that the growth in GDP of Agriculture and Allied Sector, for 2008-09 onwards, has been positive. As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps to check diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. However, under the National Policy for Farmers-2007 (NPF-2007), State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities. National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy-2007 (NRRP-2007) has also recommended that as far as possible, projects may be set up on waste land, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of irrigated, multi-cropped agricultural land for non-agricultural uses may be kept to the minimum and avoided, to the extent possible. Further, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing an Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed/degraded areas.

Statement*Details of State-wise total cropped area during 2008-09 to 2011-12*

(in thousand hectares)

States/UTs	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Andhra Pradesh	13567	13830	12560	14512	13759
Arunachal Pradesh	272	276	276	278	281
Assam	3839	3999	4099	4160	4174
Bihar	7765	7671	7296	7194	7647
Chhattisgarh	5748	5683	5561	5671	5664
Goa	170	166	160	160	164
Gujarat	12211	11637	11085	12247	13093
Haryana	6458	6484	6351	6505	6489
Himachal Pradesh	954	946	941	955	951
Jammu and Kashmir	1134	1137	1145	1140	1161
Jharkhand	1675	1689	1399	1249	1255
Karnataka	12893	12368	12873	13062	12059
Kerala	2761	2695	2669	2647	2662
Madhya Pradesh	20416	20657	21411	22046	22516
Maharashtra	22655	22454	22612	23175	21915
Manipur	235	236	234	348	365
Meghalaya	283	337	336	338	339
Mizoram	96	95	123	121	97
Nagaland	400	402	486	452	474
Odisha	9016	9071	5510	5429	4964
Punjab	7870	7912	7875	7883	7905
Rajasthan	22208	22771	21745	26002	24505
Sikkim	118	118	144	152	137
Tamil Nadu	5815	5824	5572	5753	5890
Tripura	276	263	267	350	371
Uttarakhand	1187	1193	1166	1170	1132
Uttar Pradesh	25320	25471	25440	25368	25809

States/UTs	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
West Bengal	9752	9802	9530	8832	9353
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16	16	17	19	18
Chandigarh	2	2	2	2	2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	27	26	23	22	22
Daman and Diu	2	3	3	3	3
Delhi	44	43	46	44	39
Lakshadweep	3	3	3	3	3
Puducherry	35	33	32	31	27
ALL INDIA	195223	195314	188992	197323	195246

Source: Land Use Statistics released by Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture.

**Hurdles in providing compensation to families of farmers
who committed suicide**

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

(a) whether Government compensates the families of farmers who had committed suicide;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the amount of compensation being paid to each such family and the total amount paid so far during the last two years, year-wise, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are hurdles in distribution of compensation to such families, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to remove such hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (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.

Amount of compensation to the family of farmers who commit suicide is decided by the respective State Government. Similarly, the hurdles, if any, in distribution of compensation to such families are also resolved by the respective State Government.

Sale of full cream premium milk at Mother Dairy booths

†125. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether full cream premium milk is being sold in place of full cream milk at Mother Dairy booths in Delhi for sometimes which is harmful to health as it has very high quantity of cream and it also costs more, if so, the details thereof.

(b) the reasons for non-availability of full cream and toned milk at Mother Dairy booths.

(c) the quantity of Mother Dairy milk for consumption in Delhi and the details thereof: and

(d) the time since when poly bags are being provided for milk at some Mother Dairy booths but not doing so at another such booths and the reasons and the criteria therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per information received from Mother Dairy, Delhi, Full Cream milk is sold at Mother Dairy booths in Delhi but not in lieu of Full Cream milk but as a separate variant to provide more choice to the consumers. There is a particular segment of consumers who prefer higher fat and thus the price of this variant is more by ₹ 2 per litre as compared to normal Full Cream milk.

(b) No shortage of any variant of milk at Mother Dairy booths has been reported. Milk is made available at the booths as per the demand raised by the Booth Concessionaires.

(c) At present, Mother Dairy, Delhi sells close to 29 lakh liters of milk per day including 10 thousand liters of Full Cream Premium milk.

(d) Mother Dairy does not provide poly bags to consumers for carrying their purchases. There is no such policy of providing poly bag at any booth.

Compensation to families of farmers who committed suicide

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the families of farmers in Maharashtra who committed suicide over last four years are not eligible to get even paltry sum of rupees one

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

lakh as compensation from Government, if so, the details thereof and the reasons cited for denying the compensation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) 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.

Promoting organic farming

127. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after a decade of National Project on Organic farming (NPOF) only 0.3 per cent of the country's 140 million hectares of cropped land is under organic farming and the production of organic crops in the country remains sketchy and unreliable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to develop organic farming in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Cultivated area under certified organic farming has grown almost 17 fold in last one decade (42,000 ha in 2003-04 to 7.23 lakh ha in 2013-14). The State-wise area under organic farming during 2013-14 is given in the Statement (*See* below). Government of India has implemented the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) in the year 2001. The national programme involves the accreditation programme for certification agencies, norms for organic production, promotion of organic farming etc. States like; Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim have been promoting organic farming.

(b) Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR.

In addition to this, Government is implementing a Cluster based programme to encourage the farmer for promoting organic farming called Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):

- Groups of farmers would be motivated to take up organic farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster having 50 acre land to take up the organic farming under the scheme.
- In this way during three years 10,000 clusters will be formed covering 5.0 lakh acre area under organic farming. There will be no liability on the farmers for expenditure on certification.
- Every farmer will be provided ₹ 20,000 per acre in three years for seed to harvesting of crops and to transport produce to the market.
- Organic farming will be promoted by using traditional resources and the organic products will be linked with the market.
- It will increase domestic production and certification of organic produce by involving farmers.
- In order to implement the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana in Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana in the year 2015-16, an amount of ₹ 300 crore has been allocated.

Statement

State-wise Farm area (excluding Forest Area) under Organic Certification during 2013-14

Sl. No.	State Name	Organic Area (in Ha)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	321.28
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12325.03
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	71.49
4.	Assam	2828.26
5.	Bihar	180.60
6.	Chhattisgarh	4113.25
7.	Delhi	0.83

Sl. No.	State Name	Organic Area (in Ha)
8.	Goa	12853.94
9.	Gujarat	46863.89
10.	Haryana	3835.78
11.	Himachal Pradesh	4686.05
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	10035.38
13.	Jharkhand	762.30
14.	Karnataka	30716.21
15.	Kerala	15020.23
16.	Lakshadweep	895.91
17.	Madhya Pradesh	232887.36
18.	Maharashtra	85536.66
19.	Manipur	0
20.	Meghalaya	373.13
21.	Mizoram	0
22.	Nagaland	5168.16
23.	Odisha	49813.51
24.	Puducherry	2.84
25.	Punjab	1534.39
26.	Rajasthan	66020.35
27.	Sikkim	60843.51
28.	Tamil Nadu	3640.07
29.	Tripura	203.56
30.	Uttar Pradesh	44670.10
31.	Uttarakhand	24739.46
32.	West Bengal	2095.51
TOTAL		723039.00

Source: APEDA (2013-14).

Promoting the rearing of Tuna and Hilsa fish

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

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan to promote the rearing of Tuna and Hilsa fish in coastal Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether Government will consider to prepare an action plan in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Considering the non-availability of breeding and rearing technology for Tuna and Hilsa fish, besides lack of suitable sites along the Maharashtra Coast, no action plan has been prepared in this regard so far.

Development of infrastructural facilities in agriculture sector

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

(a) whether the present level of public sector investment for infrastructural facilities in agriculture sector is not sufficient in the country;

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

(c) whether provisions for sufficient investment have been made in the 2015-16 budget for developing infrastructural facilities in agriculture sector, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Adequate public sector investment on infrastructure in agriculture sector is being taken up in the country. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing a number of missions/schemes, which *inter-alia*, focuses on productive infrastructure such as soil and water conservation, expansion and improvement of irrigation system, market infrastructure, storage, farm credit and insurance. They include some of the following activities *viz.* Establishment of cold storages; processing units; pack houses; pre-cooling units; controlled atmosphere storage; reefer vans; setting up of ripening chambers; strengthening facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds; supply of quality planting material through establishment of nurseries; creation of infrastructure for post harvest management; setting up of soil and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

fertilizer testing laboratories; setting up of bio and organic fertilizer units, etc. Further, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), which is a major scheme for incentivizing States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors, has earmarked 35% of annual outlay under RKVY for infrastructure and assets.

(c) During the Financial year 2015-16, an outlay of ₹ 16646.35 crore has been made for the schemes/missions of this Department. Under Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing (ISAM), enhanced allocation to the tune of ₹ 100 crore has been made, as compared to the previous year. Under RKVY, an allocation of ₹ 4500 crore has been made. Further, for new schemes introduced during 2014-15 which are being continued during 2015-16, the allocations made are as indicated below:

- (i) Soil Health Card ₹ 200 crore;
- (ii) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana ₹ 1800 crore, and
- (iii) National Agri-Tech Infrastructure (₹ 100 Crore).

Agriculture, being a State subject, it is also the responsibility of the States to take necessary steps for holistic development of agriculture based on local needs and priorities.

Suicide by farmers in Maharashtra

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 200 farmers have committed suicide in Maharashtra in the last three months, if so, the details thereof, region-wise; and

(b) the remedial measures taken by Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Government of Maharashtra has reported that 257 farmers have committed suicide in the State due to agrarian reasons during the period January, 2015 to March, 2015. Region-wise information is as under:

Region	No. of suicides
Konkan	1
Nashik	9
Pune	1
Aurangabad	114
Amrawati	102
Nagpur	30

(b) Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution. Therefore, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector including welfare of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate polity measures 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 and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing, etc. For this, 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 of 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.

Damage to crops due to hailstorms and untimely rains

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

(a) whether hailstorms and untimely rains in various parts of the country have damaged cash and other crops, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has provided financial aid to the affected States to help them face the impact of the hailstorms/untimely rains, if so, the details of funds sanctioned and released to the affected States, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the month of February–March, 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana & Kerala were hit by hailstorm followed by untimely rainfall. As per information received from States, State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ No. 112 (Part a and b)].

(b) The Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs has issued order on revised items and norms of assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) on 8th April, 2015.

The extant norms *inter-alia* provide for assistance to the farmers in the form of agriculture input subsidy (where crop loss is 33% and above) for damage caused to all types agriculture and horticulture cropped areas due to the notified natural calamities. These are ₹ 6,800/- per hectare for rainfed crops, ₹ 13,500/- per hectare for irrigated crops, subject to minimum assistance not less ₹ 1000/- and restricted to sown areas and ₹ 18,000/- per hectare for all type of perennial crops, subject to minimum assistance not less than ₹ 2,000/- and restricted to sown areas, where crop loss is more than 33% and above. In addition, the calamity affected farmers are entitled for claims under various crop insurance schemes.

Assistance for micro irrigation under OFWM in West Bengal

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

(a) whether Government has identified all drought prone areas including in West Bengal, for micro irrigation assistance under On-Farm Water Management (OFWM);

(b) if so, the details of such identified areas and the amount disbursed to each area, year-wise since 2010 till date, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) if not, the details of the amount disbursed and utilized for OFWM, State-wise and district-wise since 2010 till date;

(d) the details of criteria for amount allocated to small, marginal and other farmers for micro irrigation, scheme-wise; and

(e) the number of beneficiaries under each of the aforementioned schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) As per Annual Report (2013-14) of Ministry of Rural Development, there were 195 districts in 16 States across the country including 4 districts in West Bengal falling under the category of Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) areas. No separate identification of such areas has been done by Ministry of Agriculture for micro irrigation assistance under On-Farm Water Management (OFWM).

The funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of On-Farm Water Management (OFWM) have been released State-wise and not district-wise. The State Governments

are required to get the same disbursed and utilized by the concerned implementing agency. The State-wise details regarding release of funds for Micro Irrigation under OFWM and erstwhile National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) since 2010-11 to 2014-15 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) The criteria under OFWM regarding rate of assistance in Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)/Desert Development Programme (DDP) areas and North Eastern and Himalayan States is 50% for small and marginal farmers and 35% for other farmers. In case of other areas, assistance is 35% for small and marginal farmers and 25% for other farmers. Additional 10% assistance continues to be provided by the respective State Government to all categories of farmers.

(e) As per available information, the State-wise details regarding number of beneficiaries under OFWM and erstwhile NMMI since 2010-11 to 2013-14 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Statement-I

State-wise Details Regarding Release of Funds for Micro Irrigation (MI) under On-Farm Water Management (OFWM) and erstwhile National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI).

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		NMMI				OFWM
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	240.00	287.20	289.93	265.56	121.48
2.	Bihar	0.00	4.50	52.00	57.50	35.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	10.19	35.00	31.72	30.00	10.00
4.	Goa	0.24	0.25	0.00	0.17	0.20
5.	Gujarat	120.00	166.64	182.00	220.00	140.68
6.	Haryana	13.61	19.93	30.00	33.00	23.00
7.	Jharkhand	1.50	9.91	25.00	15.00	15.00
8.	Karnataka	92.54	109.65	140.65	173.30	124.25
9.	Kerala	0.00	2.00	3.00	5.62	3.75
10.	Madhya Pradesh	79.61	109.64	63.84	106.52	66.50
11.	Maharashtra	222.37	249.80	150.18	141.01	177.50
12.	Odisha	8.10	8.23	20.00	25.86	10.14
13.	Punjab	12.61	16.00	10.00	5.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Rajasthan	120.00	130.95	110.00	80.00	75.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	65.91	66.25	83.00	86.90	56.63
16.	Telangana	NA	NA	NA	NA	77.57
17.	Uttar Pradesh	8.12	0.00	5.95	2.00	3.00
18.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.00
19.	NE and Himalayan States	2.25	10.00	4.75	24.04	22.96
TOTAL		997.05	1225.95	1202.02	1271.48	962.66

Statement-II

*State-wise details regarding number of Beneficiaries covered under
Micro Irrigation since 2010-11 to 2013-14.*

States	Number of Beneficiaries
Andhra Pradesh	393149
Bihar	233693
Chhattisgarh	82826
Goa	354
Gujarat	427648
Haryana	30240
Jharkhand	21571
Karnataka	240297
Kerala	8734
Madhya Pradesh	162963
Maharashtra	360467
Mizoram	1265.02
Odisha	63490
West Bengal	846
Punjab	15178
Rajasthan	446279
Sikkim	509
Tamil Nadu	120020
Tripura	19090
Uttar Pradesh	12115
Uttarakhand	558
TOTAL	2641292

Implementation of scheme for welfare of fishermen in West Bengal

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

(a) whether Government has comprehensive data on the demographics and number of fishermen in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the details of the number of Model Fishermen Villages, number of houses, worksheds and tubewells in each village developed in West Bengal from 2010 till date, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether Government plans to increase the insurance cover period for active fishermen from the existing 12 months; and

(d) the details of fishermen benefited from the scheme along with the amount received by them from 2010 till date, year-wise, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The details of the number of fishermen in the country State-wise is Given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Details of the number of houses constructed in West Bengal from 2010 till date as reported by the Government of West Bengal are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The Government of West Bengal has further reported that no worksheds and tubewells are developed in the State.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) State-wise details of fishermen benefited, and Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen from 2010-11 to 2014-15 are given respectively in the Statement-III and Statement-IV.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the total number of fishermen in the country

Sl. No.	State Name	Total Number of members			
		Male	Female	Children	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	249386	250877	393102	893365
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1650	1376	1373	4399
3.	Assam	131312	97986	161082	390380

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	1391166	1266997	2301353	4959516
5.	Chhattigarh	621607	529697	760064	1911368
6.	Goa	5521	4863	3586	13970
7.	Gularat	134475	129900	228880	493255
8.	Haryana	5910	3322	7259	16491
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1537	1372	2713	5622
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9628	7593	13232	30453
11.	Jharkhand	577908	571584	781428	1930920
12.	Karnataka	55809	52898	50245	158952
13.	Kerala	224007	317758	206072	747837
14.	Madhya Pradesh	213888	200607	302479	716974
15.	Maharashtra	63354	46603	61873	171830
16.	Manipur	25009	24091	21368	70468
17.	Meghalaya	525	504	1354	2383
18.	Mizoram	5498	5312	7097	17907
19.	Nagaland	5762	5519	3581	14862
20.	Odisha	70971	48334	60721	180026
21.	Punjab	2150	1874	5061	9085
22.	Rajasthan	2638	1693	2985	7316
23.	Sikkim	9893	8353	8568	26814
24.	Tamil Nadu	171992	156107	148519	476618
25.	Tripura	15966	13177	17590	46733
26.	Uttar Pradesh	70373	48892	59799	179064
27.	Uttarakhand	32	23	35	90
28.	West Bengal	587214	205198	119210	911622
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	9859	7693	0	17552
30.	Chandigarh	198	109	172	479
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	7649	7756	10080	25485
33.	Delhi	485	475	1555	2515
34.	Lakshadweep	10408	2621	0	13029
35.	Puducherry	12378	12799	12797	37974
TOTAL		46,96,158	40,33,963	57,55,233	1,44,85,354

Source: 17th Live Stock Census 2003 (From Handbook on Fisheries Statistics 2014).

Statement-II

*District-wise details of fishermen houses constructed in West Bengal
as reported by the Government of West Bengal*

District	Financial year-wise, Number of fishermen houses						Total
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	
Bankura	36	34	0	0	0	0	70
Birbhum	70	26	0	0	18	0	114
Burdwan	0	0	0	0	14	0	14
Cochbehar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D. Dinajpur	53	0	0	0	0	0	53
Darjeeling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hoogly	0	30	0	0	0	0	30
Howrah	65	86	0	0	10	0	161
Jalpaiguri	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Malda	0	0	0	0	29	0	29
Mursidabad	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
N.24 Parganas	20	76	0	0	0		96
Nadia	0	20	0	0	34	0	54
Purba Medinipur	315	191	0		16	0	522
Pashim Medinipur	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
Purulia	30	0	0	0	70	0	30
S. 24 Parganas	172	344	0	0	110	0	626
U. Dinajpur	325	253	0	0	10	0	588
TOTAL	1136	1060	0	0	266	0	2462

Statement-III

*State-wise details of fishermen benefited under the Central Sector Scheme on
National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the year 2010-11.*

(Fishermen in numbers)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,000	6,00,000	--	--
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	--	5,000	--	--

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
3.	Assam	--	53,333	--	567
4.	Bihar	1,140	50,000	--	
5.	Chhattisgarh	--	1,10,000	--	158
6.	Daman and Diu	--	11,949	--	--
7.	Goa	--	5,500	4,000	--
8.	Gujarat	--	1,72,359	--	--
9.	Haryana	--		--	--
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	7,118	3,038	--
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	500	14,000	--	--
12.	Jharkhand	1,025	53,332	--	--
13.	Karnataka		1,20,000	21,066	288
14.	Kerala	2,000	2,50,000	2,65,010	--
15.	Lakshadweep	--	1,455	--	--
16.	Maharashtra	--	3,23,838	--	--
17.	Madhya Pradesh	--	1,55,110	10,887	--
18.	Manipur	60	3,527	--	--
19.	Meghalaya	45	5,000	--	--
20.	Mizoram	--	5,000	--	500
21.	Nagaland	251		--	676
22.	Odisha	--	8,75,000	12,914	400
23.	Puducherry	--	53,924	24,917	--
24.	Punjab	--	1,500	--	--
25.	Rajasthan	--	8,854	--	--
26.	Sikkim	--		--	--
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	5,93,910	1,14,477	--
28.	Tripura	180	1,000	1,105	--
29.	Uttar Pradesh	997	1,10,000	--	--
30.	Uttarakhand	15	--	--	--
31.	West Bengal	1,060	1,60,000	10,000	--
32.	A and N Islands	--	7,204	346	--
33.	FISHCOPFED	--	--	--	5000
TOTAL		8,273	37,57,913	4,67,760	7,589

*State-wise details of fishermen benefited under the Central Sector Scheme on
National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the year 2011-12.*

(Fishermen in numbers)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	505,155	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	107	1,908	-	-
3.	Assam	72	53,333	1,674	-
4.	Bihar	-	50,000	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	86	126,551	3,225	-
6.	Daman & Diu	-	11,949	-	-
7.	Goa	-	9,834	2,607	-
8.	Gujarat	181	172,359	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	-	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	8,738	1,569	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	300	15,000	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	1,166	53,332	-	-
13.	Karnataka	-	150,000	17,147	-
14.	Kerala	-	250,000	84,452	-
15.	Lakshadweep	-	11,460	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	-	323,838	-	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	665	162,852	7,007	-
18.	Manipur	78	12,000	-	-
19.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
20.	Mizoram	40	5,000	-	-
21.	Nagaland	505	-	-	1,500
22.	Odisha	479	10,00,000	14,838	-
23.	Puducherry	200	54,026	-	-
24.	Punjab	-	1,500	-	-
25.	Rajasthan	60	11,675	1,276	-
26.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	-	608,020	98,543	-
28.	Tripura	63	1,000	-	3,200

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
29.	Uttar Pradesh	400	1,20,000	1,617	-
30.	Uttarakhand	-	2,000	-	-
31.	West Bengal	-	160000	-	-
32.	A & N Islands	-	11,000	-	-
33.	FISHCOPFED	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		4,402	38,92,530	2,33,955	4,700

State-wise details of fishermen benefited under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the year 2012-13.

(Fishermen in numbers)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	5,85,615	14,707	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6,896	-	-
3.	Assam	-	55,333	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	50,000	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	200	1,59,997	6,000	-
6.	Daman and Diu	-	9,500	-	-
7.	Goa	-	9,834	4,725	-
8.	Gujarat	-	2,18,270	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	-	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	5,345	3,982	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	15,000	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	690	66,664	-	-
13.	Karnataka	1,000	1,50,000	30,974	-
14.	Kerala	-	2,50,000	1,46,733	-
15.	Lakshadweep	-	11,460	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	200	3,23,838	-	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	499	1,67,380	16,740	-
18.	Manipur	-	12,000	-	-
19.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
20.	Mizoram	455	5,000	-	-

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
21.	Nagaland	675	-	20,000	-
22.	Odisha	-	10,00,000	10,909	600
23.	Puducherry	-	54,184	16,667	-
24.	Punjab	-	1,500	-	-
25.	Rajasthan	-	10,476	-	-
26.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	-	6,21,359	31,129	-
28.	Tripura	180	1,000	-	-
29.	Uttar Pradesh	-	1,24,956	-	-
30.	Uttarakhand	30	2,000	-	-
31.	West Bengal	533	1,60,000	-	-
32.	A & N Islands	-	11,000	-	-
33.	FISHCOPFED	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		4,462	40,88,607	3,02,566	600

State-wise details of fishermen benefited under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the year 2013-14.

(Fishermen in numbers)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,250	6,54,727	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6,896	-	-
3.	Assam	72	60,333	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	2,00,000	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	200	1,70,687	7,999	-
6.	Daman and Diu	-	9,500	-	-
7.	Goa	-	12,721	6,144	-
8.	Gujarat	-	2,18,270	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	-	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	11,110	4,091	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	200	15,000	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	700	86,665	-	-

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
13.	Karantaka	-	1,60,000	32,742	-
14.	Kerala	-	2,50,000	1,60,000	-
15.	Lakshadweep	-	12,052	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	-	3,23,838	-	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	499	1,73,657	11,865	-
18.	Manipur	90	12,000	-	-
19.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
20.	Mizoram	250	5,000	17,900	-
21.	Nagaland	720	-	22,000	-
22.	Odisha	2,000	11,00,000	-	570
23.	Puducherry	-	54,367	27,953	-
24.	Punjab	-	1,500	-	-
25.	Rajasthan	55	10,360	-	-
26.	Sikkim	-	5,000	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	-	6,51,111	64,041	-
28.	Tripura	122	1,000	2,573	-
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1,586	1,30,000	-	-
30.	Uttarakhand	-	2,000	-	-
31.	West Bengal	-	1,60,000	-	-
32.	A & N Islands	-	14,839	-	-
33.	FISHCOPFED	-	-	-	3,100
TOTAL		7,744	45,12,633	3,57,308	3,670

State-wise details of fishermen benefited under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the year 2014-15.

(Fishermen in numbers)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	4,04,242	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	10,000	-	-
3.	Assam	-	1,64,939	-	-
4.	Bihar	610	3,00,000	-	-

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	Saving-cum-Relief	Training
5.	Chhattisgarh	175	2,10,000	8,000	-
6.	Daman and Diu	-	9,500	-	-
7.	Goa	-	12,721	5,866	-
8.	Gujarat	3	2,18,270	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	-	-	300
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	12,153	4,223	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	15,000	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	484	86,694	-	-
13.	Karnataka	-	2,00,000	39,050	-
14.	Kerala	1,300	2,36,310	-	-
15.	Lakshadweep	-	12,052	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	-	3,23,838	-	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	250	1,75,199	21,470	-
18.	Manipur	122	12,000	-	-
19.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-
20.	Mizoram	250	10,000	-	-
21.	Nagaland	270	-	22,000	240
22.	Odisha	-	11,11,111	2,696	-
23.	Puducherry	-	54,367	8,333	-
24.	Punjab	-	1,500	-	-
25.	Rajasthan	55	10,833	1,407	-
26.	Sikkim	-	7,000	-	-
27.	Tamil Nadu	-	7,16,308	3,08,405	-
28.	Telangana	786	2,76,799	-	1340
29.	Tripura	115	1,000	-	-
30.	Uttar Pradesh	324	1,93,000	-	-
31.	Uttarakhand	50	2,000	-	-
32.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-
33.	A & N Islands	-	14,839	-	-
34.	FISHCOPFED	-	-	-	5,000
TOTAL		4,794	48,01,675	4,21,450	6,880

Statement-IV

Details of Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the financial year 2010-11

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	200.00	--	--		200.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100.00	--	--		100.00
3.	Assam	--	--	--	10.00	10.00
4.	Bihar	285.00	--	--	8.00	293.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	--	--	--	15.00	15.00
6.	Daman and Diu	--	--	--	--	0.00
7.	Goa	--	--	24.00	--	24.00
8.	Gujarat	--	--	--	--	0.00
9.	Haryana	--	--	--	--	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	12.15	--	12.15
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	125.00	--	--	--	125.00
12.	Jharkhand	256.33	--	--		256.33
13.	Karnataka	--		125.85	8.00	133.85
14.	Kerala	50.00	35.00	440.00	1.00	526.00
15.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--	--	0.00
16.	Maharashtra	--	--	--	--	0.00
17.	Madhya Pradesh	--	--	35.85	--	35.85
18.	Manipur	38.22	--	--	18.22	56.44
19.	Meghalaya	17.66	--	--		17.66
20.	Mizoram	--	--	--	11.22	11.22
21.	Nagaland	104.08	--	--		104.08
22.	Odisha	--	--	16.98	4.00	20.98
23.	Puducherry	--	--	299.00	--	299.00
24.	Punjab	--	--	--	--	0.00
25.	Rajasthan	--	--	--	--	0.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
26.	Sikkim	--	--	--	12.00	12.00
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	683.43	--	683.43
28.	Tripura	67.50	--	6.63	--	74.13
29.	Uttar Pradesh	249.25	--	--	--	249.25
30.	Uttarakhand	7.95	--	--	--	7.95
31.	West Bengal	216.80	22.40	60.00	--	299.20
32.	A & N Islands	--	--	4.15	--	4.15
33.	FISHCOPFED	--	--	--	--	0.00
TOTAL		1717.79	57.40	1708.04	87.44	3570.67

Details of Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the financial year 2011-12

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.00	--	--	28.72	68.72
3.	Assam	27.00	--	15.07	--	42.07
4.	Bihar	--	--	--	--	--
5.	Chhattisgarh	21.50	--	29.93	8.40	59.83
6.	Daman and Diu	--	--	--	--	--
7.	Goa	--	--	23.47	--	23.47
8.	Gujarat	45.32	--	--	--	45.32
9.	Haryana	--	--	--	--	--
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	14.12	--	14.12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	75.00	--	--	--	75.00
12.	Jharkhand	251.50	--	--	--	251.50
13.	Karnataka	--	--	154.33	--	154.33
14.	Kerala	--	35.00	760.07	--	795.07
15.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--	30.00	30.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
16.	Maharashtra	1.40	--	--	--	1.40
17.	Madhya Pradesh	166.25	--	63.07	--	229.32
18.	Manipur	29.60	--	--	--	29.60
19.	Meghalaya	--	--	--	--	--
20.	Mizoram	14.69	--	--	--	14.69
21.	Nagaland	189.44	--	--	12.80	202.24
22.	Odisha	119.92	--	133.55	--	253.47
23.	Puducherry	100.00	--	405.13	--	505.13
24.	Punjab	--	--	--	--	--
25.	Rajasthan	--	--	11.48	5.05	16.53
26.	Sikkim	15.00	--	--	--	15.00
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	886.89	--	886.89
28.	Tripura	23.85	--	14.56	31.00	69.41
29.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	--	--	--	100.00
30.	Uttarakhand	--	--	--	--	--
31.	West Bengal	--	22.40	--	--	22.40
32.	A & N Islands	--	--	--	--	--
33.	FISHCOPFED	--	500.52	--	--	500.52
TOTAL		1220.47	557.92	2511.67	115.97	4406.03

Details of Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the financial year 2012-13

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	--	--	88.24	--	88.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
3.	Assam	--	--	--	--	--
4.	Bihar	--	--	--	--	--
5.	Chhattisgarh	100.00	--	36.00	--	136.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
6.	Daman and Diu	--	--	--	--	
7.	Goa	--	--	31.58	--	31.58
8.	Gujarat	--	--	--	--	--
9.	Haryana	--	--	--	--	--
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	15.92	--	15.92
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	--	--	--	--	--
12.	Jharkhand	180.77	--	--	--	180.77
13.	Karnataka	250.00	--	185.85	--	435.85
14.	Kerala	--	35.00	880.40	--	915.40
15.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--	--	
16.	Maharashtra	50.00	--	--	--	50.00
17.	Madhya Pradesh	133.00	--	75.25	--	208.25
18.	Manipur	--	--	--	--	--
19.	Meghalaya	--	--	--	--	--
20.	Mizoram	186.10	--	--	--	186.10
21.	Nagaland	269.66	--	180.00	--	449.66
22.	Odisha	--	--	65.45	12.40	77.85
23.	Puducherry	--	--	200.00	--	200.00
24.	Punjab	--	--	--	--	--
25.	Rajasthan	--	--	--	--	--
26.	Sikkim	--	--	--	--	--
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	186.77	--	186.77
28.	Tripura	43.65	--	--	--	43.65
29.	Uttar Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
30.	Uttarakhand	7.95	--	--	--	7.95
31.	West Bengal	133.20	22.40	--	--	155.60
32.	A & N Islands	--		--	--	--
33.	FISHCOPFED	--	518.88	--	--	518.88
TOTAL		1354.33	576.28	1945.46	12.40	3888.47

Details of Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the financial year 2013-14

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	250.00	--	--	--	250.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
3.	Assam	27.00	--	--	--	27.00
4.	Bihar	--	--	--	--	--
5.	Chhattisgarh	100.00	--	48.00	--	148.00
6.	Daman and Diu	--	--	--	--	--
7.	Goa	--	--	32.26	--	32.26
8.	Gujarat	--	--	--	--	--
9.	Haryana	--	--	--	--	--
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	16.36	--	16.36
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	51.50	--	--	--	51.50
12.	Jharkhand	175.00	--	--	--	175.00
13.	Karnataka	--	--	196.46	--	196.46
14.	Kerala	--	35.00	960.00	--	995.00
15.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--	--	--
16.	Maharashtra	--	--	--	--	--
17.	Madhya Pradesh	133.25	--	71.19	--	204.44
18.	Manipur	40.00	--	--	--	40.00
19.	Meghalaya	--	--	--	--	--
20.	Mizoram	102.15	--	161.10	--	263.25
21.	Nagaland	291.00	--	198.00	--	489.00
22.	Odisha	473.00	--	--	35.53	508.53
23.	Puducherry	--	--	335.43	--	335.43
24.	Punjab	--	--	--	--	--
25.	Rajasthan	11.65	--	3.47	--	15.12
26.	Sikkim	--	--	--	--	--

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	450.00	--	450.00
28.	Tripura	45.00	--	15.43	--	60.43
29.	Uttar Pradesh	356.95	--	--	--	356.95
30.	Uttarakhand	--	--	--	--	--
31.	West Bengal	--	--	--	--	--
32.	A & N Islands	--	--	--	--	--
33.	FISHCOPFED	--	496.60	--	78.40	575.00
TOTAL		2056.50	531.60	2487.70	113.93	5189.73

Details of Central funds released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India under the Central Sector Scheme on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen during the financial year 2014-15

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	--	--	--	--	--
3.	Assam	--	--	--	--	--
4.	Bihar	152.65	--	--	--	152.65
5.	Chhattisgarh	65.58	--	72.00	--	137.58
6.	Daman and Diu	--	--	--	--	--
7.	Goa	--	--	35.20	--	35.20
8.	Gujarat	1.125	--	--	--	1.125
9.	Haryana	--	--	--	5.7125	5.7125
10.	Himachal Pradesh	--	--	25.34	--	25.34
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	--	--	--	--	--
12.	Jharkhand	181.79	--	--	--	181.79
13.	Karnataka	--	--	233.08	--	233.08
14.	Kerala	325.00	23.95	--	--	348.95
15.	Lakshadweep	--	--	--	--	--
16.	Maharashtra	--	--	--	--	--
17.	Madhya Pradesh	94.00	--	59.99	--	153.99

Sl. No.	Name of State	Housing	Insurance	SCR	Training	Total
18.	Manipur	70.15	--	--	--	70.15
19.	Meghalaya	--	--	--	--	--
20.	Mizoram	101.72	--	--	--	101.72
21.	Nagaland	160.00	--	297.00	28.00	485.00
22.	Odisha	--	--	15.00	--	15.00
23.	Puducherry	--	--	100.00	--	100.00
24.	Punjab	--	--	--	--	--
25.	Rajasthan	8.975	--	6.22	--	15.195
26.	Sikkim	--	--	--	--	--
27.	Tamil Nadu	--	--	1850.44	--	1850.44
28.	Telangana	275.00			7.87	282.87
29.	Tripura	43.125	--	--	--	43.125
30.	Uttar Pradesh	120.00	--	--	--	120.00
31.	Uttarakhand	19.35	--	--	12.00	31.35
32.	West Bengal	--	22.40	--	--	22.40
33.	A & N Islands	5.00	--	--	--	5.00
34.	FISHCOPFED	--	589.07	--	147.50	736.57
TOTAL		1623.465	635.42	2694.27	201.0825	5154.238

Relief package for farmers affected by unseasonal rains and hailstorms

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

(a) whether Government has announced or planning to announce any relief package for farmers affected by unseasonal rains and hailstorms; and

(b) 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) As State Government is empowered to undertake necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities like, drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them, they have been requested to take immediate steps to address the notified calamities by utilizing the funds available under SDRF. For notified disasters, the norms of assistance are announced/revised from time to

time, the latest being on 08.04.2015, where Government has announced an increase of 50% in the relief on input subsidy being given to farmers affected by recent hailstorms. The threshold for eligibility also has been reduced to 33%. In case of other calamities, State Government are empowered, within the limit of 10% of funds available under State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF), to provide immediate relief to the victims, as per procedure laid down in Ministry of Home Affairs OM dated 20.03.2015.

Setting up of companies for undertaking farming

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

(a) whether Government is planning to set up new companies for undertaking farming in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Do not arise.

Agricultural research

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

(a) the funds earmarked for agricultural research during the last three years along with utilization status thereof; and

(b) whether Government has taken any measures to encourage joint research programmes with agricultural research institutions of other countries to make research more progressive and at par with other countries, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) / Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) allocates funds to the Research Institutes for Agricultural Research located throughout the country. The total funds allocated for agricultural research for the year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are ₹ 2520.00, ₹ 2600.00 and ₹ 2500.00 crore and expenditure are ₹ 2374.73, ₹ 2469.17 and ₹ 2321.82* crore, respectively.*

(b) DARE/ICAR has signed Memorandum of Understanding/Work plans for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and education, with many countries/Organizations to make research more progressive and at par with other countries. The

* Unaudited figures

Details of the Joint programs with agricultural research institutions of other countries (last five years) are given in Statement (*See* below).

Statement

Memorandum of Understanding/Work plans signed for cooperation in the field of agricultural research and education (last five years)

MoUs/Work Plans, 2015

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and The University Court of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom on 16th January, 2015.

MoUs/Work Plans, 2014

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicine (GALV med), UK in March-April, 2014
2. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Global Foot and Mouth Disease Research Alliance (GFRA), under the lead coordination of Dr. Cyril Gay, USDA, U.S.A on 8th April, 2014.
3. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Dhofar University (DU), Sultanate of Oman on 13th June, 2014.
4. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the University of Queensland, Australia on 5th September, 2014.
5. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Ohio State University, USA in October, 2014.
6. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Auburn University, USA on 11th December, 2014.

MoUs/Work Plans, 2013

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute of the University of Nebraska, USA on 19th February, 2013.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Purdue University, USA in March, 2013.

3. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, USA on 21st August, 2013.

MoUs/Work Plans, 2012

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Kaz Agro innovations (KAI), Kazhakastan on 31st May, 2012

MoUs/Work Plans, 2011

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR), Ethiopia was initialed in December, 2011.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Board of Trustee of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign USA was initialed in November, 2011
3. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Agriculture Development Fund, Government of Saskatchewan, Canada.
4. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Michigan State University, USA in Aug-Sep, 2011.

MoUs/Work Plans, 2010

1. A Work Plan for the year 2010-11 between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Agricultural Research Centre for the Arab Republic of Egypt was signed on 14.01.2010.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the Kansas State University, USA was signed on 7.6.2010.
3. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the National Institute of Research on Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock of the united Mexico States, Mexico (INIFAP) was initialed on 7th September, 2010.
4. A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India and the University of Georgia, USA was initialed on 7th September, 2010.

5. The quadripartite “Letter of Intent” for Joint Global Research Collaboration on “Food Security: Sustainable Crop Production Research for International Development” was signed on November 11, 2010 between (i) Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India; (ii) the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) (iii) Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), UK and (iv) Department of International Development (DFID), U.K.

**Relief package for drought and hailstorm affected
areas of Maharashtra**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers of Vidarbha are passing through great distress after series of droughts and hailstorms;

(b) if so, whether any assessment of loss of crops has been done by the Central Government during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details of relief provided to the farmers of Maharashtra in this regard; and

(d) the relief package sought by Government of Maharashtra and how much has been provided so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) State Governments initiate necessary relief measures to farmers in the wake of eligible/notified natural calamities from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance to State Government, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited the affected districts and recommended Central financial assistance. The financial assistance sought by the Maharashtra Government along with approved amount from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for the last three years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

During Kharif 2014, Government of Maharashtra reported 26 districts in the State as drought affected and submitted a memorandum seeking central assistance from NDRF. The Government of India has approved of ₹ 1962.99 crore from NDRF in the wake of drought.

In addition, Government of India has launched Vidarbha Intensive Irrigation Development Programme under the Sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in 2012-13 which seeks to bring in more farming areas under protective irrigation. ₹ 600 crore has been released so far under the scheme.

Statement

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Calamity	Year	Demand by the State Govt.	Assistance approved by the GOI
1.	Drought	2012-13	K-3232.15 R-1801.32	778.09 1036.98
2.	Hailstorm	2013-14	4475.76	552.88
3.	Drought	2014-15	6013.28	1962.99

K—Kharif

R—Rabi

Absence of market facility for potato growers

138. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that during current crop season potato growing farmers are compelled to sell potato at rate of around 60 paise to ₹ 1 per kg.;

(b) whether Government is also aware that potato of thousands of farmers rotted lying on roads in absence of proper market facility in eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and other States;

(c) if so, whether Government has taken steps to ensure that during current crop season farmers get a profitable price of potato; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, the Department is aware of decrease in the whole sale prices of potatoes in UP, Bihar, Delhi, West Bengal, etc. The Government of India has been implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for various horticultural commodities on the requests of State Governments in the event of fall in

prices of these commodities below economic levels to ensure that the farmers are not forced to make distress sale of their produce. The guidelines of the Scheme provide that the MIS shall be made applicable and sanctioned in a situation when there is an increase of at least 10% in the production over the previous year normal production or if there is reduction in the market prices by at least 10% over the rate of previous normal season. Under the Scheme, a proposal has to be sent by the State Government at least 15 days before the proposed date of implementation. Besides, the State Governments must indicate their willingness to share 50% (25% in case of NE – States) of the total loss incurred in the operation.

Government has asked States to come forward with their proposal under MIS in case the prices of vegetable/horticultural produce in the State are running below economic level.

Rise in incidents of suicide by farmers

139. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of farmers' suicide have suddenly risen during March and April, 2015 in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether failure of Government to provide adequate funds for development of agriculture and poor and anti-farmer policies by the Central Government are the main reasons for suicide of farmers; and

(c) the details of funds allocated and released for development of agriculture under various schemes of the Central Government during 2014-15 and 2015-16, year-wise, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per reports received from State Governments, only Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan have reported 34, 5 and 1 farmers suicides during the month the March and April, 2015.

(b) Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution. Therefore, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector including welfare of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. 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 this, 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 of 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.

(c) The details of State-wise and scheme-wise funds allocated and released by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation during the year 2014-15 is given in the Statement (*See* below). The scheme-wise allocation for the 2015-16 is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of Mission Scheme	BE 2015-16
1.	National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP)	282300.00
2.	Krishonnati Yojna (Central Sector)	302285.00
3.	Krishionnati Yojna (State Plan)	450050.00
4.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna	450000.00
5.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna	180000.00

Statement

Details of State-wise funds allocated, released and expenditure on schemes being implemented by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation during 2014-15

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)			National Food Security Mission (NFSM)			National Horticulture Mission (NHM)			National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) {Earlier (ISOPOM)}			Soil Health Management (SHM)		(₹ in crore)
		31.03.2015			31.03.2015			20.04.2015			23.03.2015			12.03.2015		
		Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.#	Rel.	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.67	263.54	88.96	132.24	75.65	63.98	74.59	64.68	94.97	51.36	17.98	21.42		3.93	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.83	13.92		17.51	7.50	7.50	-	-	-	4.08	2.04	0.00		0.62	
3.	Assam	483.53	267.71	140.00	112.06	92.08	68.65	-	-	-	17.72	8.86	0.00		0.82	
4.	Bihar	564.55	545.73	261.82	96.78	74.68	39.71	42.50	17.00	22.40	2.31	1.54	0.98		5.52	
5.	Chhattisgarh	385.44	341.75	166.19	95.89	47.94	0.00	120.70	111.88	109.39	5.34	3.20	0.51		0.76	
6.	Goa	25.63	0.00	0.00	-	-	-	4.68	0.00	2.22	0.00	0.00	0.00		1.90	
7.	Gujarat	593.55	290.03	100.19	49.94	13.92	5.41	130.90	109.47	82.08	36.65	14.01	2.06		1.00	
8.	Haryana	372.03	254.68	110.10	55.72	36.49	20.61	112.20	65.45	91.60	6.92	2.42	0.00		0.00	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.11	86.11	26.35	19.37	17.98	11.90	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00		1.99	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.50	78.25	12.26	26.05	10.20	10.50	-	-	-	1.15	1.01	0.21		7.36	
11.	Jharkhand	306.94	153.15	0.00	39.78	23.35	15.14	68.00	49.69	30.33	2.38	1.19	0.00		0.00	
12.	Karnataka	884.17	632.22	209.02	169.03	134.19	85.48	124.95	96.08	104.57	22.45	20.22	10.00		0.050	
13.	Kerala	321.40	300.70	97.68	3.15	3.13	1.44	85.00	40.00	37.54	0.69	0.42	0.02		1.01	

14.	Madhya Pradesh	547.55	511.78	159.85	340.91	214.71	0.15	89.25	42.23	47.05	75.07	45.05	20.08	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	1013.49	942.09	312.57	370.99	194.70	114.73	158.95	140.00	70.16	45.44	34.08	13.53	5.04
16.	Manipur	43.00	43.00	21.51	15.42	14.82	7.70	-	-	-	2.65	1.32	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	68.77	60.64	34.19	10.09	9.63	5.59	-	-	-	1.26	0.63	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	113.92	113.92	37.33	7.08	7.08	4.94	-	-	-	8.91	5.42	5.35	0.08
19.	Nagaland	52.75	52.75	26.38	20.17	19.40	14.08	-	-	-	4.55	2.53	2.30	0.40
20.	Odisha	504.13	482.07	178.50	86.46	53.98	45.51	93.50	71.75	46.75	15.82	9.26	2.03	1.51
21.	Punjab	508.71	413.71	156.13	51.30	30.14	34.68	70.13	58.50	44.11	1.15	0.40	0.00	1.75
22.	Rajasthan	740.55	695.28	229.46	2.83	2.42	1.42	89.25	42.67	50.23	50.85	47.85	22.66	0.30
23.	Sikkim	18.98	9.49	6.95	269.29	193.68	112.24	-	-	-	0.69	0.69	0.26	6.12
24.	Tamil Nadu	298.95	298.95	95.50	76.50	73.49	54.46	107.95	55.36	74.74	10.59	8.42	2.32	1.27
25.	Telangana	195.27	179.64	76.30	85.43	66.02	37.01	59.71	45.00	29.11	10.91	6.19	5.18	3.70
26.	Tripura	80.27	80.27	24.20	30.88	29.66	21.39	-	-	-	5.12	3.84	0.59	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	704.93	589.47	185.44	335.40	254.85	154.44	68.00	37.32	33.00	14.00	11.72	1.54	6.79
28.	Uttarakhand	95.39	80.70	27.76	17.39	8.98	3.44	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
29.	West Bengal	598.61	582.34	204.32	68.98	54.32	37.62	42.50	18.74	15.00	9.62	6.02	2.48	3.75
30.	Delhi							2.55						
31.	Puducherry							1.70	0.56	0.76				
32.	A & N Islands							5.00	1.42	0.51				
33.	Lakshadweep							1.00						
34.	D & N Haveli							1.11						

No State-wise allocation are made under the scheme

15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	177.50	177.50	0.00	32.55	34.13	29.74	2.69	0.59	0.47	42.00	40.00	15.90	2.16
16.	Manipur	50.00	44.17	24.17	3.86	2.72	0.00	4.57	6.71	4.43	10.23	8.62	8.58	5.00	5.00	2.50	0.13
17.	Meghalaya	40.00	27.60	20.74	0.71	0.00	0.00	3.22	1.72	2.00	3.09	0.97	0.00	5.00	4.84	2.45	0.14
18.	Mizoram	52.00	41.00	26.00	6.39	4.50	0.00	3.10	2.44	1.58	13.96	12.30	10.13	5.00	4.88	2.44	0.12
19.	Nagaland	52.00	34.78	15.86	3.55	0.00	0.00	6.97	7.58	4.08	11.37	11.36	9.40	5.00	5.45	1.99	0.13
20.	Odisha	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.65	10.14	3.32	30.98	44.48	36.53	5.64	3.88	3.88	13.00	13.00	6.22	0.80
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.20	0.00	0.68	14.61	19.95	18.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.26
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	106.50	75.00	0.00	16.78	24.43	14.03	2.20	0.31	0.25	42.00	25.00	0.00	1.13
23.	Sikkim	49.00	44.50	35.48	4.26	4.26	0.00	2.07	3.51	1.81	3.01	0.57	0.51	4.60	4.60	1.51	0.12
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.90	56.63	44.32	36.10	36.94	28.64	1.21	0.15	0.00	30.00	30.00	11.52	1.32
25.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	87.97	51.55	0.00	10.66	13.47	14.11	-	-	-	10.00	7.46	3.38	0.93
26.	Tripura	54.00	37.00	27.00	7.10	2.00	0.00	2.34	1.94	1.73	1.99	0.81	0.00	4.50	4.50	2.50	0.18
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.08	3.00	0.16	78.04	69.98	38.06	2.58	0.50	0.00	25.00	20.00	9.05	3.54
28.	Uttarakhand	46.00	32.73	22.53	7.10	6.96	0.00	3.63	6.96	1.99	0.99	0.29	0.00	7.00	7.00	2.65	0.23
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.71	0.00	0.00	28.18	17.14	20.21	0.93	0.00	0.00	8.00	5.00	0.00	1.17
30.	Delhi							0.16	0.00	0.06							
31.	Puducherry							1.15	0.46	0.24							
32.	A & N Islands							0.95	1.00	0.73							
33.	Lakshadweep																
34.	D & N Haveli																

No State-wise allocation are made under the scheme and the scheme is being implemented only from 2014-15.

Loss in fertility of soil

140. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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 including coastal areas, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the cultivable area affected due to salinity in the country, including coastal areas and Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, during each of the last three years and the current year, so far, State-wise; and

(c) the programmes Government has launched for reclamation and development of such land and to improve the fertility of soil in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed GIS based soil fertility maps of 19 States using data of different soil testing laboratories in the country. The assessment revealed that about 59, 49 and 9% area are low in available nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, 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, geo-referenced soil fertility maps of 173 districts covering 20 States have been prepared.

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.

The coastal areas, in general, are poor in fertility and subjected to salinity stress.

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 (24.8 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 area affected by salinity is around 2.96 million hectare including coastal salinity (1.25 million hectare). The State-wise details are

given in the Statement (*See* below). Vidarbha region of Maharashtra is not affected by soil salinity. However, 0.112 million hectare of areas is having problem of soil sodicity. This kind of survey is not conducted on yearly basis.

(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.

In order to improve fertility of soils in the country, the Government under the component of soil health management of NMSA is promoting soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, establishment of bio-fertilizer and compost units, use of micronutrients, trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers etc. Recently, a National Mission on Soil Health Card has been launched to provide soil tested based fertilizer recommendation to all the farmers in the country.

Statement

State-wise areas affected by salinity in India including coastal areas

Sl. No.	State	Saline soils (ha.)	Coastal saline soil (ha.)	Total (ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	77598	77598
2.	A & N Islands	0	77000	77000
3.	Bihar	47301	0	47301
4.	Gujarat	1218255	462315	1680570
5.	Haryana	49157	0	49157
6.	J & K*	0	0	0
7.	Karnataka	1307	586	1893
8.	Kerala	0	20000	20000
9.	Maharashtra	177093	6996	184089
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
11.	Odisha	0	147138	147138
12.	Punjab	0	0	0
13.	Rajasthan	195571	0	195571
14.	Tamil Nadu	0	13231	13231
15.	Uttar Pradesh	21989	0	21989
16.	West Bengal	0	441272	441272
TOTAL		1710673	1246136	2956809
		(1.71 million ha.)	(1.25 million ha.)	(2.96 million ha.)

*Jammu division only.

**Assistance to farmers for loss of crops due to
the unprecedented rains**

141. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has provided sufficient financial assistance to the farmers of the country for loss of their crops, including cash crops, due to the recent unprecedented heavy rains and hailstorms, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of funds provided by the Central Government to the State Governments during the last few months for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As State Government is empowered to undertake necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities like, drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. They have been requested to take immediate steps to provide relief to the victims of notified calamities by utilizing the funds available under SDRF. Besides, for providing immediate relief to the victims of State-specific disaster within the local context, which are not included in the list notified natural calamities, Ministry of Home Affairs has recently authorized the State Governments to incur an expenditure of 10% of funds available under SDRF, subject to the procedures laid down therein. They were also advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund ((NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted. Memoranda have been received from Government of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana seeking financial assistance from NDRF in the wake of hailstorm. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) had visited the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana for assessing the ground situation.

Government of India also released the first installment of Central Share of SDRF in advance of ₹ 413.50 crore for Rajasthan, ₹ 114.50 crore for Jammu and Kashmir and ₹ 253.125 crore for Uttar Pradesh during the period for 2015-16.

Production of pulses

142. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is undertaking measures to increase the domestic production of pulses considering the growing dependence on imports, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has made proposals to re-introduce custom duties on imports of pulses which may lead to a hike in their prices, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) In order to increase domestic production of pulses, Government of India is implementing pulses component of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in 622 districts of 27 States including all North-Eastern States and hill states in the country to enhance production and productivity of pulses.

Under the programme, various activities like demonstrations on improved production technologies, distribution of certified seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), resource conservation technologies/tools, efficient water application tools, cropping system based training etc. are being undertaken. Around 50 per cent of fund under NFSM is being allocated for pulses component.

Efforts are being made for area expansion of pulses through adoption of cropping system approach, utilization of rice fallows, paddy field bunds and inter-crop with oilseeds/commercial crops/coarse cereals etc.

Adaptive research projects are being undertaken by national and international research organizations to address various research issues and gaps of potential yield and yield realized at farmer's field.

(b) At present there is no proposal to re-introduce customs duties on imports of pulses.

Damage to crops due to rains

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent rains across various parts of the country have damaged crops spread over 50 lakh hectares, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Governments were empowered to release funds to the affected farmers and the Government would provide more funds wherever required, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the month of February – March 2015 many States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala were hit by hailstorm and unseasonal rainfall. As per inputs received from States, State-wise crop area affected due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains in country on the basis of preliminary assessment is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 112 (Part a and b)].

(b) State Government is empowered to undertake necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities like drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them, State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to address the notified calamities by utilizing the funds under SDRF. They were also advised to submit memorandum as per extant procedure/norms, if additional financial assistance is required from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and in the mean time utilize contingency fund of the State, if SDRF is exhausted.

Bringing reform in crop insurance schemes

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

(a) whether Government proposes to revise the premium rates for Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) for bringing reform in the crop insurance schemes, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government also proposes comprehensive programme for capacity building under the crop insurance schemes and if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken by Government for effective implementation of various crop insurance schemes among the farmers; and

(c) the number of farmers covered in Maharashtra under such schemes and the response of farmers thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Under Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) actuarial premium rates, based

on risk involved, are being charged. These premium rates vary from crop to crop, area to area and from season to season. While bringing improvement in crop insurance schemes is a continuous process, there is no proposal at present to revise the premium rates under Crop Insurance Schemes. However, to make the scheme affordable for farmers, premium subsidy upto 75% of premium is provided by the Government.

(b) National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) provides for capacity building of officials/farmers' groups through specialized trainings, workshops, publicity/awareness, etc. The Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC), etc. Conduct periodical workshops/sensitization programmes on crop insurance. State Governments and insurance companies also publicize crop insurance through advertisements, conferences, kisan gosthis, fairs, etc.

(c) The response of farmers towards crop insurance schemes is relatively good in the State of Maharashtra. Since 1999-2000, more than 421 lakh farmers have been covered in the State under crop insurance schemes.

Implementation of National Agriculture Income Insurance Scheme

145. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch a new National Agriculture Income Insurance Scheme, if so, the salient features and components of the scheme; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for early implementation of the scheme?

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. The contours of the proposed scheme have been discussed with State Governments, UT Administrations and other stakeholders. The scheme is under finalization.

Shortage of cold storages

146. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of fruits and vegetables wasted due to lack of adequate cold storage facilities during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the present requirement and availability of cold storage facilities for fruits and vegetables in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has also considered public-private-partnership to overcome the shortage of cold storages in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by Government to increase cold storage infrastructure across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) A study published in 2012 by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), estimated that quantitative harvest and post harvest losses including losses due to shortage of cold storage of agricultural produce, fruits and vegetables were in the range of 1.1% to 18.05%. The details of harvest and post harvest losses of major agricultural crops and commodities estimated by this study are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The details of year-wise and State-wise losses are not available.

(b) According to the Report of The Task Force on Cold Chain Projects of Ministry of Food Processing Industries (October, 2014), additional 7.5 million tons of cold chain capacity was required to be created over the next five year. The total cold storage capacity created in the country up to March 31, 2014 is estimated to be 31.83 million MT. State/UT-wise distribution of cold storages is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance has formulated the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme which provides financial support in the form of grants, one time or deferred, to infrastructure projects undertaken through public private partnership with a view to make them commercially viable. The scheme provides total Viability Gap Funding up to twenty per cent of the total project cost. Creation of modern storage capacity including cold chains and post-harvest storage are covered under this scheme.

(d) Government is implementing various credit linked assistance programmes for creation of post-harvest infrastructure including establishment and modernization of cold storages, processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans and setting up of ripening chambers. Credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% of the project cost in general areas and @ 50% in hilly and scheduled areas is available for these activities to individuals, group of farmers/ growers/ consumers, partnership/ proprietary firms, self help groups, farmer producer organizations, companies, corporations, cooperatives, local bodies, agricultural produce

market committees and State Governments under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme. The assistance under the scheme is linked to adoption of technical standards.

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

Statement—I

Harvest and post harvest losses of major agricultural crops and commodities

Sl. No	Name of crops/commodities	% average loss
1.	Paddy	5.19
2.	Wheat	5.96
3.	Maize	4.10
4.	Bajra	4.80
5.	Sorghum	3.87
6.	Pigeon Pea	5.39
7.	Chick Pea	4.28
8.	Black Gram	6.06
9.	Green Gram	5.51
10.	Mustard	8.89
11.	Cottonseed	2.76
12.	Soyabean	6.26
13.	Safflower	3.68
14.	Sunflower	4.55
15.	Groundnut	10.07
16.	Apple	12.26
17.	Banana	6.60
18.	Citrus	6.38
19.	Grapes	8.30
20.	Guava	18.05
21.	Mango	12.74

Sl. No	Name of crops/commodities	% average loss
22.	Papaya	7.36
23.	Sapota	5.77
24.	Onion	7.51
25.	Tomato	12.98
26.	Cabbage	6.94
27.	Cauliflower	6.88
28.	Green Pea	10.28
29.	Potato	8.99
30.	Tapioca	9.19
31.	Egg	6.55
32.	Inland Fish	6.92
33.	Marine Fish	2.78
34.	Meat	2.23
35.	Poultry Meat	3.65
36.	Milk	0.77
37.	Jaggery and Khandsari	1.87
38.	Areca nut	7.9
39.	Black Pepper	3.9
40.	Cashew	1.1
41.	Chilli	5.6
42.	Coconut	5.4
43.	Coriander	7.3
44.	Sugarcane	8.7
45.	Turmeric	7.4

Source: Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Livestock Produce in India. All India Coordinated Research Project on Post Harvest Technology, (ICAR), Ludhiana (2012).

Statement-II
State-wise distribution of Cold Storages as on 31.03.2014

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Upto 2009*			2009-10 to 2013-14						Total		
					NH&B			NHM			MoFPI		
		No.	Capacity (MT)		No.	Capacity (MT)		No.	Capacity (MT)		No.	Capacity (MT)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	2	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	210	
2.	Andhra Pradesh	290	900606	28	179810	79	485962	7	11450	404	1577828		
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	5000	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	5000		
4.	Assam	24	88068	6	30334	0	0	4	1250	34	119652		
5.	Bihar	246	1147041	28	111821	28	147533	1	0	303	1406395		
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	6	12216	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	12216		
7.	Chhattisgarh	69	341885	10	45343	8	40263	2	275	89	427766		
8.	Delhi	95	126158	2	3699	0	0	0	0	97	129857		
9.	Goa	29	7705	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	7705		
10.	Gujarat	398	1267304	44	128412	110	621407	8	13750	560	2030873		
11.	Haryana	244	393121	23	84455	23	98573	5	12500	295	588649		
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18	19858	3	8324	0	0	9	10375	30	38557		
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	19	42869	5	21900	0	0	4	0	28	64769		
14.	Jharkhand	45	170148	7	32357	3	14775	0	0	55	217280		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15.	Karnataka	170	407165	7	75863	8	31849	4	11875	189	526752
16.	Kerala	193	58105	1	5000	0	0	3	15250	197	78355
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	1	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	15
18.	Madhya Pradesh	197	808052	16	78939	44	209177	3	1000	260	1097168
19.	Maharashtra	466	546748	22	76507	23	54603	29	28445	540	706303
20.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2175	1	2175
21.	Meghalaya	3	3200	1	5000	0	0	0	0	4	8200
22.	Mizoram	0	0	1	3471	0	0	2	460	3	3931
23.	Nagaland	2	6150	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6150
24.	Odisha	101	291039	0	0	9	35600	1	0	111	326639
25.	Puducherry (UT)	3	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	85
26.	Punjab	422	1345193	44	127478	133	519416	7	12690	606	2004777
27.	Rajasthan	110	324226	22	79564	18	76162	4	80	154	480032
28.	Sikkim	1	2000	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2000
29.	Tamil Nadu	148	238536	13	50835	1	6000	1	300	163	295671
30.	Tripura	11	29450	2	9731	0	0	0	0	13	39181
31.	Uttar Pradesh	1589	10118000	439	2626785	142	873353	6	14900	2176	13633038
32.	Uttarakhand	15	68499	2	3528	0	0	11	12518	28	84545
33.	West Bengal	463	5682000	8	31423	24	147195	7	41307	502	5901925
	TOTAL	5381	24450652	734	3820581	653	3361867	121	190600	6889	31823699

Source: Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) upto 2009, National Horticulture Board (NHB), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)

Boost to production of bulk drugs/APIs

147. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted the increasing dependence of the Indian pharmaceutical companies on bulk drugs and Active Pharma Ingredients from China, if so, the steps taken by Government to address this issue;

(b) the number of companies engaged in production of bulk drugs in the country, including name of company, bulk drugs produced and production capacity;

(c) the percentage of import dependence on bulk drugs;

(d) the steps taken by Government to encourage R & D and production of bulk drugs; and

(e) the challenges faced by the manufacturers of bulk drugs in the country and steps taken/to be taken to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a), (d) and (e) As per the Boston Consulting Group Report of 2013 import of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) during the year 2013 was US\$ 3.5 billion which was primarily from China. The Government had constituted a High Level Committee known as the Katoch Committee on 08.10.2013 to study and identify the APIs of critical importance and to work out a package of interventions/concessions required to build domestic production capabilities and examine the cost implication. The Katoch Committee has *inter-alia* recommended establishment, of Mega Parks for APIs with common facilities such as common Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs), Testing facilities, Captive Power Plants/assured power supply by State systems, Common Utilities/Services such as storage, testing laboratories, IPR management, designing, guest house/accommodation, etc., maintained by a separate Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV); a scheme for extending financial assistance to States to acquire land and also for setting up common facilities; revival of public sector units for starting the manufacturing of selected and very essential critical drugs (e.g. penicillins, paracetamol etc.); financial investment from the Government for development of clusters which may be in the form of a professionally managed dedicated equity fund for the promotion of manufacture of APIs and extending fiscal benefits to creation of the entire community cluster infrastructure and individual unit infrastructure; extension of fiscal and financial benefits to promote the bulk drugs sector; promoting stronger industry-academia interaction, synergising R&D promotion efforts by various Government agencies; incentivising scientist, duty exemptions for capital goods imports. These recommendations are being examined for formulation of a Policy for Promotion of Manufacturing of Bulk Drugs.

(b) As per the survey of National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) conducted in 2007, there were 2389 bulk drug manufacturing units. The said survey, however, does not give information about the bulk drugs produced and production capacity of the individual companies.

(c) As per the Boston Consultancy Group Report, the total production of APIs in 2013 was US\$ 10.4 billion and India imported APIs amounting to US\$ 3.5 billion in 2013. The country is, however, 80-90% dependent on imports of APIs for certain medicines mentioned in National List of Essential Medicines viz. Paracetamol, Metformin, Ranitidine, Amoxicillin, Ciprofloxacin, Cefixime, Acetyl salicylic acid, Ascorbic acid, Ofloxacin, Ibuprofen, Metronidazole and Ampicillin.

Impact of deregulation of urea

148. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has studied the impact of deregulation of urea, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there are any plans to increase the MRP of Urea by 10 per cent annually for two years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to import Urea duty-free so that farmers get it at a lesser price?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Import of urea in the country is restricted and its import for direct agriculture use is made on Government account. Urea is under statutory price control of Government of India (GoI) and sold to the farmers at uniform Maximum Retail at ₹ 5,360/- per MT excluding local taxes in the country. The difference of cost of procurement (including custom duty), handling and distribution of urea upto farm gate and MRP is borne by the GoI as subsidy on imported urea. Accordingly, there is no impact of increase or decrease of custom duty on the MRP of imported urea.

Availability and affordability of essential life saving drugs

149. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the pharma industry has progressed a lot in the country but the people are still deprived of medicines in the country, if so, the response of Government thereto;

(b) whether Government has conducted any surveyor study across the country in respect of availability of essential and life saving drugs for the common/poor people, if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure easy availability of drugs to the common/poor people at affordable prices, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) There has been significant progress in the performance of Pharma Industry in the country during the last few years. The Department has not conducted any surveyor study across the country in respect of availability of essential and life saving drugs for the common/poor people of the country. However National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is entrusted with the job of monitoring the availability of medicines and to take remedial steps to ensure that medicines are available in the country. NPPA is carrying out this responsibility mainly through State Drugs Controllers and other available sources and information. NPP A has also launched a Pharma Jan Samadhan Scheme (PJS) on 12th March, 2015. The primary objectives of PJS is to put in place a speedy and effective complaint redressal system with respect to availability of medicines, overpricing of medicines, sale of 'new drugs' without prior price approval and refusal of supply or sale of medicines.

As regards prices of essential medicines, NPP A has already notified the ceiling prices in respect of 521 medicines till date out of 628 essential medicines specified in the scheduled category of DPCO, 2013. The ceiling prices so fixed and notified by the NPPA in respect of scheduled formulations under DPCO, 2013 are applicable to both imported and indigenous produced medicines. No person is authorized to sell any such formulation to any consumer at a price higher than that fixed by NPP A. In respect of other medicines not covered under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, the manufacturers are allowed to increase maximum retail price upto 10 per cent annually.

Jan Aushadhi Scheme

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

(a) whether Government is implementing Jan Aushadhi Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the number of districts in which it is being implemented in the country and the details of generic medicines made available through this scheme;

(c) whether Government has taken any decision to implement this scheme throughout the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government has been implementing the Jan Aushadhi Scheme launched in 2008 for providing access to quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all with suitable policy changes from time-to-time. At present, the scheme is operational in 99 districts of 11 States and one UT. The details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Out of 361 medicines identified for supply from Jan Aushadhi Stores, BPPI - the implementing agency is at present in a position to supply 220 medicines. The basket of medicines is being expanded to cover more number of medicines.

(c) and (d) The Government intends to spread the scheme throughout the country. However, this requires active support of State Governments by way of providing space in Government Hospitals and identifying operating agency for running the Jan Aushadhi Stores. The Department of Pharmaceuticals has been persuading the State Governments in this regard from time to time. In this regard, the Department held a meeting with a group of State Health Secretaries recently.

Statement

Jan Aushadhi Stores

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of Opening
1.	Punjab (21)	Amritsar	25.11.08
2.		Mohali	23.02.09
3.		Bhatinda	02.03.09
4.		Ludhiana	17.06-09/08.09.11
5.		Jalandhar	17.06-09
6.		Patiala	29.06.09
7.		Moga	30.06.09
8.		Faridkot	30.06.09
9.		Ferozpur	04.09.09
10.		Mansa	12.09.09
11.		Sangrur	01.10.09
12.		Barnala	01.10.09
13.		Nava Sahar (Sahid Bhagat Singh Naoar)	03.12.09

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of Opening
14.		Hoshiarpur	11.12.09
15.		Taran Taran	13.12.09
16.		Muktsar	18.12.09/re-opened on 05.09.2011
17.		Gurdaspur	29.12.09
18.		Civil Hospital, Pathankot	09.05.11
19.		Abohar	30.11.11
20.		Civil Hospital, Nabha, District Patiala	03.04.12
21.		Civil Hospital, Jalalabad	31.05.13
22.	Haryana (2)	Panchkula	23.02.09
23.		Faridabad (Private)	07.02.15
24.	Delhi (4)	Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi	05.02.09
25.		Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Shahdara	13.11.09
26.		Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar	11.02.10
27.		Delhi Consumer Cooperative Store, Moti Nagar #	04.06.13
28.	Odisha (23)	Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10
29.		Red Cross Bhavan, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10
30.		District HQ Hospital, Khordha	06.03.10
31.		District HQ Hospital, Dhenkanal	25.03.10
32.		District HQ Hospital, Koraput	11.06.10
33.		District HQ Hospital, Angul	09.07.10
34.		District HQ Hospital, Nabrangpur	15.08.10
35.		District HQ Hospital, Baragarh	03.10.10
36.		District HQ Hospital, Nayagarh	26.03.11
37.		District HQ Hospital, Berhampur	11.04.11
38.		District HQ Hospital, Jajpur	13.04.11
39.		District HQ Hospital, Puri	19.04.11

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of Opening
40.		District HQ Hospital, Naupada	30.04.11
41.		District HQ Hospital, Baripada Mayurbhanj	12.05.11
42.		District HQ Hospital, Balasore	28.04.12
43.		District HQ Hospital, Jeypore	15.09.12
44.		District HQ Hospital, Bhawanipatana	01.12.12
45.		District HQ Hospital, Phulbani	22.02.13
46.		District HQ Hospital, Bhadrak	08.03.13
47.		District HQ Hospital, Keonjhar	19.03.13
48.		District HQ Hospital, Malkangiri	01.06.13
49.		District HQ Hospital Peralakhemundi/Gajapati	21.12.13
50.		Boudh (Private)	02.02.15
51.	Chandigarh (3)	PGIMER, Chandigarh	16.11.09
52.		Govt. Medical College Hospital, Sector-32	04.08.10
53.		Multi Specialty Hospital, Sector-16	02.02.11
54.	Jammu and Kashmir (11)	Red Cross Building, Exchange Road, Srinagar.	09.05.11
55.		District Hospital, Leh	09.01.12
56.		MMAB hospital, Anantnag	01.05.12
57.		Udhampur	14.11.13
58.		District Hospital, Doda	15.11.13
59.		Reasi, Jammu,	3.3.14
60.		District Hospital, Pulwama	15.04.14
61.		District Hospital, Kargil	17.05.14
62.		GMCH, Jammu	11.12.14
63.		SMGS, Jammu	01.02.15
64.		District Hospital, Ramban, Jammu	04.03.15

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of Opening
65.	Himachal Pradesh (10)	Zonal Hospital, Mandi	18.06.11
66.		Zonal Hospital, Tanda	19.08.11
67.		Zonal Hospital, Dharamshala	30.08.11
68.		Regional Hospital, Chamba	18.11.11
69.		Regional Hospital, Hamirpur	01.04.12
70.		IGMC Shimla	27.12.13
71.		Una	9.1.14
72.		DDU, Shimla	07.12.2011/ Re-opened on 07.03.2014
73.		Regional Hospital, Kullu	Re-opened in July, 2014
74.		Civil Hospital, Solan	Re-opened in October, 2014
75.	Jharkhand (19)	District Hospital, Sahibganj	15.08.2012
76.		District Hospital, Latehar	15.08.2012
77.		District Hospital, Jamtara # #	15.08.2012
78.		District Hospital, RIIMS Ranchi	22.08.2012
79.		District Hospital, Simdega	23.08.2012
80.		District Hospital, Gumla	29.08.2012
81.		District Hospital, Chatra	15.08.2012
82.		District Hospital, Godda # #	16.08.2012
83.		District Hospital, Ranchi	22.08.2012
84.		District Hospital, Dhanbad	31.08.2012
85.		District Hospital, Bokaro # #	15.08.2012
86.		Saraikela # #	15.08.2012
87.		District Hospital, Lohardaga	31.08.2012
88.		District Hospital, Chaibasa	25.09.2012
89.		District Hospital, Giridih # #	09.09.2012
90.		District Hospital, Khuti # #	28.08.2012
91.		District Hospital, Hazaribagh # #	31.08.2012

Sl. No.	State	District	Date of Opening
92.		District Hospital, Garhwa	15.10.2012
93.		District Hospital, Koderma # #	09.01.2013
94.	Tripura (4)	GBP Hospital, Agartala	20.03.2014
95.		IGM Hospital, Agartala	28.09.2014
96.		TMC, Agartala	06.12.2014
97.		Gomati District Hospital	31.03.2015
98.	Maharashtra (1)	HA Campus, Pimpri, Pune	26.07.2014
99.	Madhya	AIIMS, Bhopal	30.07.2014
100.	Pradesh (5)	Old Palasia, Indore	13.09.2014
101.		Near Civil Hospital, Chhindwara	25.09.2014
102.		Near Civil Hospital, Narsinghpur	27.09.2014
103.		Near Medical College, Sagar	02.02.2015
104.	Uttarakhand (4)	Doon Hospital, Dehradun \$	09.11.2009
105.		Rishikesh \$	07.03.2013
106.		Vikasnagar \$	07.03.2013
107.		Sahaspur \$	07.03.2013
108.	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur	13.12.2014
	(1)		

- # 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. 104 to 107 are functional. However medicines are not being procured from BPPI and are being locally procured. Health Department of the State Government is being persuaded to procure the medicines from BPPI.

Pricing of medical devices

151. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has asked the medical device companies to reveal the maximum retail price of the medical devices they sell in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether NPPA has also pointed out the media reports about profit margins on devices like cardiac stents orthopaedic implants etc. leading to patients being charged exorbitant prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the necessary steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) There are 22 medical devices regulated as 'drug' under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules there under. Out of 22 medical devices, 2 are under price control for which ceiling price have been notified under DPCO, 2013. NPPA has asked the manufacturer/distributor of the medical devices, regulated as drugs, to provide certain information for monitoring of price movement as non-scheduled formulations under DPCO, 2013. DPCO, 2013 provides that no manufacturer/importer I distributor is allowed to increase the MRP of a non-scheduled drug more than ten per cent of MRP during preceding twelve months and where the increase is beyond ten per cent, it shall reduce the same to the level of ten per cent of maximum retail price for next twelve months. Based on information received in Form-V of Schedule II of DPCO, 2013, it is seen that bulk of stents consumed in the country are imported and the difference between landed cost and maximum retail price (MRP) is very high. NPPA *vide* its letter dated 27.03.2015 has submitted a report to the Department on pricing of cardiac stents based on the available information and the study conducted by National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC).

Regulatory measures by US on Indian drug exports

152. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) in view of continuous regulatory measures by US impacting Indian drug exports to US, what alternatives Indian drug manufacturing companies are looking at to stay ahead in generic medicines; and

(b) why cannot our pharma companies explore Africa, Middle East and some of the European countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) In spite of stringent regulatory measures by the US, India is the 4th largest partner of USA in supply of generic medicines with over US\$ 4 billion exports to US during the year 2013-14.

(b) Indian Pharma companies are already exporting to Africa, Middle East and European countries.

Sale of drugs through Jan Aushadhi Stores

153. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each of 504 drugs that Government is planning to sell through Jan Aushadhi Stores (JASs) in the country;

(b) the details of JASs through which it is planning to sell the above drugs, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is planning to give a separate brand to the 504 medicines; and

(d) whether Government would also sell medical devices at a subsidized price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) To provide access to more number of medicines under the Jan Aushadhi scheme, the Government proposes to expand the existing basket of 361 medicines. The details are being worked out.

Jan Aushadhi Store in Tamil Nadu

154. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not opened any Jan Aushadhi Store (JAS) in Tamil Nadu, since inception of this scheme in November, 2008; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government intends to open Jan Aushadhi Stores in all the States. However, this requires active support of State Governments by way of providing space in Government hospitals and identifying operating agency for running the Jan Aushadhi Stores. The matter has been taken up with all the States including Tamil Nadu but has received no response from Tamil Nadu.

Revival of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited

155. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL)-the first Public Sector Undertakings in the Pharmaceutical Sector, is ailing and the workmen are starving due to lack of necessary approvals from Government;

- (b) if so, the details of present status of HAL's employees; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to revive HAL, which is capable to serve the national healthcare system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) HAL is presently facing a financial crisis. Salaries for workers for 10 months and Officers for 12 months are in arrears. In the past salaries have been arranged to be paid by drawing advances from the Contingency Fund of India for 4 months. Efforts are being made to pay salaries and a proposal for re-appropriation of funds has been sent to Ministry of Finance. Separately efforts are being made for providing working capital to the company and also to make critical payments. Proposal for revival of HAL is also under active consideration of the Government of India.

New fertilizer units set up under New Investment Policy

156. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) the names of the new fertilizer units proposed to be set up under New Investment Policy, the details thereof;
- (b) whether some of the units have demanded Government to ensure availability of gas for their plants; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) This Department had received twelve proposals for setting up of Revamp, Expansion, Revival and Greenfield plants based on the New Investment Policy-2012, the details of which are given in the Statement (*See below*). Interest shown by the project proponents has been noted by the Department of Fertilizers. The project proponents has been directed to furnish the required Bank Guarantee to the Department of Fertilizers after securing financial closure for the project but will before finalization of the LSTK/EPCA contractor. Apart from these proposals, this Department is in process of revival of Talcher (Odisha), Ramagundam (Telengana), Barauni (Bihar) and Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh) units of FCIL.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government of India.

Statement

Sl. No.	Company	Projects	Ownership	State
1.	Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited	Revamp of Ammonia-Urea project at Zuarinagar.	Private	Goa
2.	IGFL-Jagdishpur	Brownfield Expansion urea project at Jagdishpur.	Private	Uttar Pradesh
3.	CFCL-Gadepan	Brownfield of Ammonia-Urea units at Gadepan-Kota.	Private	Rajasthan
4.	GNVFC-Bharuch	Brownfield Ammonia-Urea project at Bharuch.	State JV	Gujarat
5.	GSFC-Vadodara	Greenfield Ammonia-Urea project at Dahej.	State PSU	Gujarat
6.	MATIX Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Fertilizers Complex at Panagarh.	Private	West Bengal
7.	RCF-Thal	Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Expansion project at Thal.	CPSU	Maharashtra
8.	FACT-Kochi	Brownfield Ammonia-urea project at Udyogamandal, Kochin.	PSU	Kerala
9.	Kanpur Fertilizers & Cements Limited	Brownfield Project at Panki, Kanpur.	Private	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Bharat Coal Chemicals Ltd .	Coal Gasification based Ammonia and urea project, Paradip.	Private	Odisha
11.	Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	Brownfield Project at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.	Private	Andhra Pradesh
12.	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited	Brownfield Project at Hazira, Gujarat.	Cooperative	Gujarat

Revival of fertilizer units of FCIL

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is unable to revive the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and its four units which is pending before Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) since 2010; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) No, Sir. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 9.5.2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest. Subsequent to the decision of waiver of GoI loan and Interest the net worth of FCIL turned positive and in the hearing of BIFR held on 27.6.2013, the Hon'ble Bench de-registered FCIL from the purview of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

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

Incentivizing domestic production of fertilizers

158. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government has undertaken a comprehensive study on the impact of the NBS Policy on the price of fertilizers as recommended by the Standing Committee Report, if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor;

(b) Whether Government has formulated an action plan to implement the New Investment Policy expeditiously, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) The measures being taken by Government for incentivizing domestic production of fertilizers; and

(d) Whether Government has any scientific mechanism in place for assessing the targeted requirement of fertilizers annually, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes Sir. The study was conducted on the impact of NBS Policy through M/s Ernst and Young. Some of the important findings/recommendations are as under:

(i) Overall subsidy burden from P&K fertilizers has declined.

(ii) The availability of P&K fertilizers has improved.

(iii) There has been significant increase in prices payable by farmers for P&K fertilizers.

(iv) The consumption of DAP and MOP has declined. However, it has increased significantly for SSP.

(v) Significantly low price of Nitrogen has led to increase in gap between prices of N © P&K, thus resulted in the imbalanced use of Fertilizers.

- (vi) The MRPs of P&K fertilizers must be reasonable and to secure supplies of P&K fertilizers, strategic investment should be made by the Indian players in mines abroad by creating 'sovereign fund'.

(b) This Department had received twelve proposals for setting up of Revamp, Expansion, Revival and Greenfield plants based on the New Investment Policy- 2012. Interest shown by the project proponents has been noted by the Department of Fertilizers. The project proponents have been directed to furnish the required Bank Guarantee to the Department of Fertilizers after securing financial closure for the project but will before finalization of the LSTK/EPCA contractor.

(c) The final Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) Note to amend the NIP-2008 and to establish a Unified Pricing Formula in order to incentivize domestic production of urea beyond re-assessed capacity from existing urea units which have taken revamp under NIP-2008 has been sent to CCEA for approval.

(d) Department of Agriculture assesses requirement of fertilizers every cropping season and for this purpose, organizes Zonal Conferences before every cropping season.

Requirement of fertilizers depends upon cropping pattern, cropped area, requirement of nutrients in soil as per soil health status and recommended doses, irrigated area, consumption pattern and accordingly States make an initial projection based on these factors. Thereafter, requirement is finalized in Zonal Conferences in consultation with Stakeholders namely States, Department of Fertilizers, Lead Fertilizer Suppliers and Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) etc.

National policy on universal electronic accessibility

159. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of National Policy on Universal Electronic Accessibility and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs);

(b) the steps taken by Government towards implementation of the policy;

(c) the number of Government Websites (Ministries/Departments/State Governments) that have made their websites compliant to the 'Guidelines for Indian Government Websites'; and

(d) whether Government has set a time line for making websites of Ministries, Departments and State Governments disabled friendly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The salient features of the National Policy on Universal Electronic Accessibility are, *inter-alia*, (i) Recognizes the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disabilities and to facilitate equal access to electronics and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). (ii) Covers technological aspects including access to Electronics and ICTs products (both hardware & software) and services by differently-abled persons in the areas of universal design, assistive technology and independent living aids. (iii) Defines the role of Central/State Government Ministries/Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Private Sector Organizations and NGOs/Civil Societies. (iv) Outlines strategies *e.g.* creating awareness on accessibility, setting up model Electronics and ICT Centres, developing procurement guidelines etc. For implementation the policy.

(b) A High Level Advisory Committee (HLAC) has been constituted with multi stakeholder participation to implement the policy. A meeting of HLAC was held on December 30, 2014 under the chairmanship of Secretary, DeitY. HLAC has decided that NIC will convert 100 most popular/visited inaccessible Government websites into accessible sites as per Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW). For the websites of remaining Government organizations, ERNET India and NICS I will empanel various agencies, which can take up accessibility related projects of different Government Ministries/Departments, NICS I has informed that they have already empanelled various agencies for the said purpose.

In addition, HLAC decided to advice Government Ministries/Departments to avoid Visual CAPTCHA and instead Logical CAPTCHA *e.g.* asking simple questions (*e.g.* add 2 and 3) and One Time Password (OTP) etc. Be used. It was also recommended for making Government notifications/circulars etc. Accessible through digital signature and putting them into ePub and OCR (Optical Character Recognition) based PDF.

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (pwDs), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJE) has been requested to organize trainings by leveraging existing Institutions and NGOs. -

In addition, project proposals have been invited from various Academic Institutes/ R&D Organizations for trainings, creating awareness and development of tools and technologies related to accessibility.

(c) Standardization Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate, an attached office under Department of Electronics and IT (DeitY) has informed that they have launched a Website Quality Certification Scheme for certification of web sites as per Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW). The scheme is

voluntary in nature. STQC have completed testing of 34 web sites and these websites are in compliance with GIGW. Out of which, 23 websites have been certified and remaining 11 web sites are awaiting certification.

(d) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has only formulated the GIGW guidelines (*guidelines.gov.in*). Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) has included GIGW guidelines in Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure.

BSNL mobile services in Maharashtra

†160. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether mobile services have been provided in Maharashtra by BSNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the mobile services of BSNL are not working properly due to private mobile operators in Maharashtra and other States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is providing mobile services in Maharashtra except Mumbai Licensed Service Area. As on 31.3.2015, BSNL has 50,15,370 subscriber receiving mobile services.

(c) and (d) 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 Reports (PMR) provided by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ending December, 2014, BSNL is meeting the benchmarks for the network related parameters for its 2G and 3G services in Maharashtra. Non-compliance with the benchmarks for certain parameters has, however, been observed in Assam, Bihar, Kolkata, North East and West Bengal.

Electronic manufacturing cluster

161. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to set up Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) in various parts of the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the places identified for the purpose;

(c) the details of facilities and concessions proposed to be provided to the electronic industry in these EMCs; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target of zero import of electronic?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Government of India has notified Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) Scheme in October 2012 to provide support for creation of world-class infrastructure for attracting investments in the electronics manufacturing. The assistance for the projects in Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters is restricted to 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 Crore, for every 100 acres of land. For larger areas, pro-rata ceiling applies. For lower extent, the extent of support would be decided by the Steering Committee for Clusters (SCC) subject to the ceiling of ₹ 50 Crore. For Brownfield EMC, 75% of the cost of infrastructure, subject to a ceiling of 50 Crore is provided as grant. Till date Department of Electronics and Information technology (DeitY) has accorded In-Principle approval to fourteen (14) Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters, two (2) Common Facility Centers in Brownfield Clusters and final approval to two Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters. The details of the EMCs, which have been accorded final and in-principle approval are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) Government has taken various steps to achieve the target of zero import of electronics. The steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve the target of zero import of Electronics in the country are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Statement-I

Greenfield EMCs for which in-principle approval granted

Sl. No.	State	Location of EMC
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Village-Chilamathur, Anantapur district, Satyavedu Mandal, Chittoor District
2.	Chhattisgarh	Village-Tuta, Naya Raipur District, Raipur
3.	Jharkhand	Adityapur, Saraikela- Kharsawan District
4.	Kerala	Kakkanad district
5.	Odisha	Khurda, Bhubaneswar Industrial Area,

Sl. No.	State	Location of EMC
6.	Rajasthan	Khushkera, Bhiwadi
7.	Tamil Nadu	Krishnagiri ,Hosur
8.	Telangana	e-city Hyderabad
9.		Raviriyal village, Maheshwaram,
10.	Uttar Pradesh	Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida
11.		Greater Noida
12.	West Bengal	Naihati Town, North 24, Parganas District
13.		Falta Town. South 24 Parganas District

Brownfield EMCs for which in-principle approval granted

Sl. No.	State	Location of EMC
1.	Karnataka	Electronic City, Bangalore
		KIADB Industrial Area, Hebbal Hootagall, Mysore

Approved Greenfield EMCs

Sl. No.	State	Location of EMC
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Badwai- Bhopal
		Purva-Jabalpur

Statement-II

Steps taken by the Government to achieve the target of zero import of electronics in the country:

- 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 programme. 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.
- Modified Special Package Incentive Scheme (M-SIPS) to provide subsidy of 20-25% on capital expenditure for setting up units in Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector has been implemented.
- Government has approved setting up of two semiconductor wafer fabrication (FAB) manufacturing facilities in Greater Noida (Uttar Pradesh) and Prantij (Gujarat) in India and providing 25% subsidy on capital expenditure.

- Policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in Government procurement is under implementation.
- Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for Electronics Manufacturing units.
- 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.
- 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.
- Approvals for all foreign direct investment up-to 100% in the electronic hardware manufacturing sector are under the automatic route.
- 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 roadmap for digitalization of the broadcasting sector.
- An Electropreneur park in Delhi, providing Incubation for development of ESDM sector which will contribute IP creation-and Product Development in the sector.
- 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.
- Tariff Structure has been rationalized to promote indigenous manufacturing of electronic items.
- A Scheme for skill development of 3,28,000 persons in the ESDM sector for digital India has been approved to provide human resource for ESDM industry.
- 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.
- 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.

Fonts for all Indian languages

162. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed software tools and fonts for all Indian languages under its Technology Development for Indian Languages Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL) Programme, CDs containing software tools and fonts for 22 constitutionally recognized Indian languages viz. Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu have been made available in public domain through the portal <http://w//itv.ilde.in>. This is enabling the citizens to use ICT in their own languages for doing various tasks, such as typing, office work, e-mail, accounting, etc.

- (c) Does not arise.

Postal banks

163. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is urging the Department of Posts to come up with opening of Postal Banks in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Subramanian Committee, to which the matter had been referred, has submitted its report and has made recommendations in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, the Department of Posts has submitted an application to Reserve Bank of India on 30.1.2015 seeking license for setting up Post Bank of India under the rubric of "Payments Bank". The Government is committed to increasing access of the people to the formal financial system and in this context, Government proposes to utilize the vast Postal network with nearly 1, 54,000 points of presence spread across the villages of the country. The Government hopes that the Postal Department will make its proposed Payments

Bank venture successful so that it contributes further to the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. The details of the proposed Post Bank would be finalized once the Reserve Bank of India takes a favourable decision on application submitted by Department of Posts. In the recent budget speech also the Finance Minister has appreciatingly talked about Post Bank.

(b) and (c) The Task Force on Leveraging the Post Office Network under the Chairmanship of retired Cabinet Secretary Shri. T.S.R.Subramanian, has submitted its report during November-2014. The said task force has recommended for setting up Post Bank of India. The details of the recommendations are given in the Statement.

Statement

Recommendations of Task Force on Leveraging Post Office Network with respect to Setting up of Post Bank of India:—

- (i) The proposal is not to convert the PO Network into a Bank, but to set up a fully professional new Bank to further financial inclusion and meet the objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna, which specifically provides for the extension of credit to all Indians resident in every part of India, particularly in rural areas.
- (ii) This opportunity for achieving universal financial inclusion *via* technology and the institutional reach of the PO Network must not be lost. There is admittedly a risk involved, as there is in any new venture into uncharted waters. The risk involved can and must be managed in the interests of the overall larger national objectives.
- (iii) The PBI must be professionally managed and operated, with credit and other risks being handled by experienced experts hired from the market. In its own interest, its operations must be fully in line and compliant with RBI Guidelines.
- (iv) A new institution, to be called the Post Bank of India or by some other suitable name, should be set up as a commercial bank offering the full spectrum of financial and banking services.
- (v) As the owner of the proposed PBI, the Government of India may take decisions as appropriate on structural and organizational issues and other details, including the funding requirements.
- (vi) The Task Force is of the view that the PBI should be set up under an Act of Parliament and that establishing the PBI as a statutory institution and a Government Bank would enhance its credibility, insulate it from local pulls and greatly facilitate its operations.

- (vii) It is essential to structure the proposed PBI in such a manner as to preempt the possibility of outside interests influencing its day-to-day operations.
- (viii) The Task Force also recommends that the PBI should initially be set up as a Public Sector Bank wholly owned by the Government of India.
- (ix) The initial capital requirement, estimated at ₹ 500 crores as per RBI requirements would be fully funded by the Government.
- (x) After the Bank establishes itself in 3 to 5 years, the Board of Directors could take a view on floating an IPO to raise fresh capital.
- (xi) The PBI will focus on fulfilling the Government's mandate of financial inclusion and on bringing the un-banked and under-banked segments of the population, particularly in rural, semi-rural and remote areas within the ambit of the formal monetized economy.
- (xii) A view needs to be taken on how best to seamlessly integrate the earlier banking operations into the proposed new structure, The best and seamless method would be to fully absorb the POSB in the new proposed Bank (PBI).
- (xiii) The PBI will offer services including credit, which are beyond the remit of the POSB.
- (xiv) The PBI will develop financial products and services which are specially tailored to the needs of the rural and urban unbanked population, if necessary in collaboration with other banks.
- (xv) The PBI will function as a commercially viable and self-sustaining entity without the need for continuing Government subsidies.
- (xvi) After the initial gestation period, it should generate its own resources and sustain itself in the competitive market environment.
- (xvii) The PBI should price its services on a cost plus basis and revise these rates from time to time, so that its operations do not become a continuing and increasing burden on the Government exchequer.
- (xviii) The PBI will start with a Head Office Main Branch and will thereafter expand its operations by opening Branch offices in the Metro towns and State capitals, to be manned by banking professionals.
- (xix) The longer term objectives would be to establish a Branch Office of the PBI in each District Headquarter over a 3 to 5 year period, to be operated mostly by banking professionals.
- (xx) The 150,000-Plus Departmental and Branch Pos will act as Banking Correspondents for the PBI.

- (xxi) Careful consideration should be given to the various types, elements and levels of risk involved in the PBI's operations.
- (xxii) Robust System Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures should be put in place to manage these risks effectively.
- (xxiii) The PBI should recruit/commission the services of banking experts to manage its credit, portfolio and market risks.
- (xxiv) Appropriate management capabilities should be mobilized from the market and robust systems and processes should be put in place to ensure that Non-Performing Assets are kept within acceptable limits.
- (xxv) It is neither necessary nor desirable to mandate a waiting period before the PBI enters into credit and lending operations.
- (xxvi) The PBI should be constituted and begin working as a credit and lending Bank immediately, without any trial/waiting/learning period.
- (xxvii) The PBI should be set up as an independent statutory and corporate entity offering the full bouquet services, including credit, to its customers.
- (xxviii) The PBI will primarily target currently unbanked and under-banked customers in rural, semi-rural and remote areas, with a focus on providing small and affordable loans and simple deposit products.
- (xxix) Customers will be provided with full-fledged Savings Accounts, which can be retained even with zero balances, as provided for in the PMJDY.
- (xxx) Credit risks will be managed by hiring professionals from the banking sector and by developing and implementing robust protocols for building checks and balances in the system. Market and robust systems and processes should be put in place to ensure that Non-Performing Assets are kept within acceptable limits.

Emergency blocking order under IT Act

164. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any emergency blocking orders under section 69 (A) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 pursuant to Rule 9 of the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules 2009; and

(b) if so, the total number of emergency blocking orders issued from 1st January, 2014 till date and the details and specifications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government has issued directions for blocking of URLs on emergency basis depending on the nature of contents and consequences of spreading such contents as reported by Law Enforcement and Security Agencies, following the procedure as outlined in Rule 9 of the Information Technology (procedure and Safeguards for blocking for access of Information by Public) Rules. Emergency blocking orders issued to block a total number of 216 URLs from 1st January, 2014 till date. The information hosted on these URLs were anti-national, provocative, communal hatred, which could lead to serious law and order problem in the Country. The URLs were blocked based on the requests of Law Enforcement Agencies including by orders passed by competent courts, in the interest of Sovereignty and Integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the Commission of any cognizable offence relating to above as per the provisions of Section 69A of Information Technology Act, 2000.

Blocking of websites

165. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has blocked/disabled access to certain websites and/or Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) during the current year and the last year and if so, the specifications thereof;

(b) the total number of requests received by the designated officer and the total number of orders issued for blocking of web sites and/or content under section 69(A) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 from 1st January, 2014 till date; and

(c) the total number of blocking orders revoked by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology, or any other Government agency from 1st January, 2014 till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government has invoked Section 69A of Information Technology Act, 2000 to block/disable access to certain websites/URLs. Section 69A of the Information Technology Act 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of Sovereignty and Integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the Commission

of any cognizable offence relating to above. A total of 255 URLs were blocked in 2014 and no URLs has been blocked in 2015 (till 31 March 2015) under Section 69A through the Committee constituted under the rules there in Further, a total of 2091 URLs and 143 URLs were blocked in order to comply with the Directions of the Competent Courts of India in 2014 and 2015 (till 31 March 2015) respectively. The Committee constituted as per the rules of Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 had recommended not to block 19 URLs in the meetings held between 1st January 2014 to till date. Besides, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT -In) gets requests for blocking of objectionable content from individuals and _nusual_tions, which merely forwards those requests to the concerned websites for appropriate action.

(c) Two orders were issued to revoke the 251 blocked URLs from 1st January 2014 till date.

Central Monitoring System

166. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the Central Monitoring System (CMS) set up by Government for lawful interception and monitoring of communications;

(b) the details and salient features of the system, including the nodal agency implementing CMS;

(c) the total expenditure approved and incurred by Government for setting up of CMS;

(d) whether it is operational, if so, in which parts of the country; and

(e) if not, the time-frame within which setting up and operationalization of CMS across the country is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the responsibility for execution of Central Monitoring Systems (CMS) has been entrusted with Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT). Most of Research and Development work has been completed. The Centralized Data Centre has been installed. Interception Store and Forward Servers (ISF) at the premises of Telecom Service Providers have been installed. Civil and electrical related environment works are at final stage of completion for the Regional Monitoring Centres. Installation activities at Regional Monitoring Centres have been initiated. Testing work has been initiated at Centralized Data Centre. The envisaged salient features of CMS are as follows:

- (i) Direct Electronic Provisioning of target number by a Government agency without any manual intervention from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) on a secured network, thus enhancing the secrecy level and quick provisioning of target.
- (ii) Central and regional database which will help Central and State level Law Enforcement Agencies in Interception and Monitoring.
- (iii) Analysis of Call Data Records (CDR) to help in establishing linkage between anti-social/anti-national elements.
- (iv) Research and Development (R&D) in related fields for continuous up gradation of the CMS.

(c) The CMS project has been approved by Cabinet Committee on Security with Government funding of ₹ 400.00 crores. The equipment worth ₹ 255 crores has been purchased and installed against which an amount of ₹ 149 crores has been paid.

(d) and (e) Presently project is in roll out phase and not operational. The commissioning of CMS Delhi has been planned in phased manner. The Delhi and Karnataka Licensed Service Areas have been planned for initial roll out.

Market share of BSNL

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

(a) whether share of BSNL in mobile services market has come down to 8.6 per cent in 2014 against 11.6 per cent in 2012 and BSNL had losses of around ₹ 7000 crore in 2013-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether BSNL, broadband market share has also gone down from 66.1 per cent in 2012 to 22 per cent in 2014 while private telecom firms have moved ahead and gained top spot in broadband market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the necessary steps taken to improve the performance and structure of BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Details of market share of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in mobile service for the last three years are given below:—

Year	As on 31.03.2012	As on 31.03.2013	As on 31.03.2014	As on 31.12.2014
Subscribers (in millions)	98.51	101.21	94.65	81.38
Market Share (%)	10.71	11.66	10.46	8.61

BSNL's losses as per its audited accounts for last 3 years is given below:—

(₹ in crores)

Particulars	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Total Income	27,934	27,128	27,996
Total Expenditure	36,586	34,900	34,929
Net loss after tax	8,851	7,884	7,019

(c) and (d) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority's directions, broadband offered through wireless services was included in calculation of market share of broadband services alongwith broadband on wireline services. Data services offered with a download speed of 512 kbps on both wireline and wireless was considered as broadband service from December, 2013 onwards. Prior to December 2013, only broadband offered on wireline services was defined as broadband services.

BSNL broadband market share in wireline segment has increased from 64.6% as on 31.3.2012 to 67.3% as on 31.3.2014. However, the combined broadband market share of BSNL including broadband over wireline and wireless is 27.54% as on 31.3.2014.

BSNL is in financial losses and facing declining revenues from loss of market share and increasing expenditure. BSNL has not been able to invest adequately in expansion/modernization of its network over the period 2008-2012 due to financial loss leading to network coverage issues.

Government has taken several measures to revive BSNL and provide some financial relief so that BSNL could undertake expansion plans and improve its services. These measures include waiver of Government loan to BSNL involving an amount of ₹ 1411 crores and financial support of ₹ 6724.51 crores to BSNL on surrender of Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum.

Besides, BSNL has also taken several steps, despite financial constraints 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 and steps being undertaken by BSNL and steps being taken 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.
- Focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, revenue management and asset management.
- Aggressive push on Data usage and value added services.
- Redeployment of workforce with more focus on Sales, Distribution and customer care activities.
- Human resources and organizational re-structuring.

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.

Quitting of STPIs by software companies

168. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether rollback of tax sops has forced small companies to quit Software Technology Parks of India (STPIs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps being taken/taken so far to encourage software companies to remain in STPIs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per STPI there has been an overall decline in the number of registered STP units after the discontinuance of income tax benefits *w.e.f.* 01.04.2011 under Section 10A of the Income Tax Act. The number of registered exporting STP units over the last five years is given below:

Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Number of Exporting Units under STP Scheme	5565	4542	3755	3335	2823

Source: STP.

(c) However, STP Units continue to avail various other benefits, in accordance with the Foreign Trade Policy which, *inter-alia*, include Customs Duty exemption on imported goods, reimbursement of Central Sales Tax (CST) and Excise Duty exemptions on procurement of indigenously manufactured goods. Besides, the Department of Commerce (DOC), Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme assists the exporters especially Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for export promotion activities abroad. Further, the exports reported by STP units have been progressively growing and new STP Units are also being registered under the scheme.

Broadband Nigam Limited

169. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a separate Corporation–Broadband Nigam Limited to meet the increasing demand of broadband services; and

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL), a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), was incorporated on 25.02.2012 with an objective to create, operate, maintain and manage National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) infrastructure.

BBNL is currently implementing the first phase of NOFN to connect 50,000 Gram Panchayats with optical fibre cable.

Broadband internet speed

170. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's broadband internet speed has hit the speed bump;

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

(c) the corrective steps being taken/taken so far by Government to increase kilobytes per second, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Sir, all the wireline broadband service providers have to comply with the Quality of Service standards prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) under the Quality of Service Regulations.

In these regulations, for assessing the performance of service providers relation to connection speed, TRAI has prescribed a parameter “Broadband Connection Speed (download)”, the benchmark for which is >80% from Internet Service Provider Node to user. TRAI monitors the performance of the service providers against the Quality of Service benchmarks laid down by TRAI, through the quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by the service providers for License Service Area as a whole. As per the Performance monitoring report for the quarter ending December 2014, submitted by service providers, all are meeting the benchmark.

As regards wireless broadband service, as per the Quality of Service Regulations laid down by TRAI, the service providers are reporting the minimum download speed and average throughput for Packet Data achieved in their network. TRAI has further informed that the service providers are not offering any speed based tariff plans for wireless internet.

Further, Government has revised the definition of broadband *vide* notification No. 04/04/202009-Policy-I dated 18.07.2013 as “a data connection that is able to support interactive services including Internet access and has the capability of the minimum download speed of 512 Kbps to an individual subscriber from the point of presence (POP) of the service provider intending to provide Broadband service.”

Villages not covered under mobile telephone services

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

(a) whether even after 20 years of launching the mobile services in the country there are around 56,000 villages where mobile telephone service has not reached so far;

(b) if so, whether out of these villages, more than 8600 villages fall in the comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern region;

(c) whether the Department of Telecom expects these villages to be covered within five years with a funding of ₹ 21,000 crore from the USO fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) It is estimated that there are about 55,669 villages in the country that do not have mobile coverage. Providing mobile coverage to 8621 uncovered villages in the North Eastern Region (NER) has been included in the Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for NER approved by the Government.

Mobile Service to uncovered villages in the country are likely to be provided in a phased manner over a period of five years with funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). Detailed Project Report (DPR) consisting of technical framework and cost estimates for Himalayan States (Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand) is under preparation.

Problems in Digital India Project

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

(a) whether Government's ambitious Digital India project, being implemented by USOF/BBNL combined with National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), is beset with problems;

(b) whether the costliest component of the project (Optical Fibre Cable) has been procured in excess with supplies of pipe/duct material still lagging far behind;

(c) whether a substantial part of the procured optical fibre cable is lying in store for which money has already been paid to the vendor and likely to be used only when the duct/pipes are laid in trenches; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project aims to connect all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) by bridging the connectivity gap between GPs and Blocks for provision of at least 100 Megabits per second (Mbps) bandwidth.

Given the mega nature of the project to cover unreached rural & remote areas widely dispersed across the country, supply and other constraints in timely availability of labour and contractors for trenching and cable laying, all Gram Panchayats in the country are targeted to be connected through OFC for providing broadband connectivity by December 2016 in a phased manner under NOFN Project.

(b) to (d) The OFC has been procured by Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) as per requirement for Phase-I of the NOFN project only to connect 1,00,000 GPs by 3 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL). The OFC is being laid progressively for the GPs based on the progress of trenching and duct laying works in the field units.

**Deterioration in services provided by Sarita Vihar
Telephone Exchange of MTNL**

173. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of service being provided by Sarita Vihar Telephone Exchange of MTNL, Delhi, has deteriorated of late;

(b) whether the landline and broadband services being provided by the Exchange are not to the satisfaction of consumers;

(c) the number of complaints received during the current year so far and the average time taken in attending those complaints;

(d) whether it is a fact that fake clearance of complaints is also done by staff of MTNL; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has reported that services being provided by its Sarita Vihar Telephone Exchange in Delhi are functioning satisfactorily. However, sometimes prompt repairing of faults gets affected due to delayed permission from local authorities to dig for replacement/repair of damaged underground cables.

MTNL obtains feedback from the customers after rectifying/attending to their faults regarding services.

(c) The number of complaints received in Sarita Vihar Telephone Exchange during the year 2014-15 was 16,546 and the average time taken in attending these complaints was 8.75 hrs.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Multi-stakeholder model propounded at NETmundial

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

(a) the Government's view on the future on Internet Governance, given its opposition to the widely held multi-stakeholder model propounded at NETmundial;

(b) the Government's rationale behind not conforming to the Multi-Stakeholder model for Internet Governance put forward at the NETmundial; and

(c) how Government supposes that the Multi-Stakeholder model impedes the principles of being multilateral, transparent, democratic, and representative, with the participation of Governments, private sector, civil society and international organizations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Government will take a view on the future of Internet Governance taking into account all issues which affect Internet's growth and India's interest in the matter.

Working group on Information and Communication Technology

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

(a) the steps taken by Government to engage the India-US Working Group on Information and Communication Technologies (WG-ICT) on Digital India initiative thus far;

(b) whether Government has the requisite measures for data privacy and intellectual property rights of local and foreign manufacturers in place to ensure an attractive ICT Market in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The meeting of the Working Group on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) was held during 14th-15th January, 2015 in Washington DC, USA. Amongst other issues, the two Sides discussed cooperation framework under the Digital India Programme. Further a Joint Declaration of Intent for cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technology and Electronics has been signed between the two countries on 20th January, 2015. One of the objectives under the aforesaid Joint Declaration of Intent is to explore the opportunities for collaboration in the course of implementation of India's ambitious Digital India programme.

(b) and (c) The Information Technology Act, 2000 has adequate provisions for data protection and data privacy in digital form. Sections 43, 43A and 72A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides a legal framework for privacy and security of data in digital form. Further, Indian laws relating to Intellectual Property Right have been suitably amended and are TRIPS compliant.

Over-the-top players

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

(a) whether there have been reports of private operators attempting to charge consumers premium rates for the use of services provided by over-the-top players;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to protect consumers from similar attempts in future; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Ministry to safeguard investor sentiment in the telecom sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has reported that M/s. Bharti Airtel Limited reported that effective from 23.12.2014, all internet/data packs or plans (through which consumers can avail discounted rate) will exclude Voice Over Internet Protocol (both incoming and outgoing) and standard data rates will be applicable for VoIP. Subsequently, M/s. Bharti Airtel limited reported withdrawal of the same with effect from 26.12.2014.

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

(d) Telecom licenses are governed by license agreements which are entered by Department of Telecom (licensor) with telecom service providers (licensees). At present 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the telecom services sector, with 49% through automatic route and beyond 49% through Government route.

Both the domestic as well as Foreign Investors have to follow the laws of the land and are treated at par. As far as FDI is concerned, the investment is protected through Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements signed by India with 72 countries.

Cycle allowance to postmen of the naxal affected districts of Chhattisgarh

†177. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether postmen of the naxal affected district Narayanpur in Chhattisgarh have to cover distances ranging from 1200 kilometres to 1500 kilometres per

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

month through mountains and dense forests and they get ₹ 60 per month as cycle allowance;

(b) whether rural post offices in the Narayanpur district are having only one or two postmen in place of three;

(c) if so, whether Government will contemplate to appoint three rural postmen in all the rural post offices and to increase the cycle allowance for the postmen, who travel long distances in adverse circumstances; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Narayanpur District in Chhattisgarh has one departmental Sub Post Office and 17 Branch Post Offices. The average distance travelled by a Postman/ Gramin Dak Sevak (GDS) Mail Deliverers working in Branch Offices per month is only 312.5 km. However, Cycle Maintenance Allowance @ ₹ 60/- is paid to the GDS Mail Deliverer per month.

(b) No, Sir. sanctioned strength of GDS Mail Deliverers is one in all the Branch Post Offices of Narayanpur District except Orchha Branch Post Office. The sanctioned strength of GDS Mail Deliverers in Orchha Post Office is two and two GDS Mail Deliverers are working there. Similarly, the sanctioned strength of departmental Postman in Narayanpur Sub-Post Office is two and the two Postmen are working there.

(c) Manpower is provided to the post offices as per the sanctioned strength. The Department has a system of conducting Establishment Reviews periodically and justified manpower is assessed on the basis of workload. As and when additional justification of manpower arises, the Department provides the same by redeploying manpower from surplus offices to deficit offices.

(d) Regarding enhancement of Cycle Maintenance Allowance, there is no proposal to enhance the existing rates of Cycle Maintenance Allowance at present.

Telcos garnering funds for spectrum bill

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the huge campaign/media reports that call rates of mobile telephony are set to rise as telcos are garnering funds for spectrum bill;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) whether the mobile phone operators get cost around 1.3 paisa per minute call after the current auction of spectrum in the country; and

(d) if so, the details in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Government does not fix tariffs for telecom services. The power to notify the rates at which telecommunication services are to be provided by various telecom operators in the country was vested in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act of 1997. Section 11(2) of TRAI Act empowers the Authority to notify Tariff for various telecommunication services. As per existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access service is under forbearance except for national roaming and rural fixed line services. The service providers have the flexibility to decide various tariff components for different service areas of their operation. Tariffs are offered by service providers taking into account several factors including input costs, level of competition and other commercial considerations.

Unclaimed amount under various postal savings schemes

179. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of crores of rupees are held up in post offices as unclaimed amount in the post office savings, Public Provident Fund accounts etc.;

(b) if so, the details under various schemes and the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the main reason therefor is name of nominee not given at the time of opening the account and hassles of completing other court procedures for claiming the amount by the dependents of the deceased account holders; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to make the procedure to claim the amount by genuine dependents hassle-free?

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

(b) Scheme-wise figures are given in the Statement (*See* below). Main reason for unclaimed amount is non withdrawal of money by depositors after maturity of their investment in Small Savings Schemes, discontinued long back.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Statement*Scheme-wise details of unclaimed amount in Post Office Savings Bank.*

Sl. No.	Scheme	Amount in ₹ crores
1.	Mahila Samriddhi Yojna	3.10
2.	Fixed Deposit	24.20
3.	15 year Cumulative Time Deposit	12.54
4.	Indira Vikas Patra	894.59
5.	National Development Bonds	0.18
6.	National Defence Certificate	0.22
7.	10 years National Defence Deposit Certificate	0.54
8.	10 years National Plan Savings Certificate	0.31
9.	5 years National Savings Certificate	60.02
10.	National Savings Certificate (III)	1.13
11.	National Savings Certificate (IV)	3.78
TOTAL		1000.61

Setting up of electronic manufacturing clusters in the country

180. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up Electronic Manufacturing Clusters in Maharashtra and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will offer sops for this purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), Government of India has accorded final approval to two (2) Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters and in-principle approval to fourteen (14) Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters and two (2) Common Facility Centres in Brownfield Cluster. The details of the EMCs, which have been accorded final and in-principle approval are enclosed in the Statement (*See below*). In addition, the Steering Committee for Clusters (SCC) has recommended in- principle approval for setting up of Brownfield EMC at Pimpri Industrial area, Pune, Maharashtra at an

estimated cost of ₹ 66.10 crore. Under Electronics Manufacturing Cluster Scheme (EMC) scheme, the assistance for setting up Greenfield Electronics, Manufacturing Clusters is 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 crore for 100 acres of land. For larger areas, pro-rata ceiling applies. For lower extent, the extent of support would be decided by the Steering Committee for Clusters (SCC) subject to the ceiling of ₹ 50 crore. For setting up Brownfield Electronics Manufacturing Cluster, 75% of the cost of infrastructure, subject to a ceiling of 50 crore is provided.

Statement

Greenfield EMCs for which in-principle approval granted

State	Location of EMC
Andhra Pradesh	Village-Chilamathur, Anantapur District Satyavedu Mandal, Chittoor District
Chhattisgarh	Village-Tuta, Naya Raipur District, Raipur
Jharkhand	Adityapur, Saraikela-Kharsawan District
Kerala	Kakkanad District
Odisha	Khurda, Bhubaneswar Industrial Area
Rajasthan	Khushkera, Bhiwadi
Tamil Nadu	Krishnagiri, Hosur
Telangana	e-city Hyderabad Raviriyal vllage, Maheshwaram
Uttar Pradesh	Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida Greater Noida
West Bengal	Naihati Town, North 24 Parganas District Falta Town, South 24 Parganas District

Brownfield EMCs for which in-principle approval granted

State	Location of EMC
Karnataka	Electronic City, Bangalore KIADB Industrial Area, Hebbal Hootagall, Mysore

Approved Greenfield EMCs

State	Location of EMC
Madhya Pradesh	Badwai-Bhopal Purva-Jabalpur

**Self-certificates of EMF radiation by
telecom service providers**

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

(a) whether to ensure compliance of prescribed EMF radiations from mobile towers, self-certificates are required to be submitted by telecom service providers to Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) field units of DoT;

(b) whether TERM maintains any data, State and tower-wise, of these self certificates and audits done by TERM to cross-check EMF radiations, if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry/TERM does not upload detailed data on its website related to Part (b) above and only uploads approximate figures; and

(d) if so, reasons for not uploading the same in view of public concerns regarding illegal towers and radiations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are mandated by Department of Telecom (DoT) to submit self certificates of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in compliance to Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) radiation exposure norms prescribed by DoT to Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells of DoT. The following self certificates are required to be submitted by TSPs:

- (i) Self certificate of new BTS before radiation.
- (ii) Self certificate for BTS up-gradations.
- (iii) Biennial submission (*i.e.* every two year) of self certificate of all BTSs.

These self certificates are to be submitted by all TSPs irrespective of BTS site being single or shared. The TERM Cells maintain the details of such self certificates of BTSs submitted by various TSPs and carries out regular audit of BTSs, upto 10% of total BTS every year to cross-check EMF radiation exposure limits for compliance to prescribed norms of DoT.

Details of BTSs tested by TERM Cells as on 28.02.2015 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The details of the BTSs tested by the TERM Cells are available on DoT website *i.e.* www.dot.gov.in.

(d) Not Applicable in view of (c) above.

Statement

Details of BTSs Tested by TERM Cells to check EMF radiation exposure norms prescribed by DoT

(As on 28.02.2015)

Sl. No.	Term Cell	Total Number of BTS tested
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	105
2.	Ahmedabad	2887
3.	Andhra Pradesh	14364
4.	Assam	3818
5.	Bangalore	9905
6.	Bihar	5907
7.	Chennai	8371
8.	Chhattisgarh	2891
9.	Delhi	6616
10.	Gujarat	9722
11.	Haryana	5867
12.	Himanchal Pradesh	2599
13.	Hyderabad	6621
14.	Jaipur	2299
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1568
16.	Jharkhand	3563
17.	Karnataka	12692
18.	Kerala	10140
19.	Kolkata	3926
20.	Lucknow	1897
21.	Maharashtra	9813
22.	Madhya Pradesh	9434
23.	Mumbai	5125
24.	North East-I	1521
25.	North East-II	1276
26.	Odisha	8172

Sl. No.	Term Cell	Total Number of BTS tested
27.	Pune	3772
28.	Punjab	6058
29.	Rajasthan	6146
30.	Tamil Nadu	11513
31.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	7572
32.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	6094
33.	Uttarakhand	2797
34.	West Bengal	5025
GRAND TOTAL		200076

Limiting PDS to BPL category people

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

(a) whether Government has any proposal to limit the Public Distribution System (PDS) exclusively to those possessing the Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any request from Government of Jharkhand for allocation of more food grains for the BPL community; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States/UTs under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for distribution to the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Depending on the availability of foodgrains and past offtake, Government also allocates foodgrains to States/UTs for distribution to the Above Poverty Line (APL) families.

There is no proposal to limit the allocation of foodgrains under TPDS exclusively for the BPL families. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, which has been notified on 10.09.2013, the coverage under TPDS has been delinked from the poverty estimates and shall extend up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population.

(b) and (c) No request has been received from Govt. of Jharkhand during the current year for higher allocation under TPDS for BPL families. Like other States/

UTs who have so far not implemented NFSA, Jharkhand has been allocated 91794 tons of additional foodgrains at BPL rates for distribution to additional BPL families upto 30th September, 2015 or till implementation of NFSA in the State, whichever is earlier.

**Request for allocation of foodgrains under PDS to
tackle drought and flood situation**

†183. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the State Governments which have requested the Central Government to release foodgrains from the Central pool under the Public Distribution System (PDS) as per the total requirements, in view of drought and flood there during the last three years; and

(b) the quantities of foodgrains demanded by the State Governments under the PDS, as on date, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Details of quantities of foodgrains demanded by the State Governments in the wake of drought and flood situation and foodgrains allocated by Government of India during the last three years are as under:

(In tons)

State	Quantity of foodgrains demanded	Quantity of foodgrains allocated
1	2	3
2012-13		
Assam	35000	20000
Maharashtra	60000	60000
Karnataka	357200	357200
Meghalaya	5000	5000
2013-14		
Assam	35000	35000
Bihar	200020	200020
Kerala	6620	6620

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
Maharashtra	327840	327840
Uttarakhand	4000	4000
2014-15		
Assam	35000	35000
Bihar	50000	50000
Jammu and Kashmir	127346	127346

Food grains lying under open sky

184. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains lying in FCI godowns, as on 31st December, 2014; and

(b) the quantum of foodgrains lying under open sky as on 31st December, 2014?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As on 31.12.2014 the stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool was 368.56 lakh tons out of which 6.37 lakh tons of wheat was stored in CAP (Cover and Plinth) and rest under covered godowns.

Distribution of excess foodgrains

185. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had remarked that Government has failed to check starvation and malnutrition in the country in spite of having huge stocks of foodgrains in the godowns, if so, the steps taken by Government since then;

(b) whether there is a policy for distribution of overflowing stocks to starved people, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;

(c) the policy being adopted in regard to distribution of foodgrains; and

(d) whether there is a mechanism in place, particularly since the verdict of the apex court, to distribute excess foodgrains instead of allowing them to rot, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) In the Writ Petition (Civil) No.196 of 2001, Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* order dated 14.05.2011 had made

observations regarding malnutrition and starvation in poorest districts of the country and directed to distribute foodgrains to the extremely poor and vulnerable section of the society. In pursuance thereto, the Government of India allocated 44.90 lakh tons foodgrains for distribution to the additional Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the poorest districts.

(b) and (c) With the objective to provide for food and nutritional security to the people at affordable prices, Government has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) which provides coverage of upto 75% in rural areas and 50% in urban areas, thereby covering 2/3rd population of the country. Under the Act, foodgrains are allocated to the States/Union Territories (UTs) @ 5 kg per person per month belonging to priority category and 35 kg per family per month for AAY category at very low prices of ₹ 1 per kg, ₹ 2 per kg and ₹ 3 per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. The States/UTs who have not implemented the NFSA so far are being allocated foodgrains under the existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) @ 35kg per family per month to the BPL (including AAY) families and @ 15-35kg per family per month to Above Poverty Line (APL) families as per March, 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India (RGI) and 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission. In addition to the above normal allocation, Government has also been allocating additional foodgrains to the States/UTs for additional BPL and APL families at subsidized prices.

(d) Other than TPDS, Government also allocates foodgrains to the States/UTs for Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) of the Government, natural calamities and festivals. As per existing Government policy, the foodgrains exceeding buffer norms are to be exported or sold in domestic market through open sale. The foodgrains stocks in the Central Pool are stored in a scientific manner and less than 0.05% of the issuable stock is damaged due to loss of moisture during storage, spillage, exposure to rains, floods etc.

Digitization of ration cards

186. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of digitization of ration cards across the country; and
- (b) whether Government would be able to complete the digitization of ration cards during the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) States/UTs are requested from time to time to complete the work of digitization of ration cards at the earliest. As per reports received from States/UTs, status of digitization of ration cards is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Statement*Status of digitization of ration card data*

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Digitization of Ration Card Data* (in %)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	100%
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	76%
4.	Assam	91%
5.	Bihar	100%
6.	Chandigarh	100%
7.	Chhattisgarh	100%
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100%
9.	Daman and Diu	100%
10.	Delhi	100%
11.	Goa	96%
12.	Gujarat	100%
13.	Haryana	100%
14.	Himachal Pradesh	100%
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	87%
16.	Jharkhand	100%
17.	Karnataka	100%
18.	Kerala	100%
19.	Lakshadweep	100%
20.	Madhya Pradesh	100%
21.	Maharashtra	100%
22.	Manipur	54%
23.	Meghalaya	-
24.	Mizoram	100%
25.	Nagaland	2%
26.	Odisha	3%
27.	Puducherry	100%

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Digitization of Ration Card Data* (in %)
28.	Punjab	80%
29.	Rajasthan	96%
30.	Sikkim	100%
31.	Tamil Nadu	100%
32.	Telangana	97%
33.	Tripura	100%
34.	Uttar Pradesh	48%
35.	Uttarakhand	32%
36.	West Bengal	86%

* Data in most States is in the process of being verified. Some States are to push data in standard format. Statement is prepared as per reports received from States/UTs and NIC from time to time.

Corruption in PDS

187. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that corruption is all pervasive in the entire chain involved in the Public Distribution System (PDS) of the country, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether E-Ration Card service can prove to be an effective measure in the direction of curbing corruption that is rampant in the PDS; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is an important part of Government's policy for ensuring food security in the country. Evaluation studies on the functioning of TPDS got conducted by the Department from time to time have revealed certain shortcomings/deficiencies in the functioning of TPDS, such as inclusion/exclusion errors, leakages/diversion of foodgrains, etc. Copies of these study reports have been forwarded to concerned States/Union Territories (UTs) for taking necessary remedial measures to remove the deficiencies noticed in the functioning of TPDS.

In an independent study conducted by a group of research scholars and student volunteers, including Mr. Jean Dreze, Reethika Khara and others (2011), it has been stated that there has been an impressive revival of PDS across the country

during the recent years. The group have based their findings on a study made in 106 randomly-selected villages, spread over two districts each in 9 States. Based on the survey made in May-June, 2011, the researchers have brought out that there have been major initiatives in the recent past to improve PDS and these efforts are showing results.

There have been complaints about irregularities including corruption in the functioning of TPDS such as inclusion and exclusion errors, prevalence of bogus/ineligible ration cards, diversion of foodgrains, beneficiaries not getting their entitled quota of foodgrains, etc. The reasons for such irregularities in the system may be linked to issues like lack of transparency, accountability, monitoring and enforcement.

TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the States/UTs Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the States/UTs rest with the concerned States/UTs Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the States/UTs Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

(b) With a view to modernize the system, the Government has initiated a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS operations on cost sharing basis with States/UTs which includes digitization of ration cards beneficiary and other databases, online allocation of foodgrains, computerization of supply-chain management, and setting up of transparency portals and grievances redressal mechanism. These measures are aimed at curbing leakages and diversion by bringing transparency and accountability.

Procurement of foodgrains by FCI

188. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the procurement level of foodgrains by various States during the last five years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the procurement of FCI from various States during the above period alongwith the cost of operation;

(c) whether there are any plans before FCI to move out procuring from grain surplus States, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts Government is making to invite private players to create modern storage facilities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The details showing procurement of rice and wheat during last five years and current year are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(b) The details showing the procurement of rice and wheat by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during last five years and current year are given in the Statement-III and IV respectively (*See below*).

The overall operational cost of FCI during last five years and current year is given in the Statement-V (*See below*).

(c) The High Level Committee (HLC) headed by Shri Shanta Kumar on restructuring of FCI has recommended that FCI hand over all procurement operations of wheat, paddy and rice to States that have gained sufficient experience in this regard and have created reasonable infrastructure for procurement. These States are Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Punjab (in alphabetical order). FCI will accept only the surplus [after deducting the needs of the States under National Food Security Act (NFSA)] from these States Governments (not millers) to be moved to deficit States. Government has accepted this recommendation, as FCI has generally not been undertaking procurement of wheat and paddy directly in these States, except to a limited extent in Punjab and Haryana. FCI has already withdrawn from wheat procurement in Haryana during the current Rabi Marketing Season.

(d) Government of India has formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehouse Corporations (SWCs)/ other State agencies. Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies and FCI pays guaranteed hiring charges for this storage capacity *i.e.* for 10 years in case of Private Investors and 9 years in case of CWC, SWC and other state agencies. Under PEG scheme a capacity of 116.42 lakh MT has been sanctioned to private investors through transparent bidding process and 36.43 Lakh MT has been allotted to CWC and SWCs.

FCI has also planned to modernize its existing storage capacity by construction of modern silos on PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode with the provision of Viability Gap Funding for which FCI has already identified 11 locations.

Statement-I*Procurement of rice during last five years and current year*

(Figures in lakh tonnes)							
Sl. No.	States/UTs	KMS 2009-10	KMS 2010-11	KMS 2011-12	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
1.	A.P.	75.55	96.09	75.42	64.86	37.37	18.05
2.	Telangana					43.53	16.12
3.	Assam	0.08	0.16	0.23	0.20	0.00	0.08
4.	Bihar	8.90	8.83	15.34	13.03	9.42	12.12
5.	Chandigarh	0.14	0.10	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.10
6.	Chhattisgarh	33.57	37.46	41.15	48.04	42.90	33.55
7.	Delhi	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	-	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Haryana	18.19	16.87	20.07	26.09	24.06	20.01
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	0.23	0.00	2.75	2.15	0.00	0.02
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	0.86	1.80	3.56	0.59	0.00	0.78

Sl. No.	States/UTs	KMS 2009-10	KMS 2010-11	KMS 2011-12	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
14.	Kerala	2.61	2.63	3.72	2.40	3.59	2.46
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2.55	5.16	6.35	8.98	10.45	8.07
16.	Maharashtra	2.29	3.08	1.78	1.92	1.61	1.37
17.	Nagaland	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Odisha	24.96	24.65	28.66	36.15	28.01	26.63
19.	Puducherry	0.08	0.40	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	92.75	86.35	77.31	85.58	81.06	77.81
21.	Rajasthan	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	12.41	15.43	15.96	4.81	6.84	0.06
23.	Uttar Pradesh	29.01	25.54	33.57	22.86	11.27	15.42
24.	Uttarakhand	3.75	4.22	3.78	4.97	4.63	4.29
25.	West Bengal	12.40	13.10	20.41	17.66	13.59	12.59
	TOTAL	320.34	341.98	350.36	340.44	318.45	249.53

Rice includes paddy in terms of rice.

* KMS 2014-15 is under progress. Data reported as on 15.04.2015.

Statement-II
Procurement of wheat during last five years and current year

		(Figures in lakh tonnes)							
Sl. No.	States/UTs	RMS 2010-11	RMS 2011-12	RMS2012-13	RMS 2013-14	RMS 2014-15	RMS 2015-16*		
1.	Punjab	102.05	109.58	128.34	108.97	116.41	0.00		0.00
2.	Haryana	63.35	69.28	86.65	58.73	64.95	3.04		3.04
3.	Uttar Pradesh	16.73	34.61	50.63	6.82	6.28	0.19		0.19
4.	Madhya Pradesh	35.38	49.65	84.93	63.55	70.94	15.54		15.54
5.	Bihar	1.83	5.56	7.72	-	-	0.00		0.00
6.	Rajasthan	4.76	13.03	19.64	12.7	21.59	0.14		0.14
7.	Uttarakhand	0.86	0.42	1.39	0.05	0.01	0.00		0.00
8.	Chandigarh	0.09	0.07	0.17	0.08	0.05	0.01		0.01
9.	Delhi	0.1	0.08	0.32	Neg.	-	0.00		0.00
10.	Gujarat	0.01	1.05	1.56	-	-	0.14		0.14
11.	Jharkhand	0	-	-	-	-	0.00		0.00
12.	Maharashtra	-	-	0.02	-	-	0.00		0.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0.01	Neg.	Neg.	0.00		0.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	0.09	-	-	0.00		0.00
15.	West Bengal	0.09	-	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.00		0.00
TOTAL		225.25	283.35	381.48	250.92	280.23	19.06		19.06

Neg. - Less than 500 tonnes.
* RMS 2015-16 is under progress. Data reported as on 15.04.2015.

Statement-III*Procurement of rice by FCI during last five years and current year*

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	KMS 2009-10	KMS 2010-11	KMS 2011-12	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
		Fel	Fel	Fel	Fel	Fel	Fel
1.	A.P.	73.52	81.59	61.73	54.79	29.47	12.46
2.	Telangana		-	-	-	32.10	3.61
3.	Assam	0.08	0.15	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.03
4.	Bihar	3.01	1.54	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.24	9.86	1.15	18.62	22.04	12.44
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	17.82	16.74	19.83	25.72	23.45	19.34
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.15	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	0.76	1.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.39	0.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.20	0.01	0.00
14.	Maharashtra	0.73	1.78	0.16	1.60	1.32	0.57

15.	Odisha	2.01	0.51	0.51	0.34	0.04	6.35
16.	Punjab	79.70	80.17	71.96	83.22	80.65	68.21
17.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	10.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	28.98	25.49	31.67	22.04	11.07	15.27
20.	Uttarakhand	2.07	2.23	2.08	3.15	2.40	1.94
21.	West Bengal	3.49	1.00	5.73	5.28	0.17	0.16
	Others	0.21	0.11	0.18	0.13	0.12	0.10
TOTAL		228.35	222.53	196.06	217.67	202.84	140.48

* KMS 2014-15 is under progress. Figures reported as on 15.04.2015.

Statement-IV

Procurement of wheat by FCI during last five years and current year

		(Figures in lakh tonnes)						
Sl. No.	States/UTs	RMS 2010-11	RMS 2011-12	RMS 2012-13	RMS 2013-14	RMS 2014-15	RMS 2015-16*	
1.	Punjab	16.54	16.65	19.35	19.40	18.38	0.00	
2.	Haryana	9.58	8.28	9.48	7.25	8.00	0.00	
3.	Uttar Pradesh	0.25	0.72	0.24	0.09	0.50	0.03	
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2.40	0.00			0.00	0.00	
5.	Bihar	0.31	0.54			-	0.00	

Sl. No.	States/UTs	RMS 2010-11	RMS 2011-12	RMS 2012-13	RMS 2013-14	RMS 2014-15	RMS 2015-16*
6.	Rajasthan	4.76	13.03	19.64	12.13	8.40	0.09
7.	Uttarakhand	0.18	0.06	0.24	Neg.	0.00	0.00
8.	Chandigarh	0.09	0.07	0.17	0.08	0.05	0.01
9.	Delhi	0.10	0.08	0.31	Neg.		0.00
10.	Gujarat	-	0.32	0.40			0.02
11.	Jharkhand	Neg.	0.00				0.00
12.	Maharashtra	-	0.00				0.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	Neg.	0.00	0.01		Neg.	0.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.00	0.09			0.00
15.	West Bengal	-	0.00				0.00
TOTAL		34.19	39.75	49.93	38.95	35.33	0.15

*RMS 2015-16 is under progress. Figures reported as on 15.04.2015.

Statement-V

The overall operational cost of FCI during last five years and current year

(Amt. ₹ crore)

Particulars	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (Un-audited)	2014-15 (RE)	2015-16 (BE)
Freight	4,289	4,791	6,926	7,900	7,541	8,646
Handling	2,382	2,736	3,316	4,171	3,659	4,297
Storage	2,175	2,362	2,704	2,694	3,920	4,552
Interest for Fel operations	3,162	5,176	6,273	7,030	8,170	7,349
Shortages	474	380	721	813	897	990
Admin Overheads	1,354	1,347	1,450	1,826	1,648	1,836
Total Operating Costs	13,836	16,792	21,390	24,434	25,835	27,670

Extension of time limit for implementing NFSA

189. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the time limit for implementing the National Food Security Act (NFSA) has again been extended; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) has deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013. It *inter-alia* provides for a period not exceeding 365 days to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for identification of eligible households for receiving foodgrains at subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). As implementation of the Act has not started in 25 States/UTs, another extension, upto 30.09.2015, has been given to the States/UTs to complete identification of beneficiaries and other preparatory measures.

Utilization of funds under emergency feeding programme

190. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Emergency Feeding Programme along with the funds allocated, released and utilized during each of the last two years and the current year so far;

(b) whether Government has made any review/assessment of the Programme and if so, the details and the outcome thereof, indicating the targets fixed and achieved thereunder; and

(c) whether the said Programme is applicable across the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP), a food-based intervention targeted towards old, infirm and destitute persons was introduced in 1995-96 covering initially 5 KBK Districts of Odisha with 45,141 beneficiaries which was later extended to eight KBK Districts namely Bolangir, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nawarangpur, Naupada, Rayagada and Sonepur of Odisha covering around 2 lakh beneficiaries. It was one of the scheme under the special Plan for KBK Districts of Odisha administered by the Planning Commission.

The Empowered Committee headed by Secretary, Planning Commission in its meeting held on 23.7.2013 has decided that from 2014-15 the scheme will be taken up by the State Government from their own resources. Accordingly, the Planning Commission did not approve any allocation under Emergency Feeding Programme from 2014-15 onwards.

The details of funds allocated, released and utilized under Emergency Feeding Programme during the last two years and the current year for the eight KBK Districts of Odisha are as under:

(₹ in crore)		
Year	Allocation	Released and utilized
2013-14	40.15	40.15
2014-15	-	-
2015-16	-	-

(b) The Government has made review/assessment of the scheme during the year 2014-15. While assessing the programme, it was observed that there is now better paddy production due to improved irrigation projects in these districts. The State is also being provided additional APLIBPL allocation and therefore, it was felt that EFP may no longer be required in affected districts.

(c) No, Sir. The scheme was applicable only in the State of Odisha.

Wastage of foodgrains

191. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains lying in the godowns of FCI throughout the country, the details thereof; and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains get destroyed or rendered unsuitable for human consumption, annually, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 1.4.2015 was 343.15 lakh tons comprising of 170.94 lakh tons of rice and 172.21 lakh tons of wheat.

(b) During 2014-15 (upto 1.2.2015) 18448.709 tons of foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in Food Corporation of India (FCI). In spite of using scientific code of practices for storage and taking all precautionary measures, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged due to pilferage/thefts, loss of moisture during prolonged storage, spillage, and exposure to rains, floods etc.

Storage infrastructure

192. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need of storage infrastructure for foodgrains in the country, if so, the measures taken to augment storage capacity in the country; and

(b) whether a provision of 5000 crore was made for this purpose during 2014-15, if so, how much of this amount utilized till December, 2014?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. There is sufficient storage capacity for stocking the Central Pool foodgrains.

(b) No, Sir. An amount of ₹ 91.84 crore was allocated by the Government for construction of foodgrain storage godowns under the plan scheme. Out of this, ₹ 50.00 crore was released to FCI as equity and ₹ 5.00 crore was released as Grants-in-Aid to the State Governments of North Eastern Region till December, 2014. Full amount of ₹ 91.84 crore has been spent by 31.03.2015.

Quality parameter for procuring wheat and paddy

193. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has denied purchasing wheat from the farmers in cases where it was affected by the rain, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any policy regarding the quality of wheat and paddy to be purchased, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any policy to relax the standard and quality parameter of wheat and paddy to be purchased in exceptional situation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Government agencies procure wheat and paddy for central pool as per prescribed uniform specifications of quality parameters. Uniform Specifications of Wheat for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16 and of Paddy for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 are given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*). Wheat and paddy below uniform specifications of quality parameters are not accepted for procurement from the farmers at purchase centres unless until Central Government has given relaxation in the norms and the stock offered is in conformation with the relaxed norms.

(c) Yes, Sir. Relaxation in quality parameters of wheat and paddy are considered by Government of India on the request of State Governments in the event of unseasonal intermittent rains and in some cases of hail storms, floods or cyclone etc. Based on the analytical results of wheat/paddy samples collected from affected districts of that particular State by a joint team of officers of FCI and State Governments, relaxation in quality norms of wheat/paddy are allowed with respect to specific parameters on case to case basis to safeguard the interest of farmers as well as consumers.

Statement-I***Uniform Specifications of Wheat for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16*****Wheat Shall:**

(a) be the dried mature grains of *Triticum vulgare*, *T. compactum*, *T. spaeerococcum*, *T. durum*, *T. aestivum* and *T. dicocum*.

(b) have natural size, shape, colour and lustre.

(c) be sweet, clean, wholesome and free from obnoxious smell, discolouration, admixture of deleterious substances including toxic weed seeds and all other

impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below.

- (d) be in sound merchantable condition.
- (e) not have any admixture of **Argemone mexicana** and **Lathyrus sativus** (khesari) in any form, colouring matter and any obnoxious, deleterious and toxic material.
- (f) Conform to Food Safety and Standards Act Rules (formerly PFA).
- (g) Schedule showing the maximum permissible limits of different refractions in Fair Average Quality of Wheat.

Foreign Matter %	Other food grains %	Damaged grains %	Slightly damaged grains %	Shrivelled & Broken grains %
0.75	2.00	2.00	4.00	6.00

- Note:* 1. Moisture in excess of 12% and upto 14% will be discounted at full value. Stocks containing moisture in excess of 14% are to be rejected.
2. Within the overall limit specified for foreign matter, the poisonous weed seeds shall not exceed 0.4% of which Dhatura and Akra (Vicia species) shall not be more than 0.025% and 0.2% by weight respectively.
3. Kernels with glumes will not be treated as unsound grains during physical analysis, the glumes will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.
4. Within the overall limit specified for damaged grains, ergot affected grains shall not exceed 0.05%.
5. In case of stocks having living infestation, a cut at the rate of Rupee two per quintal may be charged as fumigation charges.
6. For weevilled grains determined by count, stocks containing weevilled grains in excess of 1% will be rejected. The rate of cut for weevilled grains will be @ ₹ 2 per quintal.

Method of Analysis:

As given in Bureau of Indian Standard No. IS. 4333 (Part I and II) 1967 and as amended from time to time except for weevilled grains which are to be determined by count method.

Definitions of Refractions :

As contained in BIS Specifications No. 2813-1995 and as amended from time-to-time.

Statement-II

Uniform specifications of paddy for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15

Paddy shall be in sound merchantable condition, dry, clean, wholesome of good food value, uniform in colour and size of grains and free from moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, *Argemone mexicana*, *Lathyrus sativus* (Khesari) and admixture of deleterious substances.

Paddy will be classified into Grade 'A' and 'Common' groups.

Schedule of specification

Sl. No.	Refractious	Maximum Limit (%)
1.	Foreign matter	
	(a) Inorganic	1.0
	(b) Organic	1.0
2.	Damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains	5.0*
3.	Immature, Shrunken and shrivelled grains	3.0
4.	Admixture of lower class	6.0
5.	Moisture content	17.0

* Damaged, sprouted and weevilled grains should not exceed 4%.

- N.B.** 1. The definitions of the above refractions and method of analysis are to be followed as per BIS 'Method of analysis for foodgrains' Nos. IS:4333 (Part-I): 1996, IS: 4333 (Part-II): 2002 and 'Terminology for foodgrains' IS:Nos. 2813-1995, as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as per BIS method for sampling of Cereals and Pulses IS:14818-2000 as amended from time to time.
3. Within the overall limit of 1.0% for organic foreign matter, poisonous seeds shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (*Vicia species*) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

Storage capacity of foodgrains

194. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantity of foodgrains are rotting due to lack of storage facilities in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the storage capacity that is available now *vis-a-vis* required to store foodgrains with the FCI and others hired by FCI; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for proper storage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. No foodgrains are rotting due to lack of storage facilities in the country.

(b) The total storage capacity with FCI and State agencies for storage of central pool stocks as on 01.04.2015 was 709.221akh MT. The total stock of foodgrains held in central pool as on 01.04.2015 was 343.15 lakh MT. The total stock of rice and wheat in the Central Pool during the year 2014-15 ranged from a peak of 622 lakh

MT on 01.06.2014 to a low of 348 lakh MT on 01.03.2015. Thus, on the overall, there is sufficient capacity for stocking the Central Pool foodgrains.

(c) For proper storage and management of foodgrains, the following steps are being taken:

1. 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.
2. Normal precautions like cleaning, proper stacking, spraying of insecticide, fumigation, pests control, inspection and surveillance are taken during storage to maintain quality of the foodgrains.
3. Augmenting of storage capacity by FCI.

Procurement of foodgrains by FCI

195. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI has reduced procurement of foodgrains in the recent past, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

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

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

(d) if so, the details of the names of such private parties, quantities and the rate at which they are procured, during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India (FCI) /State Agencies procure all the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) offered for sale at specified centers by the farmers. Under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) Scheme, State Governments themselves procure, store and distribute foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). If the stocks of the foodgrains procured by the State Government exceeds its allocation under TPDS and other Welfare Schemes, such excess stocks are taken by the Food Corporation of India (FCI). In Non-DCP States, FCI undertakes procurement of wheat or paddy as per plan prepared by the State Government and purchase centres assigned to FCI. In the case of paddy procured by the State Agencies in Non-DCP States, the rice derived from it is directly received by FCI only. Thus, with increase in the procurement of

wheat by the State Agencies and expansion of DCP Scheme, the level of procurement of wheat and rice by FCI has gradually reduced over a period. The details showing procurement of Rice and Wheat by FCI during the last two years and current year are given in the Statement-I & II respectively (*See below*).

(c) Government has a policy to allow private parties to procure the foodgrains for Central Pool. However, no procurement actually was carried out through any private party/agency for central pool during the last three years by FCI. Private traders/millers do procure wheat/paddy directly from the farmers for their own private trade/business.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

Procurement of rice by FCI during last two years and current year

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
1.	A.P.	54.79	29.47	12.46
2.	Telangana	-	32.10	3.61
3.	Assam	0.15	0.00	0.03
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.62	22.04	12.44
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	25.72	23.45	19.34
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.02	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Kerala	2.39	0.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0.20	0.01	0.00
14.	Maharashtra	1.60	1.32	0.57
15.	Odisha	0.34	0.04	6.35
16.	Punjab	83.22	80.65	68.21
17.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00

Sl. No.	States/UTs	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
18.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	22.04	11.07	15.27
20.	Uttarakhand	3.15	2.40	1.94
21.	West Bengal	5.28	0.17	0.16
	Others	0.13	0.12	0.10
	TOTAL	217.67	202.84	140.48

* KMS 2014-15 is under progress. Figures reported as on 15.04.2015.

Statement-II

Procurement of wheat by FCI during last two years and current year

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	RMS 2013-14	RMS 2014-15	RMS 2015-16*
1.	Punjab	19.40	18.38	0.00
2.	Haryana	7.25	8.00	0.00
3.	Uttar Pradesh	0.09	0.50	0.03
4.	Madhya Pradesh	-	0.00	0.00
5.	Bihar	-	-	0.00
6.	Rajasthan	12.13	8.40	0.09
7.	Uttarakhand	Neg.	0.00	0.00
8.	Chandigarh	0.08	0.05	0.01
9.	Delhi	Neg.	-	0.00
10.	Gujarat	Neg.		0.02
11.	Jharkhand			0.00
12.	Maharashtra			0.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh		Neg.	0.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir			0.00
15.	West Bengal			0.00
	TOTAL	38.95	35.33	0.15

* RMS 2015-16 is under progress. Figures reported as on 15.04.2015.

National Food Processing Policy

196. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a new integrated National Food Processing Policy, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government to reduce large scale wastage of perishable fruits and vegetables in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The growth of the food processing industries helps in minimizing wastages of agriculture produce, ensure better income for farmers, provide employment opportunities and enhancing value addition of the agriculture produce. For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, Government is implementing various Central Sector Schemes, namely (1) Scheme for Infrastructure Development for Food Processing having components of (i) Mega Food Parks (ii) Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure and (iii) Setting-up/Modernization of Abattoirs (subsumed in NMFP *w.e.f.* 01.04.2014); (2) Scheme of Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; (3) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities; (4) Scheme for Human Resource Development and (5) Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

During the Twelfth Five Year Plan the Government also launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) for implementation through the State Governments/Union Territories including in the Andhra Pradesh. 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 Centers/Collection Centers in Rural Areas (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops and (viii) Reefer Vehicles. State/Union Territory Governments were given the flexibility in selection of locations of projects as well as beneficiaries to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material for setting up food processing industries. However, NMFP has been delinked from Central Government support from the financial year 2015-16. The State Governments may decide to continue with the Mission out of their increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission.

Mega Food Parks Scheme

197. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched Mega Food Parks (MFPs) Scheme to create modern infrastructure facilities in the food processing sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the details of the mechanism put in place to monitor the functioning of such Parks across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mega Food Parks Scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agriculture production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the Scheme is to provide modern infrastructure facilities for the food processing along the value chain from the farm to the market with a cluster based approach based on a hub and spokes model. It includes creation of infrastructure for primary processing and storage near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centres (PPCs) and Collection Centres (CCs) and common facilities and enabling infrastructure like roads, electricity, water, ETP facilities etc. at Central Processing Centre (CPC). These PPCs and CCs act as aggregation and storage points to feed raw material to the food processing units located in the CPC. Food Processing being capital intensive activity, common facilities are created at CPC to be used by the processing units on hire basis. This helps in reducing the cost of individual units significantly and makes them more viable. The minimum land required for a Central Processing Centre in Mega Food Park is 50 acre and implementation period is 30 months. The scheme is demand-driven and would facilitate food processing units to meet environmental, safety and social standards. A cluster of 30-35 units is expected to come up in one Mega Food Park with an investment of about ₹ 250 Crore. It is likely to benefit about 6000 farmers/producers directly and 25000-30000 farmers indirectly. The financial assistance under the scheme is provided in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of eligible project cost in general areas and @ 75% of eligible project cost in NE Region and difficult areas (Hilly States and ITDP areas) subject to maximum of ₹ 50 crore per project.

(c) Functioning of Mega Food Parks is closely monitored by the Ministry through a well-established mechanism as per the scheme guidelines. This includes detailed scrutiny of the periodical progress reports of the project by the Programme Management Agency (PMA) and the Ministry, verification of the bills by the Project Management Consultant (PMC) before release of the funds from the bank account maintained for the purpose, site visits of the projects by the PMA and Ministry officers, periodic review meetings of the progress of the projects at the level of the senior officers and Minister in the Ministry etc. Ministry monitors each project very closely and regularly.

Budgetary allocation for food processing sector

†198. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to promote food processing industries in the country and whether sufficient policy and promotional measures are being taken in this direction, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that adequate budgetary allocation has not been made for the year 2015-16 for the food processing sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes, Sir. For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, Government is implementing various Central Sector Schemes, namely (1) Scheme for Infrastructure Development for Food Processing having components of (i) Mega Food Parks (ii) Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure and (iii) Setting-up/Modernization of Abattoirs (subsumed in NMFP *w.e.f.* 01.04.2014); (2) Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; (3) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities; (4) Scheme for Human Resource Development and (5) Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

During the Twelfth Five Year Plan the Government also launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) for implementation through the State Governments/Union Territories. The components of the NMFP are (i) Technology Upgradation/Setting up/Modernization of Food Processing Units; (ii) Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticulture Products; (iii) Setting-up/Modernisation of Abattoirs (*w.e.f.*

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

01.04.2014); (iv) Human Resource Development; (v) Promotional Activities; (vi) Creating Primary Processing Centers/Collection Centers in Rural Areas; (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops; and (viii) Reefer Vehicles. State/Union Territory Governments were given the flexibility in selection of locations of projects as well as beneficiaries to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material for setting up food processing industries. However, NMFP has been delinked from Central Government support from the financial year 2015-16. The State Governments may decide to continue with the Mission out of their increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.

(b) and (c) The Ministry sought a budgetary allocation of ₹ 1471.03 crore for the year 2015-16 against which an allocation of ₹ 487.00 crore only has been made for various schemes of the Ministry. The higher allocation could not be made due to resource constraints.

Allocation of investment in Mega Food Parks

199. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mega Food Parks that have been allocated, with details of each company or firm;

(b) the total estimated investment in these Mega Food Parks with Central grant and the costs to be incurred by food processing units; and

(c) by when these units are expected to be set up and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Ministry has accorded in-principle approval/final approval to 40 (Forty) Mega Food Parks (MFPs) in the country so far for creation of modern infrastructure for food processing industries. Details of these Projects including name of the company/firm/organization to which these Projects have been allocated are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The total estimated investment in these 40 Mega Food Park would be around ₹ 14794 crore including a Government grant of around ₹ 2000 crore and promoters' contribution of around ₹ 2794 crore as equity and loan. A cluster of 30-35 food processing units are expected to come up in each Mega Food Park with an estimated investment of about ₹ 250 crore. Implementation period of a Mega Food Park Project is 30 Months from the date of final approval for the Projects approved upto IV Phase of implementation of the scheme and 30 Months from the date of release of 1st Instalment for the Projects approved in V Phase, unless extended by the Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee (IMAC). The location of the 40 Mega Food Parks is given in Statement.

Statement*Details of 40 allocated Mega Food Park Projects*

Sl. No.	Name of SPV/Proposed SPV/Promoter Company	State	Location	Project Cost	Likely MoFPI Grant	(₹ in Crore)	
						Proposed investment by the promoters (Including Bank Loan)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC)	Andhra Pradesh	Thotapalli Village, Agiripalli Mandal, Krishna District	152.16	50	102.16	
2.	Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Mogili Village, Bangarupalem, Chittoor District	121.10	50	71.1	
3.	Godavari Mega Aqua Park Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Tundurru Village, Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District	122.60	50	72.6	
4.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd.	Assam	Nathkuchi village, Tihu, Nalbari District	75.98	50	25.98	
5.	Mums Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	Nava Nagar, Dstt: Rohtas District	136.98	50	86.98	
6.	Pristine Logistics and Infraprojects Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	Mansi Village, Khagaria District	127.60	50	77.6	

7.	JVL Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	Village Jorabarpur, Rohtas District	114.21	50	64.21
8.	Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	Village Sarora and Bemta, Tehsil Tildam, Raipur District	124.50	50	74.5
9.	Raipur Mega Food Park Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	Village Neonara, Tehsil Berla, Bemetara District	126.12	50	76.12
10.	Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd.	Gujarat	Mundra Village, Kutch District	168.60	50	118.6
11.	Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	Villages Jhahkharda, Shah and Vasravi, Mangrol Taluka, Surat District	117.87	50	67.87
12.	Fanidhar Mega Food Park Ltd.	Gujarat	Village Munderda, near Mehsana, Mehsana District	117.80	50	67.8
13.	Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited	Haryana	Industrial Estate at Barhi Sonepat District	164.33	50	114.33
14.	Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd. (earlier known as Poliyani Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.)	Himachal Pradesh	Village Singha, Tehsil Haroli, Una District	99.70	50	49.7
15.	RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	Industrial Growth Centre, Lassipora Village, Pulwama District	79.43	50	29.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Jharkhand	Getalsud Village, Ranchi District	114.74	50	64.74
17.	Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	Vasanta Narasapura Industrial Area, Tumkur District	144.33	50	94.33
18.	Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (KSIDC)	Kerala	Pallippuram, Cherthala, Alappuzha District	125.00	50	75
19.	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	Kerala	Elappully in District Palakkad	121.92	50	71.92
20.	RuchiAcroni Industries Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Binjana Village near Dewas District	150.37	50	100.37
21.	Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Panwa Village, Kasrawad Tehsil, Khargaoan District	127.70	50	77.7
22.	Jain Agro Trading Company Private Limited	Maharashtra	Village Sindhivihri, Tehsil-Karanja (G), District-Wardha	88.73	50	38.73
23.	Vinay Tiwari Agro Estates and Farms Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	Village Pimpri Gawali, Tal. Parner, District Ahmednagar	119.09	50	69.09
24.	Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd.	Maharashtra	Village Wahegaon and Dhangaon, Taluka: Paithan, Aurangabad District	124.56	50	74.56

25.	Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	Degaon Village, Satara District	139.33	50	89.33
26.	Zoram Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Mizoram	Khamrang Village, Aizwal District	71.91	50	21.91
27.	Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO)	Odisha	Deras Village, Khurda District	116.26	50	66.26
28.	MITTS Mega Food Park Ltd.	Odisha	Bhujbul and Sindhubadi Mouza, Rayagada District	80.17	50	30.17
29.	Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd.	Punjab	Lodhowal, Ludhiana District	136.00	50	86
30.	The Sukjhit Starch and Chemical Limited	Punjab	Rehana Jattan Village, Phagwara Tehsil, Kapurthala District	128.28	50	78.28
31.	International Mega Food Park Ltd.	Punjab	Dhabwala Kalan Village, Fazilka District	130.38	50	80.38
32.	Greentech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	Rupangarh Village, Ajmer District	113.57	50	63.57
33.	3F Industries Ltd.	Tamil Nadu	SIPCOT Industrial Complex, Bargur, Krishnagiri District	127.78	50	77.78
34.	Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (Telangana Division)	Telangana	Buggapadu Village, Sathupally Mandal, Khammam District	141.03	50	91.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Raaga Mayuri Agrovet Pvt. Ltd.	Telangana	Putandoddi Village, Irikyal Mandal, Mahbubnagar District	112.05	50	62.05
36.	Smart Agro Industries Corporation Pvt. Ltd.	Telangana	Village Lakkampally, NandipetMandal, Nizamabad District	116.44	50	66.44
37.	Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Tripura	Champamura and Tulakona Mouza Agartala, West Tripura District	87.45	50	37.45
38.	Patanjali Food and Herbal Park Pvt. Ltd.	Uttarakhand	Padartha Village, Haridwar District	95.08	50	45.08
39.	Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Uttarakhand	Mauha Kheraganj Village, Kashipur, Udam Singh Nagar District	99.96	50	49.96
40.	Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Ltd.	West Bengal	Mouza: Katnai and Kulori, Raghunathganj I Block, Subdivision Jangipur, Murshidabad District	132.71	50	82.71

Bifurcation of Supreme Court and setting up of more of its benches

200. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any initiatives have been taken towards bifurcation of the Supreme Court into cassation courts and constitutional courts as per the recommendations of the 229th report of the Law Commission, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether there have been any further consultations with the Supreme Court on the viability to set up regional benches of Supreme Court to increase the access of justice to people from different parts of the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) According to Article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

The Law Commission, in its 229th Report had suggested that a Constitutional Bench be set up at Delhi to deal with constitutional and other allied issues of national importance and four Cassation Benches be set up in the Northern region at Delhi, the Southern region at Chennai/Hyderabad, the Eastern region at Kolkata and the Western region at Mumbai to deal with all appellate work arising out of the orders/judgments of the High Courts of the particular region.

The matter of having Supreme Court Bench(es) in other parts of the country was taken up with the Supreme Court on various occasion in the past, the last being in 2010. However, the Supreme Court found no justification for setting up of Bench(es) of the Supreme Court outside Delhi.

New voting machines

201. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission proposes to install new voting machines in the country to enhance voters' secrecy;

(b) if so, the essential features of the new machines;

(c) whether voters will get print out of the votes cast by them; and

(d) by when these machines are proposed to be installed?

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

(a) to (d) The Election Commission has stated that a device called “Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)”, is attached with Electronic Voting Machine to generate a paper slip containing name, serial number and symbol of the chosen candidate. After field trials, it was first used in actual poll in September, 2013 in a bye-election to the Legislative Assembly of the State of Nagaland. Thereafter, VVPATs have been used in phased manner in selected constituencies during all General Elections to Legislative Assemblies and in eight Parliamentary Constituencies during General Election to Lok Sabha in 2014.

When the voter presses the button against the name of the candidate of his/her choice on the Ballot Unit, the VVPAT generates a paper slip, called Ballot Slip. This paper slip contains the name, serial number and symbol of the chosen candidate. The voter can see this slip through a screened window where it stays for seven seconds, and then it automatically gets cut and falls down in a sealed drop box. The Commission has proposed to use VVPAT in a phased manner in future elections after procuring the requisite number of such devices.

Repeal of obsolete laws

202. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accepted recommendations of the Fourth Law Commission for repealing 30 laws that are unconstitutional and whether any of these laws are presently being repealed by the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for repealing laws that were not approved by the Law Commission, law-wise, year-wise, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to enact an automatic repealing clause that repeals obsolete and archaic laws as recommended by the Select Committee; and

(d) if so, the details of the process for automatic repealing and reviewing of laws?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It seems that the Question relates to the recommendation made by the Law Commission in its 251st Report on the Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal (Fourth Interim Report), in which it recommended for repeal of 30 obsolete Acts. The said 30 Acts recommended for repeal have been categorized into two categories, *i.e.* (i) 28 Acts which are to be repealed by Parliament; and (ii) 2 Acts which are to be repealed by Parliament in consultation with the concerned

State Governments. Accordingly, letters dated 22nd November, 2014 have been issued to all Central Ministries/Departments and to the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments for their comments/views on enactments which will be taken-up for repeal by Parliament. Information in this regard is awaited from the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government as well as State Governments. None of the aforesaid enactments were included either in the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014 or in the Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2014.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The recommendation made by the Select Committee for inclusion of an automatic repeal clause has been examined by the Government with reference to the practice followed in United Kingdom and Australia. In the United Kingdom, all Appropriation Acts usually contain a repealing provision which specifically repeal older Appropriation Acts. In Australia, there is a comprehensive law, namely, the Legislation Act, 2001 which contains 302 sections and other Annexures which, *inter-alia*, deals with the “life cycle” of legislation, improving its structure and content and simplifying its provisions where practicable. Section 89 of the said Act deals with automatic repeal of certain laws and provisions and in its sub-section (2) it says that an Appropriation Act is automatically repealed on the last day of the financial year for which it makes appropriation. In brief, the Legislation Act, 2001 is a comprehensive legislation which deals with various aspects of legislation including interpretation of legislation. Accordingly, it has been decided to follow the repeal mechanism in vogue in United Kingdom to systematically repeal Appropriation Acts (on whose Appropriation Acts we model our own) usually two sessions in arrears. This will be in consonance with the recommendations of the Select Committee to have a repeal clause in the Appropriation Acts. However, such clause shall be provided when the enactment of the Appropriation Act, 2016 is undertaken where under the Appropriation Acts of 2013 shall be repealed.

Setting up of Fast Track Courts

203. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sent a proposal to 14th Finance Commission for a grant of ₹ 4150 crore for setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) in the country, if so, the details of the proposal;

(b) whether the Commission which was to submit its Report in October, 2014, has submitted the same; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the Commission with regard to FTCs?

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

(a) A proposal for establishing 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for a period of 5

years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore was made to the 14th Finance Commission, for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years.

(b) and (c) The Commission, in its report, has endorsed the proposal and urged State Governments to use additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

Disposal of law suits involving senior citizens

204. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the law suits relating to senior citizens pending in various lower and higher courts in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the steps taken by Government to expedite such cases;

(c) whether there is any provision which gives priority to the disposal of law suits involving senior citizens in the lower and higher courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps being taken by Government to bring such a provision in the near future?

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

(a) to (d) Record of law suits involving Senior Citizens is not maintained. In the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society, and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing them. Government has requested the State Governments and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to implement this decision.

The 14th Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore. The 14th Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

Court cases filed by Government

†205. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maximum number of court cases in the country are filed by Government itself and this is a major reason behind the extra burden of court cases on the judiciary and the unnecessary delay in judicial process;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for bringing reform in the National Litigation Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Sir, no specific data is maintained in the ministry. However the 10th Law Commission in its 100th Report titled “Litigation by and against the Government: Some Recommendations for Reform” observed that “a pretty bulk of litigation in the courts, including, in particular, writ petitions in the Supreme Court and the High Courts, consists of cases to which the Government is a party.” A National Litigation Policy 2010 was drafted based on the recognition that Government and its various agencies are the pre-dominant litigants in courts and Tribunals in the country. The said draft policy provided that Government must cease to be a compulsive litigant. The philosophy that matters should be left to the courts for ultimate decision has to be discarded. The easy approach, “Let the courts decide, must be eschewed and condemned.”

(c) and (d) The National Litigation Policy, 2010 is being reviewed and National Litigation Policy, 2015 is under consideration of the Government. All such efforts are aimed at minimizing litigation and thus bring down number of pending cases.

Setting up of more Rural Courts

206. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rural Courts set up across the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise, including Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) whether Government proposes to set up more such courts;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

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

(a) to (d) In terms of Section 3 (1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, it is for the State Governments to establish Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. As per information available, 194 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by 10 States which do not include Gujarat. Year-wise and State-wise details of Gram Nyayalayas notified during last three years are given below. No notification has been received this year.

Sl. No.	Name of State	2012	2013	2014
1.	Maharashtra	1	1	7
2.	Jharkhand	6	-	-
3.	Odisha	6	2	-
4.	Goa	2	-	-
5.	Punjab	-	2	-
6.	Haryana	-	2	-
7.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	12

The issues affecting operationalization of the Gram Nyayalayas were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on setting up Gram Nyayalayas in the Talukas where regular courts have not been set up.

Repealing of obsolete laws

207. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has repealed obsolete and old laws in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the laws repealed by Government since August, 2014;

(c) the number of laws still pending to be repealed; and

(d) whether Government is committed to implement the recommendations of Law Commission in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Review of all laws with a view to bring them in harmony with

the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by the different nodal Ministries/Departments of the Central Government administering their respective laws and generally by the Law Commission of India. The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 11th August, 2014. It proposes for repeal of 36 Acts and to amend two Acts to correct formal defects and patent errors detected therein. The said Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee which has submitted its Report on 19th December, 2014. The Committee has recommended that the Bill may be passed after omitting the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 from the Bill, since the Employment of Manual Scavenging and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 was enacted under article 252(1) of the Constitution. The said Bill has been considered and passed by Lok Sabha on 18th March, 2015 and the Bill is pending before Rajya Sabha.

The Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2014 which was introduced in Lok Sabha on 3rd December, 2014 proposes to repeal 90 obsolete amending Acts, which have become redundant. It also proposes to amend two Acts to correct formal defects or patent errors detected therein. The said Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on 8th December, 2014. When the said Bill came for consideration and passing in Rajya Sabha, the same was referred to Select Committee of Rajya Sabha for its examination and Report. The Select Committee has examined the said Bill and submitted its report on 24th February, 2015 and recommended for its enactment.

(c) The Commission on Review of Administrative Laws (P.C. Jain Commission) gave its Report in 1998 identifying large body of laws for the purposes of repeal. It has recommended the repeal of 700 Appropriation Acts passed by Parliament from time to time since 1950 as they are, in terms, temporary in nature. The Commission has recommended their repeal on the ground that these laws have become either irrelevant or dysfunctional. The proposal has been examined in the Legislative Department and legal opinion was also obtained from the Ld. Attorney General of India on the issue. Accordingly, a Note for the Cabinet along with the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015 has been prepared proposing to repeal 758 Appropriation Acts [including Appropriation (Railways) Acts] enacted by Parliament during the period 1950 to 2012 which include 111 State Appropriation Acts enacted during 1950 to 1976 when States were under President's Rule, which was approved by the Cabinet. The said Bill has been proposed for introduction in Parliament in the current session. A Two-member Committee was constituted by the Prime Minister's Office on 1st September, 2014 for review of repeal of obsolete laws. The said Committee has submitted its Report, which has been examined by the Legislative Department. Letters have been sent to

the concerned Ministries/Departments for their concurrence for repeal of 637 Acts. Letters are also to be issued to the States for repeal of obsolete Acts, which pertain to their States. The final decision will be taken only after receiving the comments from the Ministries/Departments and State Governments in this regard.

The Law Commission has recently submitted its 248th, 249th 250th and the 251st Reports on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal", in which it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively, including some State laws. The Legislative Department has examined the said Reports and letters have been issued to Ministries/Departments and the State Governments seeking their comments and also asking them to take necessary action. The replies are still awaited. The final decision will be taken only after receiving the comments from the Ministries/Departments and State Governments in this regard.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Government is committed to implement the recommendations of Law Commission with the concurrence of the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and State Government.

Implementation of National Litigation Policy

208. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government towards implementation of National Litigation Policy;

(b) the data pertaining to number of cases where Government is a litigant pending before different courts, Department-wise including duration of pendency and current stage of the cases;

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage settlement *via* ADR by Government Departments and the number of cases in which ADR has been resorted to by Government Departments;

(d) the number of cases where action has been taken by Government Departments during the notice period u/s 80 of CPC; and

(e) whether Government would create a comprehensive database on pendency of cases?

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.

Vacancies of judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court

†209. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the High Courts of States including the Supreme Court of the country where the posts of judges are lying vacant and the time since when these posts are lying vacant; and

(b) the time by when these posts are to be filled up and the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) The details showing the number of vacancies of Judges in the High Courts and the Supreme Court and the time; since the posts are lying vacant is given in the Statement (*See below*). Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a time consuming process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in the Judge strength of High Courts. However, with the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 on 13th April, 2015, the role of recommending appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts now rests with the Commission to ensure timely filling up vacancies.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies as on 15.04.2015	Year-wise vacancies remained up to 15.04.2015					
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A. Supreme Court of India		03	--	--	--	--	02	01
B. High Court								
1.	Allahabad	79	33	07	05	14	15	05
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	20	01	06	02	06	04	01
3.	Bombay	29	-	-	-	06	02	21
4.	Calcutta	P-13	-	-	01	03	07	02
5.	Chhattisgarh	12	02	01	01	02	02	04
6.	Delhi	19	-	01	03	01	14	-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Gauhati	07	-	-	-	03	03	01
8.	Gujarat	22	05	02	03	-	02	10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	06	-	-	-	-	06	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	07	-	-	01	03	03	-
11.	Jharkhand	11	-	02	02	01	06	-
12.	Karnataka	26	03	-	03	02	18	-
13.	Kerala	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	20	-	01	01	03	15	-
15.	Madras	20	-	03	04	06	05	02
16.	Manipur	01	-	-	-	01	-	-
17.	Meghalaya	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Odisha	06	-	-	-	-	04	02
19.	Patna	10	-	01	01	04	03	01
20.	Punjab and Haryana	30	-	-	-	04	23	03
21.	Rajasthan	21	-	-	05	03	12	01
22.	Sikkim	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Tripura	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.	Uttarakhand	05	-	-	-	01	04	-
TOTAL		364	44	24	32	63	148	53

Pending court cases

†210. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of pending cases in Supreme Court of India and which is the oldest case and how old;

(b) the total number of pending cases in all the High Courts of the country and the period of pendency of such cases;

(c) the total number of pending cases in the lower courts of the country and the period of pendency of such cases; and

(d) the total number of pending cases in all the courts and by when these backlog of cases will be disposed of under the promise of delivering fast track justice?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(a) to (d) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information furnished by Supreme Court, 61,081 cases were pending in Supreme Court as on 01.04.2015 and the oldest pending matter is C.A. No. 863/1971. As per information furnished by High Courts, 41.53 lakh cases were pending in High Courts as on 31.12.2014, out of them 8.14 lakh cases were 0-1 year old, 15.97 lakh cases were 1-5 years old, 9.65 lakh cases were 5-10 years old, and 7.77 lakh cases were more than 10 years old. In District and Subordinate Courts, 2.64 crore cases were pending as on 31.12.2014, out of them 83.30 lakh cases were 0-1 year old, 117.77 lakh cases were 1-5 years old, 43.42 lakh cases were 5-10 years old, and 20.39 lakh cases were more than 10 years old.

Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers 1 judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

Judges belonging to SC/ST category

†211. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the court-wise number of judges and Chief Justices working in the High Courts of the country along with the Apex court as on date; and

(b) the court-wise number of judges, out of them, belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and whether this number is adequate?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) The details showing the number of Judges and the Chief Justices working in the High Courts and the Supreme Court as on 15.04.2015 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

The relevant provisions of Constitution of India relating to appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data of Judges is maintained. However, the Government has requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and from amongst women.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of Judges working as on 15.04.2015
A. Supreme Court of India		28
B. High Court		
1.	Allahabad	81
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	29
3.	Bombay	65
4.	Calcutta	45
5.	Chhattisgarh	10
6.	Delhi	41
7.	Gauhati	17
8.	Gujarat*	30
9.	Himachal Pradesh	07
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10
11.	Jharkhand	14
12.	Karnataka	36
13.	Kerala	38
14.	Madhya Pradesh	33
15.	Madras	40
16.	Manipur	03
17.	Meghalaya	03
18.	Odisha*	21
19.	Patna	33
20.	Punjab and Haryana*	55
21.	Rajasthan	29
22.	Sikkim	03
23.	Tripura	04
24.	Uttarakhand	06
TOTAL		653

* Acting Chief Justice.

Introduction of train sets

212. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the recently announced plan to launch train sets without engines in the railway budget;
- (b) the details and status of implementation of Bullet trains in the country;
- (c) whether the plan to launch train sets is a substitution to launching Bullet trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the status of operationalizing train sets, cost associated with the technology as well as details of proposed feasibility studies and the pilot projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Train sets announced in Budget speech-2015-16 is proposed to run on existing track and having features of superior riding experience, lesser journey time, higher capacity and energy efficient.

(b) Indian Railways currently does not have any High Speed Corridor. The High Speed Corridors identified for Pre-feasibility/ feasibility studies include:-

- (i) Pune-Mumbai-Ahmedabad-650 km.
- (ii) Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-Patna-991 km.
- (iii) Howrah-Haldia- 135 km.
- (iv) Hyderabad-Dornakal-Vijaywada-Chennai-664 km.
- (v) Chennai-Bangalore-Coimbatore-Ernakulam-Thiruvananthapuram-850 km.
- (vi) Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar-450 km.
- (vii) Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur-591 km.
- (viii) Diamond Quadrilateral Network of High Speed Trains comprising of four sides i.e. Delhi-Mumbai, Mumbai-Chennai, Chennai-Kolkata, Kolkata-Delhi and both diagonals i.e. Delhi-Chennai and Mumbai-Kolkata. The total length of network will be approx. 10,000 km.

A joint feasibility study for Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed corridor co-financed by India and Japan, which started in December 2013, is targeted for completion in June 2015.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Cost of 15 Train sets is estimated to be 2500 Crore. Feasibility study of Train Sets was carried out by Additional Members-Committee of Railway Board, and after taking into account financial implications and technical issues, committee recommended to run two train sets on trial initially. Procurement action of Train Sets has already been initiated.

Bullet trains between Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Pune

213. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has requested for introduction of Bullet trains between Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Pune;

(b) whether it is also a fact that study conducted by Railways for connecting Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Pune with Bullet trains was completed in April, 2010;

(c) if so, the reasons for not starting the Bullet train, so far; and

(d) by when Government proposes to take up the said project and the likely time-frame for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Ahmedabad-Mumbai-Pune is one of the seven High Speed Corridors selected for prefeasibility studies in consultation with State Governments. One prefeasibility study for Ahmedabad-Mumbai-Pune has been completed in June, 2010.

Further, for Mumbai – Ahmedabad, a Joint feasibility study, co-financed by India and Japan, has been undertaken.

(c) and (d) The High Speed Train projects are highly capital intensive. No time frame can be fixed for the decision on sanction of the project and funding.

Railway schools in the country

214. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of railway schools in the country, including in Gujarat, particularly in Patan, Mehsana, Palanpur and Rajkot;

(b) whether some of these schools are facing acute shortage of teachers;

(c) if so, by when the vacant posts are likely to be filled up; and

(d) the action being taken by Railways to improve the quality of education in these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways is running 150 Railway schools in the country including 7 schools in Gujarat. There are no Railway schools at Patan, Mehsana, Palanpur and Rajkot.

(b) and (c) It is a matter of fact that certain vacancies of teachers do exist in Railway schools. However, occurrence of vacancies is a natural and continuous phenomenon for which indents are placed on Railway Recruitment Boards by the concerned Railways.

(d) To improve the quality of education in Railway schools, trainings are organized for Railway school teachers from time to time. Also, emphasis is laid on improving the infrastructure in Railway schools. Besides, engagement of contract teachers is allowed pending regular filling up of vacancies.

Instances of thefts and drugging of passengers in trains

215. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an increase in instances of thefts and drugging of passengers in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(c) the action Government is taking for safety of passengers and their baggage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of instances of drugging in trains has decreased in the year 2014 in comparison to the previous year. However, the number of instances of theft of personal belongings over Indian Railways has increased. The details of cases of theft and drugging in trains over Indian Railways during the last three years are as under:

Year	Number of cases of theft of personal belongings	Number of cases of drugging
2012	8225	652
2013	9191	473
2014	11460	437

(c) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments,

which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). However, Railway Protection Force supplements the efforts of the Government Railway Police by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.

The other steps taken by the Railways to improve safety of passengers and their baggage are as under:—

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.

Derailment of Dehradun-Varanasi Janta Express

216. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least 38 persons were killed and nearly 150 injured, when four coaches of Dehradun-Varanasi Janta Express derailed in Raebareli District of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have ordered any probe into this train accident; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) On 20.03.2015 at about 09.10 hours, while the train No.14266 Dehradun-Varanasi Express was being received in line No. 1 (Loop Line) at Bachhrawan station on Lucknow-Rae Bareli single line non-electrified section of Lucknow Division for its scheduled stoppage, the Loco Pilot of the train engine overshot the Signal and entered into the sand hump causing derailment of train engine and two coaches including second class-cum-luggage coach. In this unfortunate accident, 39 passengers lost their lives, 24 passengers suffered grievous injuries and 14 passengers suffered simple injuries.

(c) and (d) Statutory inquiry into the above accident is being conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety/South Central Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Commissioner of Railway Safety/South Central Circle, in his provisional findings has observed that the derailment was caused due to the failure of Train No. 14266 Dn. Express to stop at the starter signal on the Loop Line which was 'RED'. The train could not be controlled on account of non-functioning of train brakes from the locomotive due to discontinuity of brake pipe pressure between the train engine and the trailing load of passenger coaches. The accident has been classified under the category of 'Error in Train working'.

Imposition of fine for littering

217. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have taken a decision to impose a fine of ₹ 5000 on anyone found littering or defecating on and along the railway tracks and platforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that those residing along the tracks and disposing waste on railway property would also be fined; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that if the waste is found lying in front on any house adjoining the tracks, the fine would be recovered from the occupant of the property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Indian Railways (Penalties of Activities Affecting Cleanliness at Railway Premises) Rules, 2012 under the Railways Act, 1989 have been notified under a Gazette Notification to penalize persons affecting cleanliness and hygiene at railway premises including platforms, railway tracks and other property belonging to railways, with fines not exceeding ₹ 500/-. The purpose of levying fines is to reduce the activities affecting cleanliness and hygiene at railway premises.

Express trains between Kasganj and Bareilly

218. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when Express trains are not operating on the railway tracks between Kasganj and Bareilly, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that several trains were announced to be introduced on this Section in previous Railway Budgets;

(c) whether it is also a fact that those trains have not been introduced so far; and

(d) the action being taken against those responsible for this undue delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Operation of train services on Kasganj-Bareilly section has been discontinued since 01.01.2014 due to Gauge conversion works on the Ramganga-Badaun-Kasganj section.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Gauge conversion of Kasganj-Bareilly section got delayed due to inadequate fund allotment in the previous years. Now the section has been completed and opened to goods traffic. Passenger/Express trains can be started after the statutory inspection and authorization by Commissioner of Railway Safety. Question of taking action does not arise.

Measures to reduce power bill

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in 2013-14 Railways have paid a bill of around ₹ 10,000 crore for consuming 15,170 million units of power;

(b) whether it is also a fact that apart from this, Railways have paid ₹ 22,000 crore for diesel;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Railways are taking various measures to reduce the power bill; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Indian Railways (IR) have paid energy bill of ₹ 10,996.5 crore (approximately) for consumption of about 16,903 (million/units) of electricity for traction and non-traction purposes and also paid ₹ 19,496.64 crore (approximately) for consumption of diesel during the year 2013-14.

(d) and (e) Indian Railways (IR) proposes to procure power through the bidding system from eligible entities, source power from captive plant and adopt energy conservation measures to rationalize power bill.

**Videography of passengers on sensitive
routes during boarding**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways will videograph passengers on sensitive routes during boarding and has already begun to do so in some places;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to set up a commando training centre for Railway Protection Force personnel to be deployed on Maoist affected routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Video coverage of general coaches of important Mail and Express trains at important railway stations on routes prone to passenger crime is being done.

(c) and (d) With a view to develop inhouse commando training facility for Railway Protection Force personnel, a commando Training Centre has been sanctioned for RPF at Canning under Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway in Works Programme 2010-11.

Incomplete railway projects

221. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number along with the details of incomplete railway projects in the country which have been pending for more than five years;

(b) whether Government has taken any fresh measures to expedite the process of their completion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bibek Debroy Committee report

†222. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government in view of the Bibek Debroy Committee suggestions for time-bound sweeping changes in railway management, including bringing liberalization and not privatization in Railways in two years and restructuring and decentralization of Railway Board within two years as well;

(b) the way Government would take in stipulated time, the major steps suggested to be taken in this report during two years, three years, five years and seven years, respectively; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by the Ministry with regard to the recommendations contained in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Committee for Mobilisation of Resources for Major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy had submitted its interim report in March, 2015. The Interim Report has been uploaded on website www.indianrailways.gov.in for inviting suggestions from various stakeholders. Indian Railways will take suitable action on the recommendations on submission of the Final Report of the committee due to be submitted in August 2015.

IRCTC to emulate online shopping portals

223. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCTC accounts for almost 40 per cent of the country's online travel;

(b) whether it is also a fact that IRCTC may emulate online shopping portals to grow;

(c) whether IRCTC is considering to hire a consultant to help it assess and increase its valuation;

(d) whether it is also a fact that IRCTC is considering for public listing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Online booking of Railway tickets through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) comprised of about 46 per cent of total reserved Railway tickets booked during Financial Year 2014-15.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) IRCTC has tied up with M/s Amazon Seller Services Pvt. Ltd for its Co-branded online shopping portal, wherein users can do online shopping.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) At present, there is no proposal for Public listing of IRCTC.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation of stalls and telephone booths

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

(a) whether applications regarding allocation of stalls and telephone booths at stations in Maharashtra and other States are under consideration as on date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, especially in backward and tribal areas;

(c) the up-to-date status of these proposals; and

(d) by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) As per Catering Policy 2010, whenever there is a requirement of additional catering/vending facilities at any railway station, zonal railways award the same (depending upon the category of stations and nature of units), by calling application/inviting tender through press notification based on the eligibility criteria and merits of the applicants. Stations are categorized as per earning and not as backward and tribal areas. At present, no application regarding allocation of telephone booths at stations in Maharashtra and other states are under consideration.

Railway line project on Kichha-Khatima section

225. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of new railway line project on Kichha-Khatima section along with the reasons for inordinate delay in starting the construction work thereon, which was sanctioned in the year 2003-04;

(b) the details of steps taken/being taken by Railways to expedite the land acquisition process for the purpose with Government of Uttarakhand; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the status of gauge conversion work on Tanakpur-Pilibhit section along with the details of funds allocated/spent thereon, so far, and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Kichha-Khatima new line project was sanctioned with a commitment from Government of Uttarakhand to provide land free of cost. Subsequently, State Government did not agree to provide land free of cost. Further, Uttarakhand Government has proposed a change in alignment between Lalkuan and Khatima. All details about the proposed new alignment have been made available to the State Government. The project could not be taken forward due to absence of response from the State Government.

(c) Tanakpur-Pilibhit gauge conversion is a part of Tanakpur-Pilibhit-Bhojipura project. An expenditure of ₹ 95 crore has been incurred up to March, 2015 and, an outlay of ₹ 30 crore has been provided in the Budget 2015-16. On this section, earthwork, blanketing, bridges work, ballast supply, S&T works, etc. have been taken up. No time frame has been fixed for completion of this project.

Sharing the cost of projects by Maharashtra

226. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has taken a decision to share 40 to 50 per cent cost of certain railway projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details of these railway projects;

(c) the number of these projects sanctioned by Railways;

(d) the amount of funds provided with targets set for completion of these projects;

(e) the number of projects yet to be sanctioned; and

(f) the reasons for delay in sanctioning of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has proposed to share 40/50% cost in respect of following projects:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Plan Head	Cost sharing agreed by Govt. of Maharashtra
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath (250 km.)	New Line	50%
2.	Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km.)	New Line	40%
3.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (50 km.)	New Line	50%
4.	Karad-Chiplun (112 km.)	New Line	50%
5.	Nagpur-Nagbhir (106 km.)	Gauge Conversion	50%
6.	Manmad-Indore (339 km.)	New Line	50%
7.	Pune-Nasik (266 km.)	New Line	50%
8.	Gadchandur-Adilabad (70 km.)	New Line	50%

(c) Three New Line projects viz. Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath, Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal-Pusood and Wadsa-Gadchiroli have been sanctioned. Nagpur-Nagbhir Gauge Conversion and Karad-Chiplun New Line projects have been included in Budget in 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively subject to requisite approvals.

(d) Total amount provided in 2015-16 for the three sanctioned projects is ₹ 359 crore. Allocation of funds to New Line projects is made on year to year basis depending upon overall availability of funds, relative priority, status of land acquisition and other clearances, stages of projects etc. Due to large shelf of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for New Line projects and factors such as land acquisition/forestry clearances/law and order beyond the control of Railways, no time limits can be fixed for completion of these projects.

(e) and (f) Manmad-Indore, Pune-Nasik and Gadchandur-Adilabad new line projects could not be taken forward due to their unremunerative nature (even after cost sharing by State Government), huge throw forward of ongoing projects and limited availability of resources for new line projects. Since original surveys of Manmad-Indore and Pune-Nasik new lines were 4 to 5 years old, fresh survey for these two lines have been included in Budget 2015-16 and taken up.

Improving the functioning and performance of Railways

227. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Committees, one headed by Shri E. Sreedharan and another by Dr. Bibek Debroy, have made some important suggestions to improve the functioning and performance of Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

The Committee headed by Dr. E. Sreedharan has submitted its final report on 11.03.15 for delegation of tendering and commercial powers to General Managers and other operating levels.

The Committee headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy on Mobilisation of Resources for Major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board has submitted its Interim Report in March 2015 containing, *inter-alia*, recommendations on improving the functioning and performance of Railways.

(b) The Final Report of Committee of Dr. E. Sreedharan has been submitted on 11.03.15, which has recommendation for total delegation of powers to General Managers and operating level for calling tenders and finalization of all types of contracts with checks and balances. A Sub-Committee has been set up to evaluate the recommendations and suggesting a framework for implementation sequence duly taking into account the practical aspects.

The Interim Report of Dr. Bibek Debroy Committee includes recommendations on separation of Policy-making, Regulation and Operations, setting up of a Railway Regulatory Authority of India (RRAI), unbundling of Indian Railways into two independent organisations one responsible for Track and Infrastructure and the other for operating trains, private participation in running freight/passenger trains and in various railway infrastructure services and non-core activities like production & construction, merger of Railway budget with the General budget in a phased manner, bringing existing Production Units under a Government SPV under Ministry of Railways, reorganisation of the various organised Services and on decentralisation & delegation of powers. The Interim Report is at the stage of feedback/comments of stakeholders before submission of the final report in August 2015.

Introduction of superfast trains

228. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Telangana has requested for introduction of superfast trains from Hyderabad to Madurai *via* Tirupati, Secunderabad to Mahaboobnagar, Hyderabad to Bhadrachalam Road, Secunderabad to Nalgonda, Secunderabad to Goa, and Hyderabad to Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Railways thereon, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. Introduction of trains is an on-going process on Indian Railways, subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources, etc.

**Partnership of Railways with State Governments
for railway projects**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many State Governments have shown keen interest to enter into a partnership with Railways for speedy implementation of railway projects falling in their State, which had failed to take off;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have decided to establish joint venture companies with State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. 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 responded showing their interest in this regard.

FDI in railways

230. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the total amount of money expected to flow in;

(c) whether Government has decided to take loan from Provident Fund of the railway employees and repay them in due course, for funding certain viable projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government in August, 2014 had permitted 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction, operation and maintenance in certain identified areas. FDI policy is an enabling provision and precise FDI flow can not be estimated at this stage. At present Request for Proposal (RFP) for two locomotives factories at Madhepura and Marhowra, open for FDI, have been issued.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Share of West Bengal in Railway Budget

231. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal has got the minimum share in Railway Budget 2015-16 in comparison to the last five years;

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

(c) the number of railway stations being upgraded in West Bengal in 2015-16; and

(d) the details of amount sanctioned for such stations, station-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Gauge conversion work in Tamil Nadu

232. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to undertake gauge conversion work in Tamil Nadu under PPP mode; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Scrapping of routes/sections identified for bullet,
high-speed and semi-high-speed trains**

233. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the routes/sections identified for introducing the Bullet trains, High-speed trains or Semi-high-speed trains have been scrapped due to non-feasibility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of all the routes identified for introducing the said trains and their status of progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present position of prefeasibility studies for High Speed Trains is as under:—

- (i) Pune-Mumbai-Ahmedabad (650 km.)—Study Completed.
- (ii) Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi-Patna (991 km.)—Final Report submitted.
- (iii) Howrah-Haldia (135 km.)—Final Report submitted.
- (iv) Hyderabad-Dornakal-Vijaywada-Chennai (664 km.)—Draft Final Report Submitted.
- (v) Chennai-Bangalore-Coimbatore-Ernakulam-Thiruvananthapuram (850 km.)—Draft Final Report Submitted.
- (vi) Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar (450 km.)—Interim Report submitted.
- (vii) Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur (591 km.)—Study not yet initiated.

In addition to the above, Diamond Quadrilateral Network of High Speed Rail connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have also been identified for feasibility studies.

As regards Semi High Speed Trains, the routes and status are as under:

Delhi-Agra: Works of increasing speed to 160 kmph have been completed and necessary approvals have been processed.

Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysore—feasibility study is in progress and targeted for completion in June 2015.

New Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi-Kanpur, Nagpur-Bilaspur, Mumbai-Goa, Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Chennai-Hyderabad and Nagpur-Secunderabad—Required inputs for raising speed have been identified.

Investment through MoU

234. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) providing for investments to the tune of ₹ 30,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to raise ₹ 17,655 crore through extra budgetary resources during 2015-16; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Railways has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on 11th March 2015 whereby LIC has agreed to provide funding assistance to the tune of ₹ 1,50,000 crore over a five year period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 for financing Railway projects.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Railway Budget 2015-16 envisages raising Extra Budgetary Resources to the tune of ₹ 40,572 crore, out of which ₹ 17,655 crore is market borrowing through Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (₹ 17,276 crore to finance acquisition of railway rolling stock and ₹ 379 crore for railway projects being executed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited).

Decongesting the high-density railway networks

235. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is considering to utilize the funds raised through extra-budgetary resources for decongesting the high-density railway networks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is considering to double the extra-budgetary resources in the next financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Railway Budget for 2015-16

envisages raising of funds for Plan financing through Extra Budgetary Resources to the extent of ₹ 40,572 cr. These funds are meant for all major projects including those on the High Density network routes. The details are:

(₹ in crore)

Category of Works	Total
New Lines	4085.90
Gauge Conversion	2143.61
Doubling	11306.61
Traffic Facilities.	1099.00
Others	21936.88
TOTAL	40572.00

(c) and (d) No firm amount has been decided as requirement and availability of resources will be decided at the time of making budget for 2016-17.

Launching of prepaid debit card RuPay

236. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have launched a RuPay prepaid debit card in collaboration with Union Bank of India and the National Payments Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to partner with banks to promote passengers' interest in many ways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) has launched co-branded prepaid card with Union Bank of India on RuPay platform on 24th March, 2015. The card has been developed jointly by IRCTC, Union Bank of India and National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI). The salient features of the card are as under:

1. It is not a debit card.
2. At present, the card can be used for online ticketing.
3. There are two types of card and the fees charged to the customer are:
 - (a) Physical card: ₹ 50/- per card.

- (b) Virtual card: NIL
- (c) During first six months of the launch of the card, ₹ 10/- plus taxes per transaction after first five transactions per card per month is charged.
- (d) After six months of the launch of the card, ₹ 10/- plus taxes per transaction is charged.

Leveraging new technologies and methods for the benefit of passengers is a continuous process.

Assurance to National Green Tribunal from Railways

237. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have assured the National Green Tribunal that railway tracks and platforms have improved and would be improved further;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to erect boundary wall along tracks by 31st March, 2018 in certain sectors; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In compliance with the directions of National Green Tribunal (NGT) following action have been initiated:

- (i) Rag picking contracts have been given for picking up garbage from tracks in Delhi National Capital Region.
- (ii) Joint survey at 46 sites in Delhi area has been conducted along with New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) and East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and dustbins have been placed at 26 sites.
- (iii) 03 mobile toilets have been provided by Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) at Azadpur near G.T. Karnal Road, Kabir Nagar and Chandra Shekhar Azad Colony.
- (iv) Survey of encroachment in safety zone initiated in Azadpur and Dayabasti area in 7 km stretch for removal of encroachments.

(c) and (d) As per directions of NGT, decision has been taken to erect boundary wall after removal of encroachments.

Model concession agreement for BOT

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have finalized a first of its kind Model Concession Agreement for Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) projects to be funded under the PPP scheme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Agreement guarantees eighty per cent return to the private investors of the projected revenue irrespective of the actual return from the project;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have also taken care of the inflationary risk by increasing the returns by five to six per cent every year depending upon the inflation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have issued Model Concession Agreement for Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) model. Under this model, project will be bid out through competitive bidding to the private concessionaire who will Design, Build, Finance, Construct and Maintain the project. Indian Railways will pay user charges to the concessionaire equal to 50% of the apportioned revenue. The normal concession period will be for 25 years.

(b) A minimum of eighty per cent of the projected revenue has been guaranteed under this model.

(c) and (d) Model Concession Agreement provides for escalation of base tariff linked with Wholesale Price Index (WPI) during the concession period, to take care of the inflationary risk.

Muslim sufi circuit for tourism

239. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1940 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th July, 2014 and state:

(a) the progress made in introducing Muslim/Sufi circuit for railway tourism, so far; and

(b) by when it will become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) had proposed to develop Muslim/Sufi circuit subject to market potential, financial viability, operational feasibility etc. as mentioned in reply to Parliament Question No.1940 answered in the Rajya Sabha on 25.07.2014. However, IRCTC could not make any progress due to lack of market demand and financial viability etc. However, a few trains have been run to Ajmer which is an area of interest for followers of Sufism/Islam, in addition to other religions.

Derailment of Bengaluru-Ernakulam Express

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bengaluru-Ernakulam Express had derailed near Anekal on 13th February, 2015;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of people died and injured in this accident;

(d) whether Government has received the investigation report regarding this incident;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to check the occurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) On 13.02.2015 at 07.40 hrs., while the train No. 12677 Up Bangalore-Ernakulam Intercity Express was on run between Anekal Road and Hosur Stations on Broad Gauge Single Line Non-electrified Bangalore-Salem Section of Bangalore Division of South Western Railway, its leading locomotive and 10 coaches derailed. In this unfortunate accident, 09 passengers lost their lives, 10 passengers suffered grievous injuries and 10 passengers sustained simple injuries. As per the preliminary inquiry report of Commissioner of Railway Safety/Southern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, this accident was caused due to rail fracture.

(d) and (e) Preliminary Report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety/Southern Circle on the above accident has been received. Commissioner of Railway Safety/Southern Circle, in his provisional findings has observed that the derailment of train No. 12677 Up Bangalore-Ernakulam Intercity Express was caused due to rail fracture

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and this accident has been classified under the category of 'Failure of Equipment –Rail Failure'.

(f) Measures being taken by the Indian Railways to prevent derailments of trains include the following:

- Upgradation of Track Structure consisting of Pre Stressed Concrete (PSC) sleepers, 52 kg/60 kg, high strength (90kg/mm² ultimate tensile strength) rails on concrete sleepers, fan-shaped layout on PSC sleepers, Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges adopted on most of the routes.
- Track structure is being standardized with 60 kg rails and PSC sleepers on all the Broad Gauge routes, especially on high density routes to reduce fatigue of rails under higher axle-load traffic.
- New construction and replacement is done with PSC sleepers only.
- Long rail panels of 260 Meters/130 Meters length are being manufactured at the steel plants to minimize number of welded joints.
- Reduction in Thermit welded joints on rails; use of Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing (SPURT) Cars for Rail flaw detection.
- All rails and welds are ultrasonically tested as per laid down periodicity.
- Progressive shifting to flash butt welding which is superior in quality compared to Alumino Thermit (AT) welding.
- Progressive use of modern track maintenance machines viz. Tie Tamping, Ballast Cleaning Machines, Track Recording Cars, Digital Ultrasonic Flaw Detectors, Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars, etc.
- Electronic monitoring of track geometry is carried out to detect defects and plan maintenance.
- Modern Bridge inspection techniques for determining health of the bridges.
- Introduction of Wheel Impact Load Detector (WILD).
- Regular patrolling of railway tracks at vulnerable locations including night patrolling and intensifying patrolling during foggy weather.
- To minimize effects of accidents, coaches with Centre Buffer Couplers are being manufactured with anti-climbing features.

Derailment of Janta Express in Raebareli District

241. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the derailment of Janta Express in Raebareli district recently, which killed more than 38 people, could be an act of sabotage;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Northern Railway has given clean chit to its driver who was piloting the train at the time of mishap; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) On 20.03.2015 at about 09.10 hours, while the train No.14266 Dehradun-Varanasi Express was being received in line No. 1 (Loop Line) at Bachhrawan station on Lucknow-Rae Bareli single line non-electrified section of Lucknow Division for its scheduled stoppage, the Loco Pilot of the train engine overshot the Signal and entered into the sand hump causing derailment of train engine and two coaches including second class-cum-luggage coach. In this unfortunate accident, 39 passengers lost their lives, 24 passengers suffered grievous injuries and 14 passengers suffered simple injuries. As per the Preliminary Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety/South Central Circle, act of sabotage could not be ascertained at this stage behind this accident.

(b) and (c) Statutory inquiry into the above accident is being conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, in his provisional findings has observed that the derailment was caused due to the failure of Train No. 14266 Dn. Express to stop at the starter signal on the Loop Line which was 'RED'. The train could not be controlled on account of non-functioning of train brakes from the locomotive due to discontinuity of brake pipe pressure between the train engine and the trailing load of passenger coaches. The accident has been classified under the category of 'Error in Train working'.

Change in accounting system of Railways

242. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are looking to move towards an accrual based system of accounting from the current cash flow mechanism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are tying up with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India to implement the project in some smaller divisions as a pilot project; and

(d) whether the new system will throw greater light on the organization's finances as it will also cover assets and liabilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Cash based accounting system presently being

followed in the Railways is as prescribed by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) and Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG). However, Railways are preparing to introduce accrual based system as per guidelines of Government Accounting Standards Advisory Board (GASAB) alongside existing cash based accounting.

(c) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have engaged Accounting Research Foundation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAI-ARF) to conduct a pilot study for introduction of accrual based commercial accounting at Ajmer division and Ajmer group of workshops on North Western Railway.

(d) Indian Railways depicts its finances including assets and liabilities through Appropriation Accounts, which are audited by C&AG and submitted to Parliament. The accrual accounting system, however, will further improve standards of accounting and financial reporting.

SPV for various railway projects

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

(a) whether it is a fact that only few States hold equity stakes in a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) created way back in 2003 to build port connectivity projects and railway lines to connect mines and industrial hubs to the existing network;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many projects languish because acquiring land has become an arduous task;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States do not cooperate in releasing land, leading to delays in constructing under and over-bridges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the Special Purpose Vehicle created in 2003 viz. Hassan Mangalore Rail Development Company Ltd. (HMRDC) for facilitating the traffic to and from Mangalore Port, only Government of Karnataka has equity stake.

(b) Yes, Sir. Several projects are affected by delay in land acquisition by State Governments. The delays are due to several reasons including land acquisition proceedings, litigation, transfer of forest land involving clearances and non-availability of proper revenue records.

(c) and (d) Railway undertakes the construction of Railway portion of Road Over Bridge/Road Under Bridge (ROB/RUB). The approaches are constructed by State Governments for which they acquire the land at their cost. Thus releasing of land by State Governments to Railways is not required.

Uncleanliness at railway stations

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of various measures taken by Railways, the railway stations remain unclean or dirty all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed responsibility on Zonal Railway managers in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Cleanliness has improved in the railway stations. However, improvement in cleanliness is a continuous process. Efforts are being made to ensure proper cleanliness at railway stations. Regular checks are also conducted at officers/supervisors levels and corrective action is taken wherever any deficiency is noticed.

(c) and (d) The overall responsibility of ensuring cleanliness at stations is with the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of each Division. General Managers/Additional General Managers ensure that proper cleanliness of stations are maintained on the Zonal Railway.

Model concession agreement through PPP model

245. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive Model Concession Agreement for the projects which are to be executed through PPP model;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. After the policy of participative models was launched in December 2012, Model Concession Agreements (MCA) for three models Private line model, Joint Venture model and Build Operate Transfer (BOT) model have been issued to facilitate the investments. These agreements provide a detailed framework for encouraging PPP in building rail lines.

Non-Government Private Line Model: This model provides for augmenting first and last mile connectivity to ports, cluster of industries, logistic parks and large mines which are handling goods for multiple consignors or consignees. Cost of providing such connectivity will be borne by owner/developer. Indian Railways will pay user fee for usage of such infrastructure equal to 95% of the apportioned revenue.

Joint Venture model: In this model, bankable new line and gauge conversion projects can be undertaken with identifiable stakeholders *i.e.* user of lines or utilities such as ports, mines, exporters, plants and State Governments. Indian Railway or its Public Sector Unit will hold minimum 26% equity in such joint venture. Indian Railway will pay user charges to the Joint Venture equal to 50% of the apportioned revenue. The normal concession period is 30 years.

Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) model: Ministry of Railways have issued Model Concession Agreement for Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) model. Under this model, project will be bid out through competitive bidding to the private concessionaire who will Design, Build, Finance, Construct and Maintain the project. Indian Railways will pay user charges to the concessionaire equal to 50% of the apportioned revenue. The normal concession period will be for 25 years.

(c) Does not arise.

Journey by railway saloon

246. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3142 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2014 and state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the media report in a Hindi fortnightly magazine, published in its 16-30 November, 2014 issue (Page 08), that railway officials and Minister of State, Railways have performed unofficial and unauthorized journeys by railway saloons in 2014;

(b) if so, the basis and reasons for denial of information; and

(c) if no unauthorised and unofficial journey has been performed by the MoS and officials of Railways, the details of action taken by Railways, against the magazine for false reporting so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Media report was collected after the receipt of the question. Ministry has no such information regarding misuse of railway saloon for journeys performed by railway officials and Minister of State for Railways.

Procurement in railways

247. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Shri E. Sreedharan in his latest report has stated that if procurement is decentralized, Railways could save ₹ 10,000 crore annually;
- (b) if so, the action Government proposes to take on the said report;
- (c) whether there is rampant corruption in procurement of items in Railways;
- (d) if so, the measures taken to eradicate corruption in railway procurements; and
- (e) the procurement policy of Government of India and the reasons for not following the Government's procurement policy by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Shri E. Sreedharan after scrutinizing current practices and procedures followed at the Board concludes that improving and decentralizing the system with empowerment and accountability shall effect annual economy to the tune of Rupees five thousand crore in stores procurement and equal amount in works contracts.

(b) The Final Report of the Committee has been submitted on 11.03.2015. A Sub-Committee has been set up to evaluate the recommendations and suggest a framework for implementation sequence duly taking into account the practical aspects.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise. However, Railway has already implemented e-procurement system for its procurement activities ensuring total transparency at all the stages. Vigilance Organisation also exists at the levels of Zonal Railway/Production Unit as well as Railway Board, to take necessary measures in this regard, as and when required.

(e) The procurement policy of the Government of India is followed by Railways.

Illegal encroachment of railway land

248. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway land measuring about 1000 hectares is under illegal encroachment in various parts of the country including Delhi, if so, the details of such land under encroachment in Delhi;

(b) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational and other problems, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Railways thereto;

(c) the measures taken by Railways to remove encroachments; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to allot railway land to disabled persons for commercial purposes to enable them to earn their livelihood and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) About 930 hectares of railway land which constitutes only 0.20% of the total railway land is under encroachment in various parts of the country including Delhi. In Delhi, 59.88 hectares of railway land is under encroachment.

(b) and (c) At certain locations, encroachments cause bottlenecks and safety hazards in train operations and difficulties in track maintenance. Encroachments are also a nuisance to travelling public besides a bottleneck to create new infrastructure.

Railways carry out regular surveys of encroachment and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters, the same got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPE Act, 1971) as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and Police. During last three years about 70.38 hectares of encroached land has been retrieved.

(d) The vacant Railway land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs, is entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), in interim period, for commercial development wherever feasible through transparent open competitive bidding process in which disabled persons among others can also participate.

Increasing the number of coaches in trains

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

(a) whether Government proposes to increase the number of coaches in trains from the existing 24 to 26; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to provide more accommodation to the travelling passengers, augmentation of load of identified trains from 24 coaches to 26 coaches has been announced in Railway Budget 2015-16.

Railway line between Peddapalli and Nizamabad

250. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of railway line between Peddapalli and Nizamabad in Telangana;

(b) by when it is likely to be completed;

(c) the initial and present estimated cost of this project; and

(d) The allocation made to this project since its conception, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The project for constructing a new line between Peddapalli and Nizamabad (178 Km) was sanctioned in the year 1993 at an estimated cost of ₹ 316 crore. The latest anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 926 crore and an expenditure of ₹ 725 crore has been incurred upto March 2015. The section between Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Jagityal-Metpalli (113 Km) has been commissioned. Track linking for the sections between Metpalli-Morthad-Armor (38 Km) has been completed. Land acquisition for the remaining section between Armoor and Nizamabad (27 Km) has been taken up with State Government. No target date has been fixed for completion of the balance section between Armoor and Nizamabad (27 Km). Budget allotment for this project since its conception including 2015-16 is as below:

Year	Final Allotment (in ₹ crore)
Upto 2003-04	87.597
2004-05	24.35
2005-06	27.33
2006-07	75.28
2007-08	41.78
2008-09	43.45
2009-10	43.24
2010-11	119.59
2011-12	81.04
2012-13	48.50
2013-14	62.59
2014-15	41.61
2015-16	141

Splitting of SCR zonal office in Secunderabad

251. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when splitting of SCR zonal office in Secunderabad will be finalized and the target date for the division between the proposed zones;

(b) the total number of employees under different categories at present in SCR Secunderabad zone and the number of employees that will be allotted to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the composition of the Committee which studied the issues and the nature of recommendations made by it in the above matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) As per Item 8 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, Ministry of Railways was required to examine establishing a new Railway zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh and to take expeditious action thereon.

To, *inter-alia*, examine the feasibility of creation of the new Railway zone, a Committee comprising of the following officers from Railway Board, South Central Railway and East Coast Railway had been constituted by the Ministry of Railways:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| (i) Exe. Director (Planning), Railway Board | - Convenor |
| (ii) Exe. Director /CE(G), Railway Board | - Member |
| (iii) Exe. Director/ME (Infra). Railway Board | - Member |
| (iv) CE (P&D), South Central Railway | - Member |
| (v) CME(Planning)/South Central Railway | - Member |
| (vi) Chief Transportation Planning Manager
(CTPM), East Coast Railway | - Member |
| (vii) Chief General Engineer (CGE), East Coast Railway | - Member |

Before taking a decision on the Report of the Committee, the Ministry of Railway has asked the Committee to consult the various stake holders also, which include the Hon'ble Members of Parliament, State Governments, etc. Action has been initiated by the Committee in this regard.

The details of regular employees from Group 'A' to erstwhile Group 'D' category in South Central Railway Zone as on 01.04.2014, are given below:

Category	Regular employees
Group A&B	1033
Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D'	88575

Train accident involving lion cubs

252. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a goods train crushed three lion cubs in Gujarat recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the accidents; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An incident of run over of three lion cubs by Goods Train occurred at about 18.55 hours on 08.04.2015 between Rajula City-Pipavav on Pipavav Railway Construction Limited Broad Gauge Section passing outside notified area of Reserve Forest in Gujarat.

(c) For the notified Gir forest area, Railway has implemented the following protective measures in consultation with Department of Forest, Government of Gujarat.

- (i) Speed of trains is restricted to 30 kmph
- (ii) Cautious drive in forest area
- (iii) No trains run during night.

Recommendations of Bibek Debroy Committee

253. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bibek Debroy headed Committee, set up to suggest ways to restructure Railways, has recommended drastic reforms;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;
- (c) whether Government has since examined the recommendations of the Committee; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Interim Report submitted by the Committee for Mobilisation of Resources for major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board, headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy, contains various recommendations on reforms and restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board. These include, *inter-alia*:

- Separation of Policy making, regulations and operations.
- Setting-up, independent of Ministry of Railways, a Railway Regulatory Authority of India (RRAI) which should subsume the Commissioner of Railway Safety.
- Bifurcation of roles of Research, Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO).
- Private Participation in running freight and passenger trains and in various Railway infrastructure services and non-core activities like production and construction.
- Unbundling of Indian Railways into two independent organisations, one responsible for track and infrastructure and another that will operate trains.
- De-linking of Railway Protection Force (RPF) from the Indian Railway System.
- Merger of Railway Budget with the General Budget in a phased manner and accounting reforms.
- Existing Production Units to be placed under Government SPV known as Indian Railway Manufacturing Company (IRMC) under Ministry of Railways.
- To bring all Zonal Construction organisations under the umbrella of one or more PSUs to improve speed, efficiency and quality of execution of works.
- Re-organisation of various Group A Services into two streams and merging of Railway Board Secretariat Service (RBSS) with Central Secretariat Services (CSS).
- Decentralisation and delegation of powers.
- Separation of sub-urban services from Indian Railways and to run as Joint Venture with State/Local Government.

(c) and (d) No decision has been taken on the Interim recommendations of the committee, which is at the stage of feedback/comments from stakeholders. Suitable action will be taken based on the final report of the committee targeted for submission in August, 2015.

Development of New Delhi railway station

254. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of works proposed and completed for development of New Delhi railway station to a world class standard, during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that many passengers, particularly old aged persons, are facing problems due to unfixed and daily changes of railway platform for any particular train at New Delhi Railway Station; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by when Railways will sort out this problem of train passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Development of a station with provision of modern amenities is a continuous process. Works costing about ₹ 6.7 crores has been completed in last three years at New Delhi station and works costing about ₹ 26.70 crores have been undertaken/sanctioned. A Master Plan for redevelopment of New Delhi station to international standards, based on consultancy undertaken by international consultants had been submitted to Unified Traffic Transportation Planning and Infrastructure Committee, (UTTIPEC), a planning body of Delhi Development Authority for approval. However, UTTIPEC demanded resubmission of a modified proposal after reduction in commercial area at project site by 50%, which rendered the project commercial unviable and project could not be taken forward.

(b) and (c) New Delhi Railway Station handles an average of 268 passenger carrying trains daily, including 158 Mail/Express trains and 106 EMU/passenger trains. All the trains are received/despached from scheduled platforms which are displayed on trains information Boards at the station for the information of passengers and announcements are done on public address system of the station. Platform berthing has to be changed when incoming trains are running late due to problems such as asset failures, law and order problems, foggy weather, other unusual events as if its scheduled platform at New Delhi is occupied by another train. Due to operational constraints as cited above, berthing of on average of 2 trains had to be changed daily at New Delhi station during 2014-15.

Recommendation of Bibek Debroy Committee

255. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bibek Debroy Committee has recommended for allowing private players to run passenger as well as freight trains and produce coaches, wagons and locomotives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction and response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Interim Report submitted by the Committee for Mobilisation of Resources for major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board, headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy, contains, *inter-alia*, the following recommendations:

- Private entry into running both freight and passenger trains in competition with Indian Railways (IR) should be allowed and private participation in various Railway infrastructure services and non-core activities like production and construction, should be encouraged by the Ministry of Railways.
- In addition to Madhepura and Marhora, private entry should be permitted for the proposed units in Rae Bareilly, Bhilwara, Sonapat, Chhapra, Jalpaiguri, Kanchrapara and Kerala.

(c) No decision has been taken on the Interim recommendations of the committee, which is at the stage of feedback/comments from stakeholders. Suitable action will be taken based on the final report of the committee targeted for submission in August, 2015.

Outstanding dues of Railways against power houses and SEBs

256. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of outstanding dues of Railways against various Power Houses and State Electricity Boards (SEBs), as on date;

(b) whether Railways are facing financial crisis due to non-recovery of the said dues;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Railways to recover them;

(d) whether Railways propose to introduce any concessional schemes for the Power Houses and SEBs to encourage them to adopt pre-payment of freight for carriage of coal etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The outstanding dues of Railways against various Power Houses and State Electricity Board as on 28.02.2015, is as under :—

Name of Electricity Board/Power House	Amount (₹ in crore)
Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	2.99
Bihar State Electricity Board	2.18
Delhi Vidyut Board	114.28
Gujarat State Electricity Board	0.41
Haryana State Electricity Board	0.32
Jharkhand State Electricity Board	1.02

Name of Electricity Board/Power House	Amount (₹ in crore)
Karnataka State Electricity Board	0.98
Maharashtra State Electricity Board	107.52
Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board	6.86
Punjab State Electricity Board	447.12
Rajasthan State Electricity Board	39.53
Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	4.82
Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	25.52
West Bengal State Electricity Board	49.95
Badarpur Thermal Power Station	0.29
National Thermal Power Corporation	34.22
Damodar Valley Corporation	17.22
Private Power House-Sabarmati	0.01
Reliance Power Supply Company Ltd.	0.36
Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station, Durgapur	1.12
M/S Talwandi Sabo Siding, Punjab	0.70
TOTAL	857.42

(b) Non recovery of dues from various Power Houses and State Electricity Boards, adversely impact the Gross Traffic Receipts of the Railways and thereby affect generation of Excess/Surplus for appropriation to Development Fund and Capital Fund, which support plan expenditure of the Railways.

(c) Steps taken to expedite realization of outstanding dues are as under:

- Prepayment of freight has been made compulsory for booking of coal for all Power Houses and State Electricity Boards.
- Close monitoring of recovery of outstanding due from Power Houses and State Electricity Boards by holding meetings with their representatives, whenever necessary.
- Launching special drives for clearance of outstanding dues by forming teams of Accounts and Commercial officials from time to time.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Pre-payment of freight is already mandatory for booking of coal.

Setting up of Kaya Kalp Council

257. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have constituted a Kaya Kalp Council;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the objective of setting up of the said Council was to recommend innovative methods and processes for improvement, betterment and transformation of Railways;
- (c) whether Railways have nominated members to the abovesaid Council; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This council has been set up to achieve Technology Development and manufacturing through business re-engineering and suggesting steps for introducing a spirit of innovation in Railways.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Shri Ratan Tata is the Chairman of this council while Dr. M Raghavaiah, General Secretary/National Federation of Indian Railwaymen (NFIR) and Sh. Shiva Gopal Mishra, General Secretary/All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) are presently the other two Members.

Absence of pantry cars in trains

258. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the day trains, including some express trains, do not have pantry cars;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the norms laid down for this purpose; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Railways to provide pantry cars in all the trains for the convenience of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) At present, there are 245 pairs of long distance trains having more than 24 hours travel time in which pantry cars have not been provided. As per norms laid down in the Catering Policy 2010, provision for attachment of pantry cars is based on order of priority with first priority to Duronto and Rajdhani Express

trains; followed by long distance premier, superfast trains; Mail and Express trains with more than 24 hours journey time either way; and lastly for the remaining trains, with preference to those trains in which vestibules are provided. Accordingly, attachment of the pantry car is done as per Catering Policy depending upon the above priority and availability of pantry cars. Trains in which pantry car is not available, catering services are provided through Train Side Vending (TSV) in trains and/or by supply of meals through static catering units at en-route stations. Further, passengers can also book their choice of food through E- catering scheme in 120 pairs of trains running without pantry car.

Curbs on online train ticketing

259. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCTC has introduced certain curbs on online train ticketing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these steps were taken to check the menace of touts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Following curbs have been introduced on online train ticketing to *inter-alia* keep a check on the activities of unscrupulous elements including touts:

- (i) There is a restriction of only one booking in one user login session and forced logging out of the user before another booking while booking of tickets between 0800 and 1200 hours except for return/onward journey tickets. This is applicable to all users including IRCTC agents but excluding defence booking under warrants only.
- (ii) Individuals are allowed only 2 tickets per user-id in a day (for Advance Reservation Period booking) from 0800 to 1000 hours.
- (iii) Individuals are allowed only 2 tickets per user-id in a day (for Tatkal booking) from 1000 to 1200 hours.
- (iv) Individuals are allowed only 2 Tatkal tickets per IP Address from 0800 to 1200 hours.
- (v) Maximum number of tickets allowed to an individual is 10 per month.

- (vi) Quick Book Option is disabled from 0800 to 1200 hours.
- (vii) Booking are not allowed through e-wallet and cash cards from 0800 to 1200 hours.
- (viii) Agent booking is restricted from 0800 to 1200 hours except certain relaxations in the case of Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs).
- (ix) Provision of Captcha has been made in Registration, Login and Booking page to check fraudulent booking through automation software.
- (x) In order to prevent alterations in the contents of Electronic Reservation Slip (ERS), the necessary technical changes to disable modification of pre-issued tickets have been implemented.

New railway line passing by Ranki Vav, Patan

260. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meter gauge railway line between Patan and Bhildi was passing nearby Ranki Vav, a Heritage place in Patan, Gujarat;

(b) whether Government had received objections regarding damage to Ranki Vav due to running of trains;

(c) whether archaeological department has objected to new railway line passing nearby Ranki Vav;

(d) if so, whether Railways are planning to lay a new railway line in such a manner that it would not damage Ranki Vav; and

(e) whether to find out some solution, a joint meeting of Ministers/officers of Railways and Archaeological department has been held, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) On advice of Gujarat State Archaeological Department, Railway had an Archaeological Impact Assessment study done and the report along with recommendations was submitted to National Monument Authority in March, 2012. The result of the Assessment study indicated that the impact of accelerations due to moving train is well within the range as per Best International Practices. Despite a number of written requests by railway and meetings between officials of Railways, Archaeological Survey of India and National Monument Authority, the issue has not yet been resolved.

Extension of MMTS services to Bhongir and Shadnagar, Telangana

261. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to extend Multi-Modal Transport System (MMTS) services to Bhongir and Shadnagar in Telangana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon along with the funds sanctioned/released and spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to extend Multi-Modal Transport System (MMTS) services to Bhongir and Shadnagar in Telangana.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway projects in Maharashtra

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

(a) the number of railway projects in Maharashtra that are pending with Government for approval;

(b) the number of projects relating to new railway lines and gauge conversion commenced in the State;

(c) the number of new railway lines in the State being covered on cost sharing basis and the details of projects other than cost sharing basis; and

(d) by when these projects are likely to be completed along with the money proposed to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Two projects *viz.* Nagpur-Nagbhir (106 km) Gauge Conversion and Karad-Chiplun (112 km) New Line falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra have been included in Budget 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively subject to requisite approvals.

(b) and (c) 4 New Line projects and 3 Gauge Conversion projects falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra have been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 8736 crore.

Out of above 4 New Line projects, 3 projects *viz.* Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath, Wadsa-Gadchiroli and Wardha-Nanded *via* Yavatmal-Pusood have been taken on cost

sharing basis with the Government of Maharashtra while cost of Baramati-Lonand project is being fully funded by Railways.

(d) The fund allocated to these New Line projects in 2015-16 is ₹ 360 crore. Allocation of funds to New Line projects is approved by Parliament on year to year basis depending upon overall availability of funds, relative priority, status of land acquisition and other clearances, stages of projects etc. Because of large shelf of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for New Line projects and factors such as land acquisition/forestry clearances/law and order beyond the control of Railways, no time limits can be fixed for completion of these projects.

Development of handloom weavers of Telangana

263. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Handloom Development Programme is being implemented in Telangana for development of handlooms and welfare of weavers in the last five years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, year-wise and district-wise; and

(b) the details of physical targets set and achieved in each district of Telangana in the last five years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) is under implementation during Twelfth plan across the country, including Telangana. State of Telangana was formed on 2nd June 2014. District-wise details are not maintained by the Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles. However, details of physical targets set and achieved under National Handloom Development Programme in the State of Telangana during the year 2014-15 and current year (till date) are as under:—

Component	2014-15		Current year (till date)	
	Target (in number)	Achievement (in number)	Target (in number)	Achievement (in number)
Fairs and Exhibitions	18	20	18	-
Cluster Projects	2	-	2	-
Group Approach Projects	2	-	2	-
Weavers' Credit Cards	10500	781	10500	-

Textile mega clusters

264. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Textile Mega Clusters operating in the country;
- (b) the extent to which these clusters have been able to achieve their objectives;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up more such clusters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government of India has sanctioned setting up of 22 Mega Clusters so far. These include 8 handloom mega clusters under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), 5 powerloom mega clusters, one Silk Mega Cluster under the Comprehensive Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme (CPCDS) and 8 mega clusters in the Handicrafts sector. The details of the mega clusters sanctioned are given in the Statement (*See* below).

These projects are aimed at providing assistance for creation of infrastructure, common facilities and other need based interventions including technology upgradation and skill development.

- (c) There is no such proposal, at present.
- (d) Does not arise.

Statement***Details of Mega Clusters in the Textile Sector***

A. Handloom mega clusters under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) :

- 1. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
 - 2. Sivasagar (Assam)
 - 3. Murshidabad (West Bengal)
 - 4. Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)
 - 5. Prakasam and Guntur districts (Andhra Pradesh)
 - 6. Godda and neighbouring districts (Jharkhand)
 - 7. Bhagalpur (Bihar)
 - 8. Trichy (Tamil Nadu)
-

B. Powerloom mega clusters under Comprehensive Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme (CPCDS) :

1. Erode (Tamil Nadu)
2. Bhiwandi (Maharashtra)
3. Bhilwara (Rajasthan)
4. Ichalkaranji (Maharashtra)
5. Surat (Gujarat)
6. Mysore, Karnataka (Silk Mega Cluster)

C. Mega clusters in the handicrafts sector :

1. Narsapur (Andhra Pradesh)
 2. Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh)
 3. Mirzapur-Bhadohi (Uttar Pradesh)
 4. Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir)
 5. Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
 6. Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh)
 7. Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
 8. Kachchh (Gujarat)
-

Protection of cotton textile manufacturers

265. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

(a) whether Government is undertaking any measures to protect cotton textile manufacturers from falling prices, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether in light of the falling demand for cotton textiles due to drop in International Crude Oil Prices, Government is making any efforts to increase the domestic demand for cotton textiles, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The prices of Textile items largely vary with the demand and supply factors both in domestic and international markets from time to time. There is no price control mechanism in place for control of prices of Textile items. The Production of Cotton Textiles is increasing as shown below:—

Items	Unit	(April-Feb.) 2014-15	(Prov.) 2013-14	Percentage growth
Production				
Cotton yarn	Mn. Kg.	3707	3588	3.3
Cotton Cloth	Mn. Sq. Mtr.	33747	32485	3.9

The growth in production is for meeting the increase in demand for Cotton Textile items due to increasing population and improvement in the economic conditions of the people.

Policy to support textile exports

266. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any policy to extend support to textile export sector, which is facing stiff competition from Bangladesh and Pakistan, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if no such policy is there as of now, whether Government will formulate such policy in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Textiles industry is facing stiff competition from foreign textile industry including our neighbouring countries especially from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka as these countries are taking advantage of unilateral tariff preference scheme granted to developing countries. The Government has announced new Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 to extend support to textile export sector including a number of policy measures and export incentives to boost exports and harness the potential of textile sector. Some of Export Incentive Schemes for textiles are given below:

(i) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

(ii) Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS)

(iii) Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme.

(iv) Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme

(v) Advance Licence Scheme

(vi) Duty-free import of trimmings, embellishments and other specified item under Export Performance Certificate Entitlement Scheme.

Issue of artisan credit cards

267. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Artisan Credit Cards(ACCs) issued to artisans in the handloom sector under Credit Guarantee Programme; and

(b) the details of the ACCs proposed to be issued in the remaining period of the Twelfth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) does not issue artisans credit Card to Handloom Weavers. However, this office has been implementing Credit Guarantee Scheme for handicrafts artisans/producers groups/Self Help Groups who are engaged in manufacturing activities in Handicrafts Sector. The financial assistance to handicrafts artisans is extended by all leading banks/institution (Member Lending Institutions) that are member of Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE). To avail Credit Guarantee facility for handicrafts sector, the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) pay guarantee fee and annual service fee to CGTMSE.

Credit facility upto ₹ 2.00 lakh (Comprising term loan and/or working capital facility) being sanctioned by lending banks *i.e.* the member Lending Institutions of CGTSME as per their norms.

Till date 50,112 number of Artisans Credit Guarantee Card have been issued to the handicrafts artisans/producers groups/Self Help Groups through various Member Lending Institutions (MLIs).

(b) There is no fixed target for issue of the Artisans Credit Cards (ACC) as per the scheme. However Regional Offices/Marketing and Service Extension Centre of this office forward the application of interested handicrafts artisans/producers groups/Self Help Groups who are engaged in manufacturing activities in Handicrafts Sector to leading banks/institution (Member Lending Institutions). The Member Lending Institutions (MLI) who are member of Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) apply for the credit guarantee on the amount sanctioned to the handicrafts artisans/ producers groups/Self Help Groups.

Establishment of NIFT centre in Panchkula, Haryana

268. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision for establishment of NIFT centres in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Haryana has sent a proposal for establishment of NIFT centre at Panchkula, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the proposal along with the reasons for delay in establishment of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir, Government has decided to open two more NIFT Centre at Srinagar and Panchkula

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Haryana has accepted the pre-requisite conditions of NIFT for development and operation of a new campus and provided 10 acres of land free of cost at Sec. 23, Part-II, Panchkula and also agreed to construct campus with an outlay of ₹ 99.71 crores. Haryana Government has also agreed to bear viability gap funding for four years of running of NIFT Panchkula Campus. However, Government of Haryana is yet to commence construction of Campus. The matter is being pursued with Government of Haryana.

Venture capital fund to boost powerloom sector

269. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes for setting up of a Venture Capital Fund under administration of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to boost the powerloom sector in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the aims of the proposed Venture Capital Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government launched the Tax Fund Venture Capital Fund for Powerloom and allied products and services under the Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development on 29th October, 2013. This is a dedicated fund with a corpus of ₹ 35 crore in which Government of India's contribution is ₹ 24.50 crore and SIDBI's contribution is ₹ 10.50 crore. SIDBI Venture Capital Ltd. (SVCL) is the Fund Manager.

(b) The objective of the Tax Venture Fund is to boost the net-worth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Companies by leveraging commercial bank debt. The fund aims to improve the manufacturing capacity, sales turnover, competitiveness and profitability of innovative private companies involved in the Powerloom sector.

Promotion and growth of textile sector

270. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the growth in the textiles sector during the last two years;
- (b) whether the country has achieved the targeted growth in the textiles sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for promotion and growth of textiles sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The textile industry is growing in terms of production and exports. The details of growth during the years 2012-13 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement (*See* below). Since substantial production in the Textile sectors comes from decentralized/unorganized sectors, no targets have been announced by the Government.

(d) Government is implementing various schemes for the development and growth of textiles industry in the county *viz.* Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Schemes for development of Technical Textiles, Schemes for development of the Powerloom Sector, Scheme of Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Schemes (ISDS) and Schemes for development of Silk and Sericulture Sectors etc.

Statement

Growth in production and export of textiles items during the last three years

Items	Unit	2012-13	2013-14	Growth during 2012-13 to 2013-14	(April-Feb) (Prov.)		Growth during 2014-15 over 2013-14 (April-Feb)
					2014-15	2013-14	
Man made fibre	Mn. Kg	1263	1307	5.9	1228	1196	2.7
spurn yarn	Mn. Kg	4868	5309	21.4	5013	4853	3.3
Man made filament yarn	Mn. Kg	1371	1293	-11.6	1140	1187	-4.0
Fabrics	Mn.sq. mtr	62792	63500	5.0	59606	58197	2.4
Export	Mn. USD	33049	37571	8.8	27700*	26432*	4.8

* Upto April-Dec.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS
BILLS INTRODUCED

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up Private Members' Legislative Business—Bills for introduction. The first one is, The Child Development Programmes Coordination Agency Bill, 2015, Shri Prabhat Jha; not present. The second Bill is also of Shri Prabhat Jha. He is not here.

Then, there is the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Compulsory Notification and filling up of Reserved Vacancies) Bill, 2015. Shri P.L. Punia to move.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Compulsory Notification and filling up of Reserved Vacancies) Bill, 2015

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory notification and filling up of vacancies reserved for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in services and posts under the Central Government and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Reservation and Compulsory Display of Seats by Educational Institutions) Bill, 2015

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation and compulsory display of seats for the children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for admission in educational institutions and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Sub Plans (Budgetary Allocation and Special Schemes) Bill, 2015

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce

a Bill to ensure speedy removal of social and economic disparity through targeted expenditure on special schemes for the welfare and development of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Communities and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The next is, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (amendment of article 348), Shri Mansukh Lal Mandaviya, not present. Next Bill is also of Shri Mansukh Lal Mandaviya. Then, the next Bill is also of Shri Mansukh Lal Mandaviya. He is not present.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (amendment of article 15) by Shri Veer Singh. He is not present. The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (amendment of articles 341 and 342), again, by Shri Veer Singh; he is not present.

The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2015

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2015

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Farmers and Agricultural Workers Social Security Bill, 2015

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for social security and welfare measures for farmers and agricultural workers and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015
(Amendment of Eighth Schedule)

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Electro Homoeopathy System of Medicine (Recognition) Bill, 2015

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for recognition and regulation of the Electro Homoeopathy System of Medicine in the country and to constitute a Central Council for the purpose and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2015

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we were considering a Bill that was moved by Shri Tiruchi Siva – The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014; the Bill to provide for formulation and implementation of a comprehensive national policy for ensuring overall development of the transgender persons and for their welfare to be undertaken by the State and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

We were considering that Bill and on 13th March, Shri Tiruchi Siva was replying to the discussion; he had not concluded his speech then. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tiruchi Siva was replying and he could not conclude. Now, Mr. Siva, you may continue your speech and conclude.

The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir.

* Further discussion continued from 13th March, 2015.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may speak and try to convert all of us, if you can succeed. You can speak and try to convert all of us. Only then your Bill ...*(Interruptions)*...

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : सर, वैसे तो इस पर बात हो गई थी, यह लास्ट स्टेज पर था, वोटिंग की स्थिति थी और आपने कांटेन्स्यु कर दिया था। ठीक है, आप उन्हें बोलने का अवसर दे रहे हैं, तो दे दीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The point is, last time he could not conclude; he was speaking. So, I said, he may conclude it now.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): But, Sir, your Party is against conversion! ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; I have no Party when I am sitting here. Mr. Naresh Gujral, I have no Party when I am sitting here. So, I think you have to ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now what I said is, he can continue to speak and convince. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. Our Constitution provides for the Fundamental Rights to equality and tolerates no discrimination on the grounds of caste, sex, creed or religion. Sir, the Constitution also guarantees political rights and other rights and benefits to all the citizens of this country. But, Sir, I am very sorry to say that the transgender community continues to be ostracized. The Supreme Court of India in its landmark judgment in April 15, 2014, while granting legal recognition to transgenders, has held that equality and non-discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression is increasing and gaining acceptance in international law and should be applied in India as well. Sir, this is what the Supreme Court has observed in its judgment when it gave a legal recognition to transgenders. Sir, democracies across the world are taking a strong stand on transgender rights and have taken several decisions seeking an end to the discrimination and violence against the transgender community. Sir, around 29 countries like South Africa, Brazil, Russia, Nepal, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Germany, UK, Switzerland, Greece, Italy, France, Mexico, Argentina, US, Singapore, Norway, Finland, Ireland, Hong Kong, Thailand, Taiwan, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Columbia, Uruguay, Turkey, and numerous other countries have legislations protecting the rights of transgender community. Sir, we all have the human rights. Whatever be our gender identity, whatever be our nationality, whatever be our place of residence, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, we all enjoy human rights. Sir, we have to take note, at the same time, that we enjoy human rights without discrimination

[Shri Tiruchi Siva]

and this is inter-related, inter-dependent and universal and is shared by each one of us. But without protection of human rights, Sir, there can be no democracy or justification for democracy. "Intolerance itself is a form of violence and an obstacle to the growth of true democratic spirit", said by none but Mahatma Gandhi. Sir, if we want to cultivate a true spirit of democracy, we cannot afford to be intolerant and intolerance betrays want of faith in one's cause. But violence based on gender identity still continues and remains a reality for lakhs of transgender persons in our country. Sir, statistics say, they are around 4.5 lakhs. But when I had the opportunity to interact with various transgender community people and those groups which are working for this community people, they said that around 20-25 lakh people are in our country without having any recognition; they are discriminated. In my initiating speech, I mentioned that in the voter identity card the transgender is given a vote by way of taking her as a female. But when the same person enters into a train compartment, he is not allowed. They don't have any access to public toilet. When we interact with them, we are very sorry to hear it. They say that nobody is prepared to accept them -- their family deserts them, the society doesn't accept them and no person comes closer; so they have to resort to some trade which the society and the law don't accept. When we hear that we are very sorry, and when we also happen to know about them we are very surprised to know that so many efficient people are there. For the information of this august House, the Thai Airlines has recruited transgenders as its air hostess.

And, such is their ability, such is their competence, as is inferior to no one else. The State should take measures to regain their respect and give them a place in the society which they once enjoyed in our cultural and social life. Undoing the centuries of discrimination that the transgender community has faced, we will require targeted interventions by the State. Sir, I would like to again quote Mahatma Gandhi because he was the one person who cared much for the rural people as well as those who are neglected in the society. He said, "The future depends on what we do in the present. Man becomes great exactly in the degree in which he works for the welfare of his fellow men." Sir, when fellow persons in our society, in our country, where we live in, are being discriminated just for the sense of gender which they are having, which do not fit with the gender that is generally assumed, that disparity must be put an end to. How? Only a law in place can do it. That is what I mentioned at the outset of my speech that various countries have taken cognisance of this issue and they are taking strong stands in the field of transgenders' rights. When legislations are in place in so many developed countries, why can India not have one? So many successive Governments might have had concern, but sorry, Sir,

the result is still unfelt, unrealised. That is the compulsion for bringing in this Bill. The Father of the Nation again remarked, "Before you do anything, stop and recall the face of the poorest, the most helpless destitute person you have seen and ask for yourself, is what I am about to do going to help him?" Sir, the Bill which I have introduced, which I am now discussing, I am very happy and proud and thankful that 22 hon. Members in this august House, cutting across political parties, have supported and deliberated upon it. Valuable contributions have been made. Such is the wide support we have come across. Today, so many transgender community people, from across the country, have come to the gallery. They are waiting outside. They are expecting that something remarkable is going to happen in Rajya Sabha today, which will be path-breaking to the centuries-long discrimination they have been suffering in the same country where we hail democracy, where we say that human rights are for all. When the Constitution empowers, when it provides equal rights, why are some people neglected? One transgender person asked me, "I am paying the tax for this country's exchequer. The Government is running because of me, but I am deprived of my rights. Where should I go and ask? The Government takes money from me in the form of tax, but it is not giving me the rights. Where should I go? In what way, I will be accepted? Nothing is wrong with us." They are, in no way, inferior. In fact, they challenge that they have merits and qualities of their own.

So, Sir, the Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, which I have introduced, is respectful, comprehensive yet practical. The Act will create conditions for an equal society as it recognises and protects transgender persons in all spheres of life. The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill promises us a different future where all people born free, equal in dignity and rights, are able to fulfil the precious birth-right towards that goal. This Bill seeks to set up conditions and institutions for the integration of the marginalised into the mainstream. The world is watching India closely. Let us jointly let the world know that equality, rights and human dignity are at the forefront of our political conversation. Let our Constitution be our gate in this virtuous endeavour. Sir, I am very proud to say that I belong to the Party, DMK, and the State, which was the first State to constitute a Welfare Board for the welfare of the transgenders. West Bengal followed suit and Maharashtra also did it. Other States have still not done it. The Central Government has still not done it. My Bill envisages a national commission.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I would like to mention one important development. The Reserve Bank of India yesterday ordered all the public sector banks to include the clause of third gender. The transgenders are getting place to record their gender in all the bank forms. That has happened in Reserve Bank of India's directive. It is happening.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Thank you very much, Sir. I think, this information, which my colleague, Mr. Ananda, has given is in support of what we are deliberating. When I interacted with all the Members, every one was for it. Sir, kindly look at the gallery. Those people are with anxiety, with curiosity, with many expectations that something good is going to happen to them by way of this Bill getting through in Rajya Sabha. Sir, after a long history, something is going to happen to them. Again, I would say that my Bill envisages a national commission for the transgender community, like for the OBC, which is a statutory body, as well as the commissions for the States, which will solve many issues. Sir, I do not want to elaborate further, I know the time constraint. It is the concluding part of my speech. I listened to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister has already replied.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I listened to him very carefully. He said so many schemes are there but we are not, in practice, giving them the social recognition which they need. So, I would urge upon the Government to consider this, rather, with folded hands, I would request all the Members, cutting across Party lines, in this House, to support my cause; it is not my cause, it is the cause of a section of the people of our country, who have been discriminated, who have been neglected, who have faced only abuse and violence for no fault of theirs. Sir, the time has come for this. When we have become such a developed democratic country in the world, we should do this. Sir, I think, passing a Private Member's Bill is not a new thing. In the past, eight Bills have been passed in the Parliament, and, I think, this Bill will become a path-breaking Bill for the transgender community people who have been neglected, who are depressed, who are suppressed, who are oppressed, and, here after, I think, they will have a new ray of hope in our country. With these words, I conclude and I request that the Bill be passed. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you not withdrawing?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. I am pressing that the Bill be passed. Sir, the purpose of my Bill is not to... *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, there are so many assurances given by various Governments. The HIV/AIDS Bill has been pending for years together. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not against the Government. I think, it will also be a part of it. *...(Interruptions)...* He has already replied. *...(Interruptions)...* It is as per the convention. The Minister has replied. It is my concluding speech.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiruchi Siva, I agree that the Minister has replied. It is your final speech. It is all agreed. But, I think, as per the practice in the Rajya Sabha, after discussion, usually, the Private Members' Bills – I do

not know if there is an exception – most of the Bills are withdrawn. That is the practice, and, I also hoped that you will go by that practice.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Let me tell you, Sir... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, let us make a new precedent. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Let him speak. *...(Interruptions)...* Let Tiruchi Siva speak. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is not something... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, you all sit down please. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, let me tell *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, we are still lagging behind. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): It is not going to harm anyone. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Siva, *...(Interruptions)...* One second.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Karnataka): It is the property of the House. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree. Let me say. That is what I am saying. The Bill is the property of the House. But whether to withdraw or not is his decision. Let him take that decision. If he says, he is withdrawing, then, I will... *...(Interruptions)...* Please, listen. *...(Interruptions)...* That is for him to say. *...(Interruptions)...* How can you say that he is not withdrawing? Let him say. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I am not withdrawing. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* You are a senior Member, please. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, the Minister wants to say something. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know it. You leave it to me. I know it, I will allow him. I do not want your advice for that. *...(Interruptions)...* I will call you. The point is whether the Bill is to be withdrawn or not is Mr. Tiruchi Siva's decision. If he is withdrawing, I will take your consent for that, or, even otherwise, I will do it. I am only asking a specific question. Mr. Tiruchi Siva, are you withdrawing the Bill or not?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... I am pressing that the Bill be passed. ...(Interruptions)... One small reference, Sir. In the British Parliament, in the past three years, 17 Private Members' Bills have been passed. In Canada, 229 Private Members' Bills have been passed, and, in United States...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Canada?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: In our country, 14 Private Members' Bills have been passed. There are precedents, and, therefore, I insist on it. Sir, I press that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister. ...(Interruptions)... Let the Minister speak. I called the Minister. ...(Interruptions)... No, please. Let the Minister speak. I have allowed the Minister.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय शिवा जी ने जो बिल रखा है, उससे भावनात्मक रूप से मैं भी सहमत हूँ। मैंने जब जवाब दिया था, तो उन सब बिन्दुओं का उल्लेख करते हुए भावनात्मक सहमति दी थी, परन्तु कुछ कठिनाइयाँ हैं। भारत के संविधान में जो प्रावधान हैं, उनके बहुत सारे लाभ तो आज मिल रहे हैं, परन्तु इन्होंने जो विधेयक पेश किया है, उसमें कुछ अव्यावहारिकता है और उस कारण बहुत सारी कठिनाइयाँ सामने हैं। मैंने जब पिछली बार जवाब दिया था तो कहा था कि यह बहुत सारे विभागों से संबंधित है। यह महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग से संबंधित है और महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग ने इस संबंध में सकारात्मक कार्रवाई की है। यह स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय से भी संबंधित है। इनके विधेयक के बहुत सारे अनुच्छेद मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से संबंधित हैं, गृह मंत्रालय से संबंधित हैं। इसमें कुछ धाराएँ हैं, जैसे 317, 166क, 375 आदि, अगर इन पर विचार करना है, तो गृह मंत्रालय से ही सही मार्गदर्शन मिल सकता है। यह श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय, कार्मिक एवं प्रशिक्षण विभाग, आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन मंत्रालय और सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय से भी संबंधित है। यह विदेश मंत्रालय से भी संबंधित है, क्योंकि इसमें पासपोर्ट से संबंधित विषय भी आया है। यह औद्योगिक नीति और संवर्द्धन विभाग से भी संबंधित है। इसके साथ ही साथ, विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय, नीति आयोग, जो पहले योजना आयोग के नाम से जाना जाता था, वह इसकी नोडल एजेंसी है। यह इन सब मंत्रालयों और विभागों से संबंधित है और हमने अपने मंत्रालय की ओर से इन सब के साथ कोऑर्डिनेशन किया है। हमने उनके साथ बैठक की है, पत्र-व्यवहार किया है और इनकी भावनानुसार या सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो निर्णय दिया था, उसके तारतम्य में, उसके अनुरूप सैद्धांतिक सहमति देकर हमने कार्रवाई प्रारंभ की है तथा सब विभागों ने सकारात्मक कार्रवाई की है। हमने इसके लिए एक विशेषज्ञ कमिटी भी बनाई थी, जिसकी रिपोर्ट आ गई है। उस कमिटी की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर ही तिरुची शिवा जी ने शायद यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया है।

मैं इस विधेयक के बारे में दो-तीन बातें बताना चाहूँगा, जो प्रमुख रूप से कष्टदायक हैं, क्योंकि पहले हमें कुछ और निर्णय करने पड़ेंगे। जैसे इसमें प्राथमिक, माध्यमिक और उच्चतर शैक्षिक संस्थानों में ट्रांसजेंडर के लिए आरक्षण की बात कही गई है। इस आरक्षण से मैं भावनात्मक रूप से तो सहमत हूँ, परन्तु एससी, एसटी और ओबीसी के बच्चों के लिए भी स्कूलों में आरक्षण की

व्यवस्था नहीं है। अगर हम यहां आरक्षण की बात करेंगे तो वहां भी आरक्षण लागू किया जाना चाहिए, यह बात भी इसमें से निकलती है। इसलिए यह अव्यावहारिक होगा कि उन वर्गों को आरक्षण नहीं मिलेगा और इनको मिलेगा, इस कारण यह तकलीफदायक हो जाएगा।

इसके साथ-साथ, इसमें ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के लिए पदों में आरक्षण की बात कही गई है। अभी नौकरी में तो ओबीसी को भी आरक्षण की सुविधा दी गई है, परन्तु उनको राजनीतिक आरक्षण नहीं है। इन्होंने इसमें जो प्रावधान किया है, उससे दोनों अर्थ निकलते हैं, तो इससे भी एक कठिनाई पैदा होगी। इसके साथ ही, इसमें विशेष रोजगार कार्यालयों की बात कही गई है। हमारे यहां एक ही प्रकार के रोजगार कार्यालय हैं। जितने भी बेरोजगार लोग होते हैं, उनके आवेदन उनमें आते हैं और उन पर वे विचार करते हैं। अगर कोई ओबीसी है और कहीं ओबीसी की विज्ञप्ति निकलती है, तो वे उसका नाम वहां भेजते हैं और अगर कोई एससी या एसटी है, तो उन सब के लिए एक ही रोजगार कार्यालय है, लेकिन अब इन्होंने इसमें अलग रोजगार कार्यालयों की मांग की है।

इसमें विशेष रोजगार कार्यालयों के साथ-साथ निजी क्षेत्र में इनकी नियुक्ति को प्रोत्साहन देने की बात कही गई है। एससीज़, एसटीज़ और ओबीसीज़ को नौकरियों में तो आरक्षण मिलता है, परन्तु निजी क्षेत्र में ऐसी व्यवस्था अभी नहीं है। अगर इस वर्ग के लिए हम अभी क़ानून बनाएंगे तो बाकी वर्गों का क्या होगा? उनके साथ अन्याय होगा। जिस प्रकार से इन्होंने कहा है कि इन वर्गों के साथ अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिए, तो भारत के संवैधानिक प्रावधानों में भी यही व्यवस्था है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You need not repeat the reply.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: He had already replied this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will tell you. मंत्री जी, सुनिए। You need not repeat the reply. If you can give some assurance to him, try to do that.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: मैं उसी पर आ रहा हूँ। माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय ने जो निर्णय लिया है, उस निर्णय से हमने सैद्धांतिक सहमति व्यक्त की है, परन्तु कुछ मुद्दे ऐसे हैं, जिनका स्पष्टीकरण जरूरी था। उस स्पष्टीकरण के लिए माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय के पास रिव्यू पिटिशन विचाराधीन है।

मैंने पहले भी अपने जवाब में कहा था कि हम भावनात्मक रूप से सहमत हैं और हमने सब विभागों के साथ बातचीत की है। सब विभाग सकारात्मक रुख अपना रहे हैं और हम इस पर एक विस्तृत कानून लाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। मैं विश्वास दिलाता हूँ, पहले किसने क्या आश्वासन दिया, क्या हुआ, नहीं हुआ या हुआ, परन्तु मेरी सरकार जो आश्वासन देगी उसको पूरा करेगी। मैं विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि इन वर्गों के हित संरक्षण के लिए हम व्यापक कानून बनाने का काम करेंगे और इनके हित संरक्षण को सुरक्षित और सुदृढ़ बनाने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ेंगे। मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा तिरुची शिवा जी से कि वे इस विधेयक को वापस ले लें और सदन की गरिमा को भी गौरवान्वित करने का काम करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What do you say? ...(Interruptions)...

3.00 P.M.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I thank the hon. Minister, Sir, for he has gone well through my Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has given an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has given an assurance that he will bring a new Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Yes, Sir. He gave an assurance and I told that my Bill is more or less related with the HIV/AIDS Bill. That is a Bill, which has been waiting for years together. Nearly a decade is going to end and all those people are suffering like anything. It is a very important Bill. I think, Naddaji, the new Minister, will take care of that and we are hopeful. That is different. But we had a very good experience in the past of having heard the assurances. So, I think, it is high-time that instead of yielding – I respect the Minister. I have heard him fully. – there is no other way for me than to press that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. The Government is assuring that they will bring a Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: But, Sir, we are not convinced. I am concerned about the lakhs of transgender people in the country, who are suffering without anything. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Kindly take this opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): One minute, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): This is a golden opportunity for us to prove to the country. They have a sweeping majority. They should show the courage thinking out of the box and do it because this is the opportunity. Windows open only once in a while. यह मौका आप ले लीजिए, हम सब आपके साथ हैं। आप ही का फायदा होगा, इंसानियत के नाम पर करिएगा।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, this is right of the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : उपसभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बहुत ही स्पष्ट तरीके से सरकार की बहुत ईमानदार नीयत और मंशा के बारे में स्पष्ट किया है। जो शिवा जी ने कहा उसके प्रति किसी भी तरह से हमारी असहमति नहीं है। इस बात को मंत्री जी ने बहुत स्पष्ट तरीके से कहा, उसके जो सारे सिस्टम हैं, प्रावधान हैं, नियम हैं, उनके तहत उन्होंने ईमानदारी के साथ कहा कि हम जाएंगे। अब माननीय मंत्री जी के आश्वासन के बाद एक ईमानदार माननीय

मंत्री जी के प्रयास के बाद हमें लगता है कि उसमें शिवा जी को इसे वापस लेना चाहिए और इस बात पर विश्वास करना चाहिए कि जो माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है, ईमानदारी से सरकार उस दशा में आगे बढ़ेगी।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I respect the Ministers and I take their words but, at the same time, my concern is the feeling, which the transgender community people have expressed to me in the past few days after the Bill has been initiated. I have been travelling across the country. So many people have represented and their representations have compelled me that it is high-time. I think, the Government does not lose anything if they agree to my Bill. I think, it will be a good, gentle gesture from this Government. So, I expect them to support me. As I requested in my earlier speech, I request all the Members, including the Members in the Treasury Benches to support my Bill, Sir. So, I press the Bill to be passed.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : मैंने बताया कि मैंने 15-17 मंत्रियों के साथ विचार-विमर्श किया है, सब की सकारात्मक भूमिका है, सकारात्मक सोच है। मैंने कुछ कारण भी बताए, माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय में अभी भी कुछ मामलों के लिए स्पष्टीकरण हेतु रिव्यू पिटिशन चल रही है। उसका निर्णय भी आना है। मैंने कुछ कठिनाई इनके विधेयक के अंदर है, मैंने उसकी जानकारी अभी दी थी कि यह अव्यावहारिक होगा। इस कारण से मैं अनुरोध कर रहा था कि हम इस पर कंप्रहेंसिव बिल लाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं, हम सकारात्मक और सैद्धांतिक सहमति व्यक्त करते हुए उनसे फिर से आग्रह करते हैं कि वे अपने विधेयक को वापस ले लें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiruchi Siva, ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, if this Bill is passed in this House, it does not upset the Government in bringing a comprehensive Bill by them. If they bring a Bill, that will be welcomed and this Bill will automatically go away. ...(Interruptions)... If this Bill is passed maybe it will expedite Government's attempt to bring in a new Bill. ...(Interruptions)... So, I am pressing for it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sivaji, what he said is that there are some technical problems with your Bill. The Government is ready to bring in a new Bill after taking into consideration all the aspects. Till then why don't you wait?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. When the Government will bring in a new Bill, it will automatically go away. This will not have any effect on that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tutoring is not allowed here. ...(Interruptions)... What is this? ...(Interruptions)... You are not a tutor. ...(Interruptions)... I did not see the hon. Minister tutoring here. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: In the guise of Parliamentary Affairs Minister, he travels across the House. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, you are not withdrawing the Bill.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. I am pressing for it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then I have to put the motion to vote. Since the hon. Member is not withdrawing the Bill, I am putting it to vote. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I want division, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...* I say it very honestly. *...(Interruptions)...* When you bring in a Bill, my Bill, which will be passed, goes away. *...(Interruptions)...* If you show this gesture, that will send a wrong signal.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In that case, I have to go for division because division has been asked for.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Siva has raised a very important issue. I don't think the House should be divided on this important issue. We are all concerned about this segment of society. Therefore, the hon. Minister has said that he is willing to take it into serious consideration and bring some official policy or legislation in this regard. There are only two options available to us. One option is that even if we approve this, it does not become a law, it only expresses a sentiment. It is more like a resolution. The other option is that Mr. Siva agrees to the assurance, which the hon. Minister has given, and does not press it. But in any case my appeal to all the sections would be that we come to a conclusion and that should be a general consensus of the House rather than being divided on an issue because this is not an issue on which the House should at all be divided. *...(Interruptions)...* One option is that Mr. Siva agrees to the suggestion and assurance of the hon. Minister. The other option is that the House, by a voice vote, can echo the sentiment of Mr. Siva.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What has been said by the Leader of the House is very pertinent. On this issue when everybody is in agreement, why should there be a division? Out of the two options, which one is your choice? He said that one option is that you wait for the Government Bill which they will bring as early as possible. *...(Interruptions)...* The second option is to pass it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I am not withdrawing it. *...(Interruptions)...* I am pressing for it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, I am again going to put it to voice vote. I am trying it once again because I want to know the real mood of the House. Now, the question is:

That the Bill to provide for the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive

national policy for ensuring overall development of the transgender persons and for their welfare to be undertaken by the State and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In clause 2, there is an Amendment (No.1) by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

Clause 2 – Definition

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move:

(ix) That at page 3, line 24, *for* the word “gender”, the words “sense of gender”, be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 to 44 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In clause 45, there are two Amendments (Nos. 2 and 3) by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

**Clause 45 – Application of certain provisions relating to
National Commission to State Commissions**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move:

(2) That at page 13, line 1, *for* the figures and word “26, 27, 29, 30, 32 and 34”, the figures and word “32, 34 and 35”, be *substituted*.

(3) That at page 13, *after* line 5, the following be *inserted*, namely:–

“(c) reference to “Central Government” be construed as references to “State Government”.

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 45, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 46 to 58 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva to move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move:

That the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a unanimous decision of the House. It is a good thing. It is a rare thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Certainly. I join Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda in congratulating the entire House, especially the Leader of the House for his timely intervention to save the situation.

Now, Dr. Natchiappan, your Bill cannot be taken up.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: But, Sir, it may be given priority when the assent is received because it is number one. That may be recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will come automatically. Certain formalities are to be complied with. That is the problem.

So, next, I am taking up the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2014. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2014

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

कि संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियाँ) आदेश, 1950 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाए।

मान्यवर, उत्तर प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति विधेयक, वर्ष 2014 के संबंध में मैं यह विधेयक लाया हूँ। मैं इसे इसलिए लाया हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में कुछ जातियाँ हैं, जिनकी सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत खराब है। इसलिए उन्हें अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल किया जाना जरूरी है। वे उत्तर प्रदेश में पिछड़ी जाति में हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश की अनुसूचित जाति की सूची के क्रम सं. 18 में बेलदार, क्रम सं. 36 में गोंड, क्रम सं. 53 में मझवार, क्रम सं. 66 में तुरैहा हैं, जो मछुवा समुदाय की कहार, कश्यप, केवट, मल्लाह, निषाद, धीवर, बिन्द, धीमर, बाथम, तुरहा, गोड़िया, मांझी, मछुवा उपजातियाँ क्रम सं. 18. बेलदार के साथ बिन्द क्रम सं. 36. गोंड के साथ गोड़िया कहार कश्यप, बाथम क्रम सं. 53. मझवार के साथ मल्लाह केवट मांझी, निषाद मछुवा व क्रम सं. 66 तुरैहा के साथ तुरहा, धीमर, धीवर की पर्यायवाची उपजातियों को जोड़े जाने की संस्तुति के संबंध में है। इनको क्रम सं. 65 में शिल्पकार जो कुम्हार, प्रजापति की उपजाति है तथा क्रम सं. 59 में पासी तरमाली की भर, राजभर पर्यायवाची उपजातियों को जोड़ा जाना जरूरी है।

महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश की जो 17 पिछड़ी जातियाँ हैं—कहार, कश्यप, केवट, मल्लाह, निषाद, कुम्हार, प्रजापति, धीवर, बिन्द, धीमर, बाथम, तुरहा, गोड़िया, मांझी, मछुवा भर, और राजभर जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने हेतु मैं प्राइवेट मैम्बर बिल लाया हूँ। मैं इसके बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इस बारे में कई बार भारत सरकार को प्रस्ताव भेजे हैं। भारत सरकार के अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति शोध संस्थान द्वारा सारी रिपोर्टें भारत सरकार को भेजी जा चुकी हैं।

महोदय, पिछली बार माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को दिनांक 24 दिसम्बर, 2014 को एक पत्र गया है, जिसके माध्यम से कुछ सूचनाएं मांगी गई थीं। उसके संबंध में मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि दिनांक 01-04-2015 को उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा विस्तृत सूचना सहित भारत सरकार को पत्र भेजा जा चुका है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि यह उत्तर प्रदेश की अनुसूचित जातियों को शामिल करने का मामला है, इन्हें शामिल किया जाए। इसके कई कारण हैं। जैसे दिल्ली में मल्लाह अनुसूचित जाति में है, लेकिन इसकी उपजातियां केवट, धीमर, निषाद वे अब भी पिछड़ी जाति में हैं।

मान्यवर, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मछलीशहर से भारतीय जनता पार्टी के ही सांसद श्री राम चरित्र निषाद जी, मल्लाह जाति से दिल्ली के निवासी हैं, तो क्यों नहीं पूरे देश में एकरूपता कर दी जाए। बिहार, बंगाल और तमाम राज्यों में उनकी उपजातियां अनुसूचित जाति में ही हैं और उत्तर प्रदेश में अभी इनकी उपजातियां पिछड़ी जातियों में हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में ही मंझवार, गोंड, तुरैहा, बेलदार, शिल्पकार ये अनुसूचित जाति में हैं और इनकी उपजातियां पिछड़ी जाति में हैं। इसलिए इस विसंगति खत्म करने के लिए मैं इस बिल को लाया हूं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं, चूंकि पहले मैं विस्तार में बोल चुका हूं और माननीय मंत्री जी को बता चुका हूं कि इससे पूरे वंचित समाज को, जिनके पास रहने के लिए मकान नहीं हैं, उन्हें फायदा होगा। आजादी के 65 साल बीतने के बाद, आज भी जो लोग नदी के किनारे रहते हैं। इससे उन्हें फायदा होगा। जो बालू में सब्जी, तरबूज, खरबूजा पैदा करके अपना जीवन-निर्वाह करते हैं, आज तक उनके पास न तो रहने के लिए मकान हैं, न तन को ढकने के लिए कपड़े हैं और न ही उनके बच्चों की शिक्षा हो पाती है। अनुसूचित जातियों में जो उपजातियां हैं, अगर पहले से उनको उसमें शामिल कर लिया जाएगा, तो उनको आरक्षण की सुविधा मिल जाएगी और उनके बच्चे भी पढ़-लिखकर आगे बढ़ सकेंगे।

महोदय, आज हम देख रहे हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश में न तो उनमें से कोई आई.ए.एस. है, न पी.सी.एस. है और उनकी सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत खराब है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल मैं इसलिए लाया हूं कि इसमें हम विस्तृत चर्चा कर लें। आपने आश्वासन भी दिया था कि अगर उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार पुनः संस्तुति भेज देती है... मान्यवर, आप राज्य सभा की प्रोसीडिंग्स उठाकर देख लें, उसमें मंत्री जी का आश्वासन है और उन्होंने कहा था कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार अगर भेजेगी, तो हम इसको पास करेंगे। यह आश्वासन उनका है, इसलिए मैं संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश, 1950 में जो संशोधन का बिल लाया हूं, माननीय मंत्री जी और सभी माननीय सदस्यों से, प्रतिपक्ष के सभी साथियों से मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह बिल आप लोग पास करा दें, क्योंकि उत्तर प्रदेश में सर्वाधिक नदी किनारे रहने वाला समाज है और करीब साढ़े आठ परसेंट से ज्यादा उसकी जनसंख्या है। जब लोग वोट मांगने के लिए जाते हैं, तब कहते हैं कि हम तुम्हें अनुसूचित जातियों में शामिल करेंगे और जब जीत कर आ जाते हैं, तब कह देते हैं कि अभी आपके लिए प्रयास चल रहा है। तो आज मौका है। गवर्नमेंट ने आश्वासन भी दिया है।

महोदय, मैं तिरुची शिवा जी को भी बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों के अधिकार विधेयक, 2014 को पास कराया। इसी प्रकार मेरे इस प्राइवेट मेम्बर विधेयक को भी पास कराया जाए, इसके बाद माननीय मंत्री जी विस्तार से विधेयक लाएं, जिससे कि उत्तर

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

प्रदेश के बहुत से वंचित समाज के जो लोग हैं, उनको अनुसूचित जातियों में पहले से जो जातियां हैं, मंझवार के साथ केवट, मल्लाह आदि, वे भी उसमें शामिल हो जाएं। इसके लिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से चाहता हूँ कि वे इनको शामिल करा दें। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

The question was proposed.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी बोलना चाहूंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : आपने नाम नहीं दिया है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : मैं केवल दो मिनट बोलूंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : ठीक है, बोलिए।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, माननीय सदस्य यह जो बिल लाए हैं कि दूसरी जातियों को अनुसूचित जातियों में शामिल किया जाए, इसी तरह का प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल मैं भी लाई थी। हमारे यहां जो लोहार और तरखान हैं, उनके आपस में ही रिश्ते हैं, सब कुछ है, लेकिन लोहार एस.सी. में हैं और तरखान एस.सी. में नहीं हैं, हालांकि उनके प्रोफेशन की वजह से ये दो भागों में बंटे थे, ये एक ही बाप के दो बेटे हैं—एक लोहार का काम करता है, एक तरखान का काम करता है, लेकिन हिमाचल प्रदेश में लोहार को एस.सी. में ले लिया गया था, लेकिन तरखान को नहीं लिया गया। तो मैं यह कहूंगी कि जब आप बाकी जातियों के बारे में सोचें, तो यह जो तरखान जाति है, वह हिमाचल में कई जगह एस.सी. में है और कई जगह नहीं है, तो इसको बराबर किया जाए, यही मैं कहना चाहती हूँ।

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa) : Sir, there is already a Bill pending in the House. According to the directions of the Supreme Court, a Bill was prepared and introduced, and it has been referred to the Committee. What is the status of that? It is mandatory that the House should take it up, and the Supreme Court has given direction that the Castes, which had been omitted by the Delimitation Commission last time, should be taken into consideration.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : ठीक है, आप बैठिए।

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय विशम्भर जी ने संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014 प्रस्तुत किया है और इसके माध्यम से इन्होंने संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश, 1950 की जो अनुसूची है, उसमें जो उल्लिखित जातियां हैं, उनको अनुसूचित जातियों में जोड़ने के लिए इसमें उल्लेख किया है। मैं माननीय सदस्य को और सदन को बताना चाहूंगा कि इस संबंध में स्पष्ट प्रावधान है कि किसी जाति को यदि किसी राज्य में अनुसूचित जाति में मिलाना है, तो राज्य की सरकार उस संबंध में भारत सरकार के पास प्रस्ताव भेजती है। इन जातियों के संबंध में मेरे मंत्रालय में पहले प्रस्ताव आया। जैसे ही प्रस्ताव आता है, उस पर आरजीआई की सहमति लेनी होती है। भारत के जो रजिस्ट्रार जनरल हैं, जो जातियों का पंजीयन करते हैं या जातियों को

घटाने-बढ़ाने की दिशा में, जातियों का बैकग्राउंड देखकर अनुशंसा या मनाही करते हैं, उनके पास वह प्रस्ताव जाता है और जब वहां से सहमति आ जाती है तो एससी आयोग के पास वह विषय जाता है। पहले इन सब जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में मिलाने के लिए प्रस्ताव आया था और नियमानुसार हमने उसे आरजीआई के पास भेजा था। आरजीआई ने इन जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में सम्मिलित करने में असहमति व्यक्त की थी। जब आरजीआई इस संबंध में असहमति व्यक्त करते हैं तो यह व्यवस्था है कि हम संबंधित राज्य सरकार को आरजीआई की टिप्पणी पर प्रतिक्रिया जानने के लिए पत्र भेजते हैं। हमने उन्हें पत्र भेजा था। पहले तो एक बार उन्होंने इसको विद्‌ड्रॉ कर लिया था, लेकिन बाद में जब हमने फिर उनको भेजा तो अभी उनकी सहमति का पत्र आया है। वह जो सहमति ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : वह अलग-अलग सरकार में हुआ।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सरकार अलग-अलग पार्टियों की होती है, लेकिन सरकार तो एक ही होती है। सरकार तो सरकार ही होती है, सरकार का नाम तो एक ही होता है। नीरज जी, मैं उस विषय में ज्यादा कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूं। अभी 01.04.2015 को उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार से हमारे पास पत्र आया, जिसमें उन्होंने गोंड जाति को, 36 नम्बर पर जो प्रविष्टि है, गोंड, गौड, गोंदिया, कहार, कश्यप, बाथम — इन जातियों के बारे में उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से अनुशंसा नहीं की है, बाकी जातियों के बारे में अनुशंसा की है। जैसे ही यह अनुशंसा का पत्र हमारे पास आया, नियमानुसार हमने फिर से उसे आरजीआई के पास भेज दिया है। हमारी तरफ से 10 अप्रैल, 2015 को आरजीआई के पास उनकी राय के लिए प्रस्ताव भेजा गया है। अगर वे सकारात्मक राय देंगे, तो जब भी हमारे पास उनकी राय आ जाएगी, हम उसे एससी आयोग के पास भेज देंगे। जब एससी आयोग भी उस पर अपनी सहमति दे देगा तो मैं माननीय सदस्य को विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि हम इन जातियों को जोड़कर एक विधेयक संसद में प्रस्तुत करेंगे और संसद उस पर निर्णय करेगी। इस परिस्थिति में यह प्राइवेट मेंबर्स बिल, चूंकि इन्होंने जो लिखा है, उसमें से प्रविष्टि संख्या 36 पर जो उल्लेख किया है, उसके संबंध में राज्य सरकार से अनुशंसा ही नहीं आयी है। उनकी अनुशंसा के बिना अगर हम इसे कर देंगे तो यह विधिसम्मत नहीं होगा क्योंकि इसमें राज्य सरकार की अनुशंसा आवश्यक है और 36 नम्बर प्रविष्टि पर जो उल्लेख किया है, उसके संबंध में राज्य सरकार ने अनुशंसा नहीं की है। अगर हमने इस विधेयक को पारित कर दिया तो यह विधिसम्मत नहीं होगा इसलिए मैं अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि भावनात्मक रूप से तो मैं इससे सहमत हूं, आरजीआई और एससी आयोग अगर सहमति दे देगा तो मैं कह ही रहा हूं कि हम इस संबंध में विधेयक लाएंगे और कानून बनाकर इन जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में जोड़ देंगे, लेकिन चूंकि यह अभी प्रक्रियाधीन है और आज अगर हम इस विधेयक पर निर्णय करेंगे तो यह विधिसम्मत नहीं होगा क्योंकि आरजीआई की परमिशन और सहमति जरूरी है, एससी आयोग की सहमति जरूरी है और राज्य सरकार की अनुशंसा भी जरूरी है। चूंकि ये तीनों बातें अभी प्रक्रियाधीन हैं इसलिए आज के इस अवसर पर इस विधेयक को पारित करना जल्दबाजी होगा और विधिसम्मत भी नहीं होगा। मैं माननीय सदस्य से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वे इस विधेयक को वापस लें। जब आरजीआई की रिपोर्ट आएगी, अगर वह सकारात्मक आएगी तो उसे हम एससी आयोग को भेजेंगे और एससी आयोग की रिपोर्ट सकारात्मक आयी तो हम निश्चित रूप से कानून बनाने की दिशा में कारगर कदम बढ़ाएंगे।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जबाब में तर्क रखे हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने क्रम संख्या 36 के बारे में बताया है कि "गोंड" पर संस्तुति नहीं आई है और बाकी पर संस्तुति आई है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने तो पहले भी आश्वासन दिया था कि हम इसको करेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसके पीछे के कारण व उद्देश्य हम बताना चाहते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश देश का सबसे बड़ी आबादी वाला प्रदेश है। यहां कई जातियां हैं, जो सभी क्षेत्रों में समान रूप से पिछड़ी हुई जातियां हैं, मैं इनमें से कुछ के नाम बताना चाहता हूं। इस राज्य में बिंद, भर, राजभर, गौड़, कश्यप, कहार, गोडिया, वाथम, धीवर, धीमर, मल्लाह, केवट, निषाद, कुम्हार, प्रजापति, तुरहा, तुराहा जैसी जातियों के लोग बड़ी संख्या में रहते हैं। अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा किए गए सर्वेक्षणों/अध्ययनों की रिपोर्ट से पता चलता है कि उपर्युक्त उल्लिखित उप-जातियों में अस्पृश्यता परंपरागत प्रथा के रूप में विद्यमान है और यह आज भी निरन्तर व्याप्त है। आपस में शादी, विवाह, जीवन शैली, व्यवसाय और रीतियों की दृष्टि से बेलदार, गोंड, मंझवार, पासी, तरमाली, शिल्पकार, तुरैहा की परंपराएं एक जैसी हैं, क्योंकि ये इनके पर्यायवाची नाम हैं और ये उत्तर प्रदेश की अनुसूचित जाति की सूची में हैं। इसके संबंध में हम बताना चाहते हैं कि माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भैया राम मुंडा बनाम अनिरुद्ध पातर, ए.आई.आर., 1971, उच्चतम न्यायालय पृष्ठ संख्या 2523 में मछुवा समुदाय की उन विभिन्न जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने का आदेश दिया था। महोदय, इनके बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट भी कह रहा है। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने भी अपनी संस्तुति भेज दी है और लगातार एक ही पार्टी नहीं बल्कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो भी रूलिंग पार्टी रही है, भारतीय जनता पार्टी ने भी, जब इनके मुख्य मंत्री थे, तो उन्होंने भी कहा था कि हम इसको करेंगे, बीएसपी ने भी रिकमेंड किया था और हमारी समाजवादी पार्टी की सरकार ने लगातार 2004 में, 2006 में, 2007 में और 15 फरवरी, 2013 को केंद्र सरकार को इस अनुरोध के साथ पूरी रिपोर्ट सहित पत्र भेजा है कि संविधान के अनुच्छेद 341 में संशोधन कर इन जातियों को अनुसूचित जातियों की सूची में शामिल कर लिया जाए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसके बारे में जो आपत्ति भारत सरकार की ओर से 24 दिसम्बर, 2014 को गई थी, उसकी भी पूर्ति करके 01-04-2015 को उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा भेज दी गई है। अब माननीय मंत्री जी इसमें एक जाति के बारे में कहते हैं, चूंकि गोंड already अनुसूचित जाति में है, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि उसकी स्पेलिंग में थोड़ा अंतर होगा, आप उसको पढ़ लीजिएगा, उस वजह से आप ऐसा कह रहे हैं। हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि जब सारी व्यवस्था है और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से पहले भी रिपोर्ट्स आ चुकी हैं, इसके लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार तैयार है और उसने अपनी संस्तुति आपके पास भेज दी है। आपने कहा था कि आप रिपोर्ट भिजवाइए, हम तुरन्त करने को तैयार हैं। हम माननीय मंत्री जी से और पूरे सदन से यह निवेदन करना चाहेंगे कि इसमें सभी सदस्य अपनी सहमति जाहिर करें और इस विधेयक को पारित कराने में हमारा सहयोग करें। यही निवेदन हम माननीय मंत्री जी से भी करना चाहते हैं। आप एक क्लॉज की वजह से अड़ंगा लगा रहे हैं, आप इसे न मानें। आप इसको छोड़ दीजिए। मैं उस क्लॉज को वापस ले लूंगा और बाकी को पास करा दीजिए। मेरा यही अनुरोध है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): ऐसी स्थिति में यह पास नहीं हो सकता है। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहूंगा कि क्या आप इस बिल को विद्वद्ग कर रहे हैं?

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: सर, मैं विद्वद्ग नहीं कर रहा हूं।

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, ये विद्वद्ग कर ही नहीं सकते हैं। यह 17 जातियों का मामला है।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक मिनट। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने कहा कि "गोंड" जाति को विद्वद्ग कर लेंगे। परन्तु जैसा कि मैंने बताया कि नियम यह है कि जब राज्य सरकार का प्रस्ताव आता है, तो रजिस्ट्रार जनरल ऑफ इंडिया उसकी समीक्षा करता है, उसकी जांच-पड़ताल करता है और अपनी रिपोर्ट देता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मिनट। अगर सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट आती है, तो हम उस पर विचार करते हैं। उसके बाद उसे एस.सी. आयोग के पास भेज देते हैं। एस.सी. आयोग और आर.जी.आई. की सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट आती है, तो फिर हम विधेयक बनाते हैं, संसद में प्रस्तुत करते हैं और यहां से वह पारित होता है। अभी आर.जी.आई. की रिपोर्ट हमारे पास आई नहीं है, क्योंकि जो टिप्पणी पहले आर.जी.आई. ने की थी, उसका जबाव उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने सकारात्मक भेज दिया। उस जबाव को हमने आर.जी.आई. को भेजा है। एक अप्रैल को उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने हमें पत्र भेज दिया और हमने 10 अप्रैल को आर.जी.आई. के पास उस पत्र को भेज दिया। अब आर.जी.आई. के पास वह विचाराधीन है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मेरा एक सवाल है। जब "जाट" जाति को बैकवर्ड में शामिल किया था, तब बैकवर्ड कमीशन की इजाजत पहले ली थी या बाद में ली थी?

†چودھری منور سلیم (اُتر پردیش) : سر، میرا ایک سوال ہے۔ جب 'جاٹ' جاتی کو بیک-ورڈ میں شامل کیا تھا، تب بیک-ورڈ کمیشن کی اجازت پہلے لی تھی یا بعد میں لی تھی؟

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : जो हो गया है, मैं आप से उसके बारे में अलग से बात कर लूंगा। नीरज जी, इसमें जो नियम हैं, RGI अगर फिर से सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट भेजेगा, तो हम SC आयोग को भेजेंगे और यदि SC आयोग भी सकारात्मक सहमति दे देगा, तो हम विधेयक पेश करेंगे। हम आप से पहले ही बोल रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर : हम इस पर सवाल नहीं करेंगे, आप इसको पेंडिंग रखिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : आप मत बोलिए, इनको बोलने दीजिए। यह आपका बिल तो नहीं है? विशम्भर जी, आप बोलिए।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि मैंने जो संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014, विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया है, उसके पक्ष में रिपोर्ट भी आ गई है तथा जो क्वेरी मांगी थी, वह क्वेरी भी पूरी हो गई है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इसको पारित करवा दें, आपको इसमें क्या आपत्ति है? जब इसके पक्ष में रिपोर्ट भी आ गई है और आप भी कह रहे हैं कि क्वेरी पूरी हो गई है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): यह आपस का मामला नहीं है।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : मैंने बताया है कि हमने RGI के पास उस पत्र को भेजा है, RGI की सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट आएगी, तो हम SC आयोग को भेजेंगे। अगर SC आयोग और RGI, दोनों ने सहमति दे दी, तो हम विधेयक प्रस्तुत करने की कार्यवाही करेंगे, हम आपको यह बात तो कह रहे हैं। आज हम RGI की रिपोर्ट के बिना, RGI की सहमति के बिना और SC आयोग की सहमति के बिना इस पर विचार नहीं कर सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं आप से अनुरोध करूंगा कि यदि सहमति बनानी हो, तो आज आप इसको withdraw करें।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम चाहते हैं कि आप तब तक इस बिल को पेंडिंग रखें और समयबद्ध समय में RGI से इसकी रिपोर्ट मंगा लें। हम यही निवेदन करना चाहते हैं।

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी) : निषाद जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बारे में बहुत स्पष्ट तरीके से आश्वासन दिया है और पूरी ईमानदारी के साथ तथा पूरी ईमानदारी की नीयत के साथ दिया है और जो इसकी तकनीकी चीजें हैं, उनके बारे में बताया है। मुझे लगता है कि इसके बाद इसको withdraw करना चाहिए और इसके अतिरिक्त आपको जो भी सरकार और मंत्रालय से मदद चाहिए, आप समय-समय पर सम्पर्क करके expedite कराने में सहयोग भी कर सकते हैं और सुझाव भी दे सकते हैं।

श्री नीरज शेखर : माननीय मंत्री जी, हम 2004 से यह लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं। अब इसको 11 साल हो गए हैं, इसलिए हम कह रहे हैं।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : हम इस लड़ाई में आपके खिलाफ नहीं हैं। आप जो बात कह रहे हैं, हम भी उसको चाहते हैं, लेकिन उसकी एक तकनीकी व्यवस्था है। उस तकनीकी व्यवस्था को देखते हुए, माननीय मंत्री जी ने उसके बारे में डिटेल् में बताया है कि टेक्नीकल और लीगल, दोनों क्या-क्या प्रक्रियाएं हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह तो नहीं कहा है कि हम इसको नहीं करेंगे। हम तो खुद कह रहे हैं कि यह होना चाहिए, लेकिन जो इसका प्रोसेस है, उसको expedite करने की जरूरत है और वह हो रहा है।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पहले भी माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन कर चुका हूं। लोक सभा में मध्य प्रदेश, ओडिशा और त्रिपुरा में भी कुछ जातियों को जोड़ने का मामला आया था। हमारे राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष माननीय मुलायम सिंह यादव जी ने भी कहा था कि उत्तर प्रदेश की जो 17 पिछड़ी जातियां हैं, उनको शामिल किया जाए। माननीय मंत्री जी ने लोक सभा में भी आश्वासन दिया था और यहां भी आश्वासन दिया था, इसलिए आप इसको पास करवा दें। आप RGI से टाइम लेकर इसी सत्र में इसको पास करा दें और दस दिन में रिपोर्ट मंगा लें। आपके अधीन सारे मंत्रालय हैं, तब तक आप इसको पेंडिंग रखें। चूंकि हमारी उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने अपने चुनावी घोषणापत्र में कहा था, पिछली बार जब माननीय मुलायम सिंह यादव जी उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री थे, उन्होंने पांच बार इसकी संस्तुति भेजी थी। उस समय केंद्र में कांग्रेस की सरकार थी, तब यह नहीं हो पाया था। अब फिर से त्रुटियों को पूरा करके भेजने का काम किया है। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आप इसको समयबद्ध समय में कर दें। आप इसको पेंडिंग रखें और इसको पूरा करा दें।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात कही है कि रिपोर्ट आए और माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि रिपोर्ट अभी पेंडिंग है, तो रिपोर्ट आने के बाद ही इस बारे में कोई भी फैसला हो सकता है। इस दृष्टि से पेंडिंग रखने की जो इस तरह की अपील कर रहे हैं, तो मुझे लगता है कि हमें इसमें कोई एतराज नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : माननीय मंत्री जी, आप मोटे तौर पर इस पर कुछ कहिए।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : वैसे तो, वे कह रहे हैं कि पेंडिंग कर दो।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : आप कैसे पेंडिंग कर सकते हैं, बताइए।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : मैं इसको समझ नहीं पा रहा हूँ।

क्योंकि यह सदन जो भी निर्णय लेता है, विधि सम्मत निर्णय लेता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यहां नियमों के दायरे में आने वाली बातों का ही निर्णय करते हैं। मैंने निवेदन किया है कि राज्य सरकार का प्रस्ताव आ गया है। इन्होंने जिन जातियों का उल्लेख किया है, उनमें 36 नम्बर पर जो प्रविष्टि है, एक तो राज्य सरकार के प्रस्ताव में वह नहीं है। इस पर उन्होंने कह दिया कि मैं इसे विदड़ों कर लूँगा, परन्तु जो बाकी जातियों की सूचियां हैं, वे आरजीआई के पास विचाराधीन हैं। आरजीआई की सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट के बिना हम कार्रवाई नहीं कर सकते हैं, यह नियम में प्रावधान है। यह कानून संसद ने ही बनाया है। आरजीआई की सकारात्मक सहमति हो जाएगी, तो हम उसे एससी आयोग के पास भेजेंगे। अगर एससी आयोग भी सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट देगा और दोनों की सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट होगी, तो हम विधेयक पेश करेंगे और सदन से आग्रह करेंगे कि उसको पास किया जाए।

श्री नीरज शेखर : वह तो हम लोग समझ गए। मैं कह रहा हूँ कि तब तक इसको पेंडिंग रख लीजिए।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : जब हम विधेयक पेश करेंगे, तो यह संसद का अधिकार हो जाता है, वह संसद की सम्पत्ति है, वह उस पर सकारात्मक निर्णय करेगी और उसको पास करेगी, तो कानून बन जाएगा और अगर नहीं, तो जो है, वह है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Nishad, have you also replied?

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, अभी संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी से मैंने अनुरोध किया था, आप रिकॉर्ड उठा कर देख लें, उन्होंने कह दिया कि इसको पेंडिंग रखें और इसकी रिपोर्ट जल्दी मँगवा लें, इसके बाद इसे पास कराएँ। महोदय, यह सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है। संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी ने कह दिया, तो माननीय मंत्री जी इसको पेंडिंग करवा दें। इसमें क्या दिक्कत है?

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : मैं इस सम्बन्ध में फिर निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इसको विदड़ों करना ही ज्यादा उपयुक्त होगा और विधिसम्मत होगा। मान लीजिए कि आरजीआई ने नकारात्मक रिपोर्ट दे दी, तो इसे पेंडिंग रखने से भी क्या फायदा होगा?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Not pending.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : फिर अगर आरजीआई ने सकारात्मक रिपोर्ट दे दी और हमने एससी आयोग से रिपोर्ट माँगी। अगर एससी आयोग नकारात्मक रिपोर्ट दे देगा, तो फिर क्या होगा? मैं आपको विश्वास दिला रहा हूँ कि अगर दोनों जगह से सकारात्मक अनुशंसा के साथ प्रतिवेदन आ जाएगा, तो हम इस पर गम्भीरता से विचार करेंगे और विधेयक संसद में लाएँगे। उसको पारित करना या न करना, यह संसद का अधिकार है। मैं आज कुछ कहने की स्थिति में नहीं हूँ। उस समय संसद उसको पास करेगी, तो ठीक है और अगर वह उसको पास नहीं करेगी, तो फिर यह पास नहीं होगा। मैं तो यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आज इसको पारित करना या इस पर कुछ करना विधिसम्मत नहीं होगा, क्योंकि इससे सम्बन्धित मामला अन्य उपयुक्त स्थान पर विचाराधीन है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, there are only two options. First is, I think, Mr. Nishad wants that the debate should be adjourned for a future day so that the report, etc. come. That is what you want. The second option is that Mr. Nishad may agree to withdraw the Bill. The third option is, if you don't withdraw, I will have to put to vote. There are three options before me. I will repeat once again. Rule 117 says, 'at any stage of a Bill which is under discussion in the Council, a Motion that the debate on the Bill be adjourned may be moved with the consent of the Chair.' That means a Motion can be moved, if I permit. I have not permitted so far. आप बैठिए, मैंने अभी कंफ्लिट नहीं किया है। अगर मैं परमिशन देता हूँ, तो आपको एक मोशन मूव करना पड़ेगा कि बिल को एड्जर्न किया जाए, or anybody can move. The second option is, you withdraw the Bill with the consent of the House. The third option is, put the Bill for vote. Now, what is your view? What is your view out of these three options? Or, Naqviji will say.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : उपसभापति महोदय, अगर आप इसे पेंडिंग रखना चाहें, तो मैं इससे सहमत हूँ, हमारी तरफ से कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। आसंदी जैसा निर्णय करे, मैं उससे सहमत हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, fine.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): सर, एक सॉल्यूशन है। इन्होंने कहा कि जब तक वे दो रिपोर्ट्स नहीं आ जातीं, तब तक हम इस पर कुछ नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए वे रिपोर्ट्स आने तक इसे विदड्रॉ कर लें और रिपोर्ट्स आने के बाद नया बिल दे दें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; Mr. Nishad, one option is withdraw and wait, अगर नहीं, तो move a Motion to adjourn the discussion. What will you do?

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार की मंशा ठीक है, क्योंकि माननीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री जी भी इसके लिए आश्वासन दे रहे हैं एवं माननीय सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री जी भी इसके लिए आश्वासन दे रहे हैं कि हम इस विधेयक को लाएंगे। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इसके लिए संस्तुति भेज दी है,

तो मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि जब तक इसकी रिपोर्ट आए, तब तक के लिए इसको लम्बित रखा जाए, उसके बाद यह हो जाएगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; that means you want to keep it pending. अगर ऐसा है, तो you move a motion saying, "I move that the discussion on the Bill may be adjourned for a future date." आपको यह मोशन इस तरह मूव करना होगा।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

कि संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश, 1950 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को लम्बित रखा जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the House is in agreement with the motion.

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The entire House agrees. So, that motion is adopted. The discussion on the Bill is adjourned.

The Orphans (Reservaton of Posts in Government Establishment) Bill, 2012

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

कि सरकारी स्थापन में अनाथों के लिए पदों का आरक्षण और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाए।

महोदय, मुझे लगता है कि आज का दिन सामाजिक कार्यों से सम्बन्धित विधेयकों का ही दिन है। यह बिल मूव करने से पहले मैंने अनाथ बच्चों के बारे में बहुत स्टडी किया और मैं खुद भी इन बच्चों के काम से जुड़ा रहा हूँ। मैंने उनकी जो वेदना देखी है, उस वेदना को ध्यान में रखते हुए, मेरे पास यही ऑप्शन था कि मैं एक ऐसा बिल लाऊँ जो देश के करोड़ों बच्चों के कल्याण के लिए हो। एक सर्वे आया है, उसके हिसाब से इस देश में 20 बिलियन के करीब ऑर्फन्स हैं, लेकिन केंद्र सरकार के पास ऐसा कोई ऑथेंटिक डाटा या सर्वे नहीं है, जिससे यह बताया सके कि इस देश में वास्तव में कितने ऑर्फन्स हैं। अभी लोक सभा में एक अनस्टार्ड क्वेश्चन 803 आया था, जिसका रिप्लाई 27.02.2015 को दिया गया था। उस उत्तर में भी यह कहा गया था कि केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से ऐसा कोई सर्वे नहीं हुआ है, जिससे यह बताया जा सके कि ऑर्फन्स की निश्चित संख्या कितनी है, लेकिन ऑर्फन्स बहुत बड़ी संख्या में हैं, यह बात तो सभी मानते हैं।

महोदय, अब मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि ये ऑर्फन्स क्या-क्या डिफिकल्टीज़ फेस करते हैं। उनके सामने सबसे बड़ी डिफिकल्टी यह है कि इन बच्चों को यह ही नहीं मालूम कि इनके माता-पिता कौन हैं। जब भी कोई नवजात बच्चा कहीं छोड़ दिया जाता है, तो उसको उठाकर सरकार अपने ऑर्फन्स होम में रख लेती है। उस बच्चे के पेरेंट्स कौन हैं, उसकी कास्ट क्या है, उसका बर्थ सर्टिफिकेट कहां है, इस सबका कोई परिचय उसके पास नहीं होता है।

[श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना]

महोदय, मैंने जो बिल दिया है, वह तो इन बच्चों की जॉब के लिए है, लेकिन इनके सामने इनिशियल डिफिकल्टीज क्या हैं, वह मैं बताना चाहूंगा। आज जबकि राइट टू एजुकेशन ऐक्ट पास हो गया है, उसके लिए भी एक व्यक्ति के पास तीन चीजें होनी जरूरी हैं। पहली चीज, उसके पास बर्थ सर्टिफिकेट हो, दूसरा, उसके पास कास्ट सर्टिफिकेट हो और तीसरा, उसकी आइडेंटिफिकेशन के लिए राशन कार्ड या बीपीएल कार्ड इत्यादि हो। जब एक अनाथ बच्चे को कहीं एडमिशन लेने के लिए जाना होता है, तो चूंकि उसके पास कोई बर्थ सर्टिफिकेट नहीं है, इसलिए उसका कास्ट सर्टिफिकेट नहीं बनेगा और कास्ट सर्टिफिकेट नहीं होगा, तो उसको स्कूल में एडमिशन नहीं मिलेगा। एक बहुत बड़ी डिफिकल्टी, एक बहुत बड़ी त्रासदी उन बच्चों के साथ यह जुड़ी हुई है कि ये बच्चे किसी स्कूल में नहीं पढ़ सकते। तब ये बच्चे पढ़ते कहां हैं? इसके लिए सरकार के कुछ ऑफ़िस हाउसेज हैं, ये बच्चे वहां जाते हैं, फिर एसओएस विलेजेज हैं, जहां दसवीं के बाद प्लस टू के लिए उन्हें भेज दिया जाता है। यहां पर उन्हें वोकेशनल ट्रेनिंग या प्लस टू तक की हायर एजुकेशन दी जाती है और इसके बाद बच्चों को समाज के हवाले कर दिया जाता है। लेकिन इसके बाद वे बच्चे कहां जाएं, इसके लिए एक बहुत बड़ा अंधेरा उनके सामने होता है। मैं समझता हूं कि उन बच्चों के लिए यह एक बहुत बड़ी सामाजिक त्रासदी है, बुराई है। इस तरह सारी उम्र इन बच्चों को अपनी पहचान नहीं मिल पाती है। इसके लिए क्या हल हो सकता है? सर, इसका हल यही हो सकता है कि जब बच्चे प्लस टू पढ़कर, टेक्निकल एजुकेशन लेकर उन एसओएस विलेजेज से निकलते हैं, तो उन बच्चों के लिए सरकारी जॉब में रिजर्वेशन दी जाए। अगर यह रिजर्वेशन होगा, तो वे बच्चे जब जॉब करेंगे, तो जॉब करते समय उनको एक सामाजिक recognition मिल पायेगी और वे समाज का एक अच्छा अंग बन पायेंगे। नहीं तो क्या होगा, सर? आज हम देखते हैं कि बच्चों से क्राइम करवाने के लिए भी, एक सिस्टमेटिक ढंग से उन बच्चों को क्राइम में डालने के लिए भी बहुत से लोग काम कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उन बच्चों को जुवेनाइल एक्ट के तहत सजा में नरमी है और उनको जुवेनाइल होम्स में रखा जायेगा, उनको फ्री वकील दिया जायेगा। तो क्राइम करने वालों ने भी बच्चों को अपना एक हथियार बना लिया है। जब उन्होंने बच्चों को अपना हथियार बना लिया है, तो हमारी सरकार का भी फर्ज है कि वह उन बच्चों को एक पहचान दे। आज हम कहते हैं कि बच्चे देश का भविष्य हैं। हम ऐसा क्यों कहते हैं? हम ऐसा इसलिए कहते हैं कि अगर हमने एक बच्चे को पढ़ा-लिखा कर इस देश की सेवा करने के योग्य बना दिया, तो वह बच्चा देश का धन बन सकता है। जब बच्चा माता-पिता के पास रहता है, तो उसके पास बहुत सी सुविधाएँ रहती हैं। फिर भी अगर डेटा देखें तो उनका ड्रॉप आउट होता है। बच्चे स्कूल छोड़ कर चले जाते हैं। लेकिन, उन बच्चों की पोजिशन क्या होगी, जिनके पास न तो मां-बाप हैं, न उनको कोई समझाने वाला है और न ही उनको कोई प्यार करने वाला है? सिर्फ कुछ परसेंट ऐसे बच्चे हैं, जो उन होम्स में जाते हैं, जहां पर उनको पढ़ाने-लिखाने का काम किया जाता है। उसके बाद, 12वीं के बाद, जब वे मेजर हो जाते हैं, तो उनको छोड़ दिया जाता है। इसलिए सर, मैं चाहूंगा कि हमारी सरकार की यह जिम्मेवारी है कि उन बच्चों के लिए जॉब में रिजर्वेशन देने का काम किया जाए।

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने एक suomoto मोशन लिया था। 2011 में दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट में एक writ petition दायर हुई थी। उसने observation दी थी कि कम से कम एक register maintain करके या record maintain करके उन बच्चों को इस abuse से बचाया जाए। तो सर, इसके लिए एक 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme' है, जो सरकार की है। लेकिन, बात फिर से ऑफ़िस की

आती है। सरकार ऑफ़िस को क्या सुविधाएँ देती है? मैं समझता हूँ कि ऑफ़िस को मान-सम्मान देने के लिए एक ही तरीका है और वह है- सरकारी नौकरियों में उनको रिजर्वेशन।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) पीठासीन हुए]

सर, जब मैं इस केस को देख रहा था, स्टडी कर रहा था, तो मैंने पाया कि एक 'National Foundation for Communal Harmony' बना हुआ है। वह एक अलग तरह के बच्चों के लिए है। जब कोई communal violence होता है, उसमें जिन बच्चों के माता-पिता मारे जाते हैं, उनको देखने के लिए यह फाउंडेशन बना हुआ है। लेकिन, इसके अंतर्गत भी वे बच्चे नहीं आ पाते, जिनके मां-बाप उनके जन्म लेने के बाद एक दिन उन्हें abandon कर देते हैं, छोड़ देते हैं। कुछ ऐसे बच्चे भी हैं, जो कहीं गुम हो गये और उनके माता-पिता का पता नहीं है। ऐसे बच्चे भी हैं, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उनके लिए सरकार की जिम्मेवारी है। सरकार वह जिम्मेवारी निभाते हुए उन्हें मान-सम्मान देने के लिए उन बच्चों को रिजर्वेशन दे।

सर, मैंने इसमें पूरे प्रावधान बताने की कोशिश की है। मैंने यह भी कहा है कि अगर कोई बच्चा अपने आपको गलत तरीके से ऑफ़न शो करता है, अगर उसका सर्टिफिकेट गलत निकलता है, पहले तो ऐसा सर्टिफिकेट मिलता ही नहीं है, लेकिन अगर वह कोई ऐसी declaration देता है कि वह ऑफ़न है और उससे वह कुछ benefits लेता है, तो उसके खिलाफ भी कार्रवाई होगी। अगर कोई उसको गलत तरीके से सर्टिफाई करता है, तो उसके खिलाफ भी कार्रवाई हो। लेकिन, इतना कुछ होने के बावजूद सरकार कोई ऐसी पॉलिसी फ्रेम करे कि जब कोई ऑफ़न बच्चा जॉब के लिए जाये, तो उसके लिए हर सेक्टर में व्यवस्था हो, चाहे वह प्राइवेट सेक्टर हो, गवर्नमेंट सेक्टर हो या स्टेट हो, तो जैसे अलग-अलग quotas हैं, स्पोर्ट्स का कोटा अलग है, जाति का कोटा अलग है, तो वैसी ही व्यवस्था उनके लिए भी हो। सर, मान लीजिए कि एक बच्चा शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट की फैमिली में पैदा हुआ, अगर उसके मां-बाप हैं और वह ऑफ़न नहीं है, तो उसके पास शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट का सर्टिफिकेट होगा तथा जो फैसिलिटीज़ शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के बच्चों को मिलती हैं, जैसे—फ्री एजुकेशन, फ्री बुक्स, स्कॉलरशिप तथा उसके बाद जॉब में रिजर्वेशन और प्रमोशन में भी रिजर्वेशन, ये सारी फैसिलिटीज़ उसको भी मिलेंगी। लेकिन, अगर कोई बच्चा जन्मा तो शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के परिवार में है, लेकिन ऑफ़न होने के कारण उसका कोई जाति सर्टिफिकेट उसके पास नहीं है, तो वह इन सभी सुविधाओं से वंचित हो जायेगा। इसलिए, उसका एक ही हल है। मैं समझता हूँ कि उसका ऑफ़न होना ही एक बहुत बड़ी त्रासदी है। अगर कोई ऑफ़न बच्चा किसी जॉब के लिए अप्लाई करता है, तो सरकार को प्रायोरिटी के बेसिस पर उसको रिजर्वेशन देना चाहिए।

सर, आज कोई बच्चा बड़ा हुआ, तो उसके बाद उसे अपनी फैमिली लाइफ भी बितानी है, लेकिन बिना सोशल स्टेटस के वह अपनी फैमिली लाइफ भी नहीं बिता सकता। जॉब होगी, तो उसको समाज का स्टेटस मिलेगा। मैं ज्यादा समय न लेते हुए केवल इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि यह बात छोटी है, लेकिन बहुत बड़ी है। देश के जितने orphan बच्चे हैं, आज वे इस बात को सुन रहे हैं कि आज सरकार उनके लिए क्या कर रही है, पार्लियामेंट के कितने मेम्बर्स उनके हक में बोल रहे हैं। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि orphans के लिए जो भी सुविधाएं हैं, उनको देते हुए उनको जॉब में रिजर्वेशन जरूर दें। सर, इतनी बात कहते हुए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ और मैं चाहूंगा कि यह सदन भी इस पर अपनी भावनाएं व्यक्त करे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

The question was proposed.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Respected Vice-Chairman, Sir, this Friday is really a great day for Rajya Sabha. We have just now created a Parliamentary history by according our respect to the genuine concerns of transgenders in the nation. Now, the humble personality, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, who is now the Chief Whip of Treasury Benches in this House, has moved a very important piece of private legislation, which is to look after the welfare of the dependent society of the Indian nation, that is, orphans. Avinash Raiji has been waiting since 2012 to debate this social defence mechanism, for the welfare of orphans! Just yesterday, we heard sensational exposure in Jharkhand. Those who are deprived of their own safe livelihood, those who are not having the safe future were being tortured and transformed as pseudo naxals in Jharkhand to take the benefit and to throw a challenge to the nation. At this juncture, we are debating on a very vital issue, that is, social defence and social justice of the minority component of the Indian society. Orphans are really very less. There were homes to look after juveniles who were doing some mistake and they were grabbed or picked up by the administration through the police. The remaining make their shelters along the footpaths, before railway stations, before huge bus stations and at several other public places. It is not an unknown thing that at several important temples, thousands and thousands of orphans stand in queue daily to take their bread and better, roti aur aaloo; chawal or sambhar. This fate of those deprived sections is questioning us – the society, the Government and the legislative body. What are the ready mechanisms to look after their welfare, to ensure their future and to make them useful for the society?

If we study the profiles and personalities of Abraham Lincoln, Barack Obama, Steve Jobs, we will realize what sort of torture and turmoil they have undergone in their juvenile age. Steve Jobs who is a model for the able, hopeful, dreamful thinking and achievement is proud enough to claim that he lived on the food available before the temples of America, and that too the Hindu temples of America. This situation is prevalent in poorer nations, developing nations and semi-developed nations like India also. Orphanage is the responsibility. This is not charity. This is the utmost important responsibility of the Administration of the society. This is what the Veda has taught us, the Quran has taught us and even the Bible is teaching us. If we take the Directive Principles of the Vedic form of life, first we have to look after the needy. Who are the needy? The needy are those who are not able to record their parenthood, those who are not able to record their guardian and parent in their registry. For several other requirements, they are the first people who are supposed to be looked after by the society and its Head, that is, the Government.

So, while appreciating the gesture of Avinash Rai Khannaji in bringing a Private Member's legislation to highlight, to sensitize and to enlighten the Administration,

the present Administration, which claims "सबका साथ, सबका विकास", मेरी मांग है कि आप इनसे शुरु कीजिए। जो शरणार्थी जैसा जीवन जी रहे हैं, उनकी तरफ ध्यान देने के लिए हो सके तो इस बिल को पास कीजिए या इन बिन्दुओं पर सरकार का ध्यान तत्क्षण आकर्षित हो। इसके साथ ही, जो व्यवस्था हमने अभी तक तैयार करके रखी है, वह मजबूत नहीं है और इस कारण हम उन पर पूरा ध्यान नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं केंद्र सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन पर ध्यान देने का यही असली मौका है। जो लोग शरणार्थी जैसा जीवन जी रहे हैं, उन लोगों को काबिल इंसान बनाना चाहिए, उनको असली नागरिक जैसा बनाना चाहिए। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन लोगों की पूरी शक्ति समाज के उद्धार की तरफ इस्तेमाल करने के लिए यही मौका है। इस मांग के साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि अविनाश राय खन्ना जी जो ट्रेजरी बेंचेज में हैं, if he could convince his Benches, it is not at all a big deal to pass this Bill. We are here ready to support you Avinash Rai Khannaji. If your Benches, the Treasury Benches, are ready to move in this direction, then we can also make a history today. Today, just now, Thaawar Chand Gehlotji, a very humble Minister and Arun Jaitleyji, a very humble and dignified Leader of the House – we are proud to see them – have done that. I have personally gone to them and appreciated for their magnanimity in accepting the proposal of Tiruchi Sivaji. Likewise, we call upon the Union Government and if you, being the Chief Whip of your Treasury Benches, can convince them and if they are ready, we are also ready to pass this Bill. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Hon. Minister, please.

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री; तथा अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (डा. जितेंद्र सिंह) : आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे एक वरिष्ठ सहयोगी एवं इस सभा के बड़े आदरणीय सदस्य श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना जी ने जो बिल रखा है, वह निहायत ही संवेदनशील है और इसका विषय भी बड़ा संवेदनशील है। उसके पक्ष में आदरणीय भास्कर जी ने भी बहुत संवेदनशील बिन्दु रखे हैं। इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि जहां तक समाज के इस वर्ग की पीड़ा और उनकी दशा का प्रश्न है जिन्हें हम अनाथ कहते हैं, वैसे देखा जाए तो यह भारत इतना विशाल देश है और इतनी प्राचीन संस्कृति है इसकी और प्रजातंत्र इतना प्रबल है, देखा जाए तो मैं व्यक्तिगत तौर पर समझता हूँ कि यह परिभाषा भी शायद बड़ी उचित नहीं, क्योंकि इस देश में कोई अपने आपको अनाथ कहे या कहलाया जाए, वह हम सब की सम्पत्ति है। A civilization as old as that of India and a country with such an amazing resilience and a vibrant democracy should have the capacity to own each of its subjects so that nobody has to feel about himself or herself as being an orphan. But having said that, Sir, यह बात भी सत्य है कि ऐसा एक वर्ग है जिसे अनाथ कहा जाता है और हम आभारी हैं श्री अविनाश राय जी के जिन्होंने बड़े ही सुंदर ढंग से उनकी दशा को आप सब के आगे और सभा के आगे प्रस्तुत किया। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे पहले मैं इसके ठोस बिन्दुओं पर आऊँ, यह एक ऐसा विषय है अनाथ वर्ग का या कोई भी अन्य वर्ग जिसे हम

[डा. जितेंद्र सिंह]

समझते हैं कि शायद उस प्रकार से जिसका सशक्तिकरण नहीं हुआ, जिस प्रकार होना चाहिए, यह जिम्मेदारी केवल सरकार तक या किसी और संस्था तक सीमित नहीं रहती। The issue is too serious to be left to a Government alone. जैसा मैंने आरम्भ में कहा कि होना तो यह चाहिए था और शायद the founding fathers of civilization and the founding fathers of the democracy might have also envisaged or dreamt that, at least, 60 years later nobody would have reason to call himself or herself an orphan. परन्तु अब जिम्मेदारी जैसे मैंने कहा कि सब की है, तो अपने-अपने ढंग से सब योगदान भी करते हैं। जब तक अविनाश राय जैसे, भास्कर जी जैसे लोग हमारे बीच हैं जो दूसरों को भी प्रेरित करते हैं, तो समाज में भी एक भाव है इस वर्ग के प्रति और स्वयं मैं चिकित्सक हूँ और शायद बात कहने वाली नहीं, अक्सर हम कहते भी नहीं, लेकिन 1996-97 के बाद मैंने अपने लिए भी एक नियम बनाया था कि प्रत्येक juvenile diabetic, Type I Diabetic जिसे हम कहते हैं, बच्चा diabetic होता है, तो उसको मैं इंसुलिन का मुफ्त प्रावधान करता हूँ। मैं कहता था कि इससे बड़ा लाभ हो जाता है आपको मंदिर जाने की आवश्यकता नहीं रहती। आप इन बच्चों की सेवा करके मान लीजिए कि मंदिर हो आए। तो 20-25 वर्षों से हमने अपने लिए यह एक नियम बनाया। तो यह भी एक तरह की पूजा है, तपस्या है, इबादत है। कहने का अर्थ यह है इस प्रकार के वर्ग की सेवा करना। Bhaskarji has pointed out that it is, sometimes, painful to witness the scene of such children being left in the lurch outside temples, outside shrines and outside places of worship. Places which are considered sacred, which should actually evoke some kind of a feeling of devotion and some kind of higher understanding about ourselves and about mankind, sometimes, present scenes of these unfortunate children. It not only gives a picture which is not very much conducive to the kind of scene that we envisage for ourselves but also gives you a kind of remorse and apology for being members of the society and for having failed to serve to the extent that we should have served or we are expected to serve. But this is again a saga going on for several years. अविनाश राय जी ने एक बहुत अच्छी बात कही and Bhaskarji, in his own way, also put it in a different way that this is also a section of society which may have fallen into this category for a variety of reasons. Some of them may have lost their parents; some of them may have been deserted by their parents; some of them, as Avinashji was saying, may not be even aware of their parents and thereby some of them may not be even aware of their religion or the caste or creed. So, this is a unique group which is symbolic of a unique class which is not tagged down by a particular creed or class and, therefore, they deserve the opportunity to grow up in a more dispassionate and unintimidated atmosphere because their minds are still raw and they are not affected by the influences of any caste or creed. That reminds a famous poem which was later on converted into a song written by Sahir आप सभी ने गाना सुना होगा, "तू हिंदू बनेगा, न मुसलमान बनेगा..., उसमें एक पंक्ति है कि, "वह इल्म जो तुझे इंसान न बनने दे, उस इल्म के इल्जाम से तू वाकिफ नहीं है।" So, the knowledge or the education which imparts you the realization of whether you are

dogmatically of this caste or creed sometimes may end up as a curse rather than education. So, the poet sarcastically says that you are a lucky young boy who is still not affected by the curse of the education which has been imparted to us and which has given us, rightly or wrongly, the ability or disability to distinguish between one caste and other. Therefore, Sir, there is no second thought about the kind of sympathy, the kind of attention that this group or society deserves. But, having said that, Sir, I stand before you with the responsibility of doing some ministerial talk which I would be doing in the next two or three minutes. Sir, as we all know, we have Article 16(4) enshrined in the Constitution which makes provisions for the reservation in appointment of posts in favour of any backward class citizens who, in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the services under the State. Under this class, we have three categories -- the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes. Later on, we also have the famous Indira Sawhney judgment which also makes it binding on us that the reservation should not exceed more than 50 per cent and above the reservation already existing for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the OBCs. So, keeping all these points in consideration, as we stand today, it may not be possible for the Department, which I represent, to entertain a proposal for having another class of reservation, for reasons of Constitutional validity and also for reasons of complexities that might occur as a sequence of events following this, or, a sequel to this. But, meanwhile, we have not necessarily in the Ministry which I am representing, but in other Ministries, for example, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development -- certain programmes, which are expected to cater, which are also possibly catering, to this section of society. They have a number of schemes. One of them is called the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS); the other one being the Child Care Institutions (CCIs) under the Scheme, which are being run, which are meant to provide support and sponsorship to the children who need care and protection, regardless of whether they are orphans or not, which also include orphans.

Similarly, under the category of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the reservation is also applicable to the orphan individuals belonging to these Castes or these Tribes. Avinash Raiji was rightly concerned, और उन्होंने एक बड़ा अच्छा बिन्दु रखा कि 2011 में दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय की ओर से एक रजिस्ट्री बनाने का सुझाव आया था। We can convey it to the concerned Ministry because it strictly does not come under the Ministry which I represent. However, we have a certain record from the other Ministry, which I collected, which was not directly related to us, from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, which pointed out to the fact that in the last three years and the current year, as many as 95,590 children have been offered this support and sponsorship under various schemes of the Government of India.

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So, Sir, having said that, while endorsing and also expressing all the sympathy, affection and concern for this section of society, and towards the end, to reiterate, as I said, that for a civilisation as ancient as India and a country as vibrant and as resilient as India, ideally, we should not have had a class of orphans, and nobody should have thought of himself as an orphan. But, then, I think the issue has to be dealt in a manner differently from just bringing about a legislation. The responsibility is too large to be taken over by legal options only; it has also to be taken over by other higher means. Therefore, while endorsing what the hon. Members and Avinash Raiji has said, I humbly request that the Bill may be withdrawn.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Mr. Avinash Rai Khanna, would you like to have any reply?

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। हम जब दो बच्चों का कंपरेजन करते हैं और जब बच्चों का कंपरेजेन करते हैं, तो उसमें हमें देखना पड़ेगा। एक बार मैं अपने एक दोस्त के घर गया। वह अपनी बच्ची की बात करने लगा कि घर पहुंचने के लिए बस को जब पांच मिनट रह जाते हैं, तो बस से बच्ची फोन करती है कि मम्मी, मेरे कमरे का ए.सी. ऑन कर देना और हमें कमरे का ए.सी. ऑन करना पड़ता है। जब वह बच्ची कोई शरारत करती है, तो उसकी मम्मी उसे सजा क्या देती है, सजा देती नहीं, कहने के लिए सजा, कहती है कि देख बेटे, मैं तुम्हें नॉन-ए.सी. स्कूल में डाल दूंगी। वह बच्ची ए.सी. स्कूल में पढ़ती है, ए.सी. बस से स्कूल जाती है, घर में ए.सी. रूम में रहती है। उसको यह धमकी दी जाती है कि मैं तुम्हें नॉन-ए.सी. स्कूल में डाल दूंगी। तो बच्ची हैरान होकर पूछती है कि मां, क्या नॉन-ए.सी. स्कूल भी होते हैं? एक तो यह क्लास है। महोदय, मैं दूसरी क्लास के बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ कि बच्चा क्या खा रहा है, क्या पी रहा है, घर पर कब आएगा, कौन पूछेगा, उसे प्यार से कौन मारेगा, कौन दुलारेगा? अगर मां मारती है, तो बाप उसे प्यार करता है। अगर बाप मारता है, तो मां उसे प्यार करती है, भाई प्यार करता है। कहने के लिए उसके बहुत रिश्ते हैं। मां है, बाप है, दादा है, दादी है और चाचा आदि हैं, लेकिन ऑरफन्स को कहने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं है, न उसके लिए रिश्ते हैं, न उसे कोई प्यार करने वाला है, न कोई दुलार करने वाला है।

सर, मैंने उन हाउसेस को देखा है, जहां वे बच्चे रहते हैं। एक कमरे में हो सकता है कि अच्छे घर के बच्चे का टी.वी. अलग, उसका बाथरूम अलग, लैट्रीन अलग, ड्रैसिंग रूम अलग और डबल बैड लगा हुआ हो और हो सकता है यदि मिडिल क्लास फेमिली का बच्चा हो, तो उसे एक बैड अलग देकर रखें, लेकिन ऑरफन्स बच्चों को मैंने देखा है, वे कैसे सोते हैं। एक बच्चे का बैड, उसके ऊपर दूसरा बैड, उसके ऊपर तीसरा बैड और उसके ऊपर चौथा बैड। इस प्रकार वे बच्चे उन घरों में रहते हैं।

महोदय, उन बच्चों के लिए सुबह के नाश्ते का कोई ऑप्शन नहीं है। एक मां अपने बच्चे से रात को पूछती है कि सुबह क्या खाओगे, दोपहर को क्या खाओगे और रात को क्या खाओगे, लेकिन ऑरफन्स बच्चों के लिए कोई ऑप्शन नहीं है। उनके लिए जो बना है, वही उन्हें खाना है। वे मां और बाप के प्यार से भी वंचित होते हैं। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से रिव्वैस्ट करूंगा कि

ठीक है, कांस्टीट्यूशन के हिसाब से हम 50 परसेंट से ज्यादा रिजर्वेशन नहीं दे सकते, लेकिन क्या आप इस हाउस को ऐश्वोर कर सकते हैं कि ऑरफन्स के लिए कोई ऐसी कमेटी बनाकर के ऑरफन्स के लिए हम क्या-क्या कर सकते हैं, इसका अध्ययन कराया जाएगा।

सर, पैसा ही सब कुछ नहीं होता। पहली बात जो मैंने कही कि एक तो हमारी सरकार के पास ऑरफन्स का कोई डाटा नहीं है। क्या डाटा इकट्ठा करने के लिए सरकार कोई प्रयास करेगी? उन्हें हम और क्या सुविधा दे सकते हैं और क्या सी.एस.आर. में उन बच्चों को जॉब दिलाने के लिए क्या हम प्राइवेट कंपनियों के ऊपर दबाव डाल सकते हैं, सरकार में रिजर्वेशन हो, क्या ऐसी कोई कमेटी फॉर्मेशन का प्रयास कर सकते हैं? अगर ऐसी बात माननीय मंत्री जी कह सकते हैं, तो मैं इसे वापस लेने पर पुनः एक बार इस पर विचार कर सकता हूं। मैं इतना कह कर माननीय मंत्री जी से रिव्रैस्ट करूंगा कि कम से कम एक अनाथ के लिए कोई नाथ बन जाए, कोई सहारा बन जाए, कोई दो शब्द बोलने वाला बन जाए, जिनके न बाप का पता न मां का पता। जब वे 18 वर्ष के हो जाते हैं और जब वे अपने सर्टीफिकेट को लेकर घूमते हैं, तो जिस होम में वे दाखिल हुए थे, उसके सुपरिंटेंडेंट का नाम उनके साथ चलता है। वे कितनी बड़ी वेदना सारी उम्र झेलते हैं, इसका आप जरा अनुमान लगाइए। ठीक है, कंसर्न है, मंत्री जी की खुद की पर्सनैलिटी ऐसी है, उनका व्यक्तित्व ऐसा है, वे कुछ सेवा करते हैं। मैंने उन्हें देखा भी है। मैं इसे समझता हूं। मैं चाहता हूं कि वे कुछ एश्योरेंस दें, ताकि इस दिशा में काम कुछ आगे बढ़ सके। उन बच्चों के बारे में आज नहीं कल, हम नहीं कोई और सोच सके, ऐसा प्रयास कर सकें, तो अच्छा होगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): So, now, Mr. Avinash Rai Khanna, are you withdrawing the Bill or should I put the motion to vote?

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, मैं मंत्री जी की ओर से सिर्फ एक आश्वासन चाहता हूं। अगर इस विषय में वे कुछ आश्वासन दे सकें, तो बेहतर है। सर, सभी बातें कानून के दायरे में नहीं होतीं। बहुत सी बातें कानून के बाहर, सामाजिक दायरे में भी होती हैं।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमारे कोंकण एरिया में एक ऑरफनेज हम चलाते हैं। उसके लिए सरकार जो मदद करती है, वह मदद टाइम पर बिलकुल नहीं मिलती है और जो मिलती है, उससे उसे चलाना बहुत ही मुश्किल होता है। वह लड़कियों का ऑरफनेज है और बहुत अच्छा ऑरफनेज है। वहां कोई गड़बड़ी नहीं होती। उनके लिए जो भी चीजें खरीदनी होती हैं या खाने के लिए सामान खरीदना होता है, उनके लिए समय पर मदद नहीं मिलने की वजह से हर समय कहीं न कहीं भीख मांगने जैसी स्थिति हो जाती है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूं कि गवर्नमेंट सिस्टम में कुछ बदलाव लाकर सरकार क्या ज्यादा फंड देने का काम करेगी और दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जो मदद मिलती है, क्या वह समय पर मिलेगी?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, I will just take a minute and begin from the last point made. जहां तक कोंकण का अनाथालय है, उसे मदद की अपेक्षित धनराशि समय पर नहीं पहुंचती, इत्फाक से इस मंत्रालय के साथ उसका संबंध नहीं है, जिसके प्रतिनिधि के तौर पर मैं आज आपके सामने उपस्थित हूं, परन्तु हां, उन तक बात पहुंचाई जा सकती है।

[डा. जितेंद्र सिंह]

दूसरी बात, जो अविनाश राय खन्ना जी ने डाटा के बारे में कही, वह ठीक है। डाटा होना चाहिए। इसका भी संबंधित मंत्रालय को अनुरोध पहुंचाया जा सकता है। यह जो Personnel and Training (DoPT) और Administrative Reforms का मंत्रालय है, तो इसके कामकाज का दायरा मात्र रिजर्वेशन तक ही सीमित है। बाकी जो व्यथा और वेदना प्रकट की गई है, जैसे अभी भी आदरणीय अविनाश राय जी ने कहा, जो स्वयं बड़े अनुभवी हैं, संवेदनशील हैं, सामाजिक कार्यों में बड़े सक्रिय रहते हैं, तो उन्होंने कहा कि ऐसे बच्चे हैं, जिनकी जीवन-शैली में बहुत अंतर है, ऐसा भी एक वर्ग है, तो यह एक बहुत बड़ा विषय है, व्यापक विषय है। इसको इन्होंने रखा और एक विचार यहां हम सबके सामने आ गया, तो यह बहुत अच्छा हुआ। अब वह Haves and have-nots की भी बात है, लेकिन जैसा मैंने आरंभ में कहा था और फिर से कहना चाहूंगा कि यह विषय इतना बड़ा है कि इसे मात्र सरकार पर न छोड़कर हम सबको इसकी जिम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए। हम एक ऐसी व्यवस्था के निर्माण की तरफ प्रयासरत हों, जहां किसी को यह अहसास ही न हो कि वह अनाथ होते हुए अनाथ है, तो शायद यह इसका सही मायने में समाधान होगा।

जहां तक एशोरेंस का प्रश्न है, जैसे आदरणीय अविनाश जी ने कहा कि एक चिकित्सक होने के नाते हम औषधियों की, दवाइयों की, इंसुलिन की व्यवस्था करते रहे हैं, तो व्यक्तिगत एशोरेंस तो मैं दे सकता हूं, लेकिन मंत्री होने के नाते मेरा दायित्व मुझे इस बात की अनुमति नहीं देता कि ये जो संवैधानिक बाधाएं हैं, उनके चलते आज की परिस्थितियों में ऐसी एशोरेंस दी जा सके। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं और एक बार पुनः अपील करता हूं, क्योंकि अविनाश राय जी ने आज एक बहुत बड़ा काम किया है कि एक ऐसा विषय हमारे ध्यान में आ गया, सारे समाज के ध्यान में आ गया...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द भास्कर रापोलू : आपका एक जो नारा है, "सबका साथ, सबका विकास", वह हो नहीं पा रहा है, ऐसा मंत्री जी मान रहे हैं।

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह : यह तो आपके देखने का अपना ढंग है। मैं उसमें उलझना नहीं चाहता क्योंकि it is always better to debate by your own agenda than get trapped by somebody else's agenda. So, I refuse to be trapped, Sir, by this agenda. I again stick to my agenda, and my agenda is that I can assure on my behalf, but as a Minister, I am bound by the Constitutional obligation not to give assurance. But having said that it is my personal regard and appreciation which I want to put on record कि अविनाश राय जी एक इतने संवेदनशील विषय को इस सदन के माध्यम से सारे देश के सामने लाए हैं और इसके प्रति सारे देश को इन्होंने जाग्रत किया और अगर इस प्रकार के विषयों में जागरूकता की आवश्यकता है, तो इस जागरूकता का स्रोत भी तो यही सदन है और आदरणीय अविनाश राय जी जैसे अनुभवी और संवेदनशील सदस्य जब इस बात को रखते हैं, तो इसका जो संदेश है, जो मैसेज है, वह बहुत दूर तक जाता है। हम इस दिशा में प्रयासरत हैं। जिस हद तक वे इसका समाधान चाहते हैं, हो सकता है कि कल उस प्रकार की परिस्थितियां भी बनें, परंतु इन्होंने जो पहल की है, जो इनीशिएटिव लिया है, यह अत्यंत सराहनीय है और हम सबके लिए सबक का बायस है।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : सर, संविधान की मर्यादा को देखते हुए मैं समझता हूँ कि इस मिनिस्ट्री की अपनी लिमिटेशनस हैं। आज एक नींव का पत्थर रख दिया गया है। जो लोग इधर बैठे हैं, मेरे ख्याल से वे इस बात को देश के कोने-कोने तक पहुंचाने की कोशिश करेंगे। हो सकता है कि कुछ लोग अपना हक छोड़ने के लिए मंत्री जी के पास आएँ कि हमारा रिजर्वेशन छोड़ो, इनको दे दो, तो शायद कोई विषय निकल आए। इसलिए सर, सदन ने जो अपनी भावना व्यक्त की है और जिस ढंग से डिस्कशन हुआ है और मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है, तो मैं इस बिल को विद्झों करता हूँ।

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2014

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, we will take up the next item the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2014. Shri Avinash Pande.

SHRI AVINASH PANDE (Maharashtra): Thank you, Sir. I rise ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Who is from the Ministry of Home Affairs?

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : सर, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी बिहार के दौरे पर हैं। जैसा आपको मालूम है कि बिहार में एक बहुत बड़ी प्राकृतिक आपदा आयी है जिसमें बहुत बड़ी संख्या में लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं। चूंकि यह बिल उनसे संबंधित है और वे इस समय यहां पर नहीं है, इसलिए हम लोगों ने यह रिक्वेस्ट की थी कि यदि इसको आगे लेंगे तो ठीक रहेगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Do you want to continue it? Are you interested to continue it with any Minister?

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: If he wants, our Cabinet Minister is here. He will take note of it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): You take note of it.

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : अगर आसंदी चलाना चाहे तो हम तैयार हैं। हम उसका नोट लेंगे और माननीय गृह मंत्री जी को उसके बारे में अवगत कराएंगे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Okay. Please continue.

SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I rise to move the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2014 for the consideration of this House. This is a Bill to further amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and seeks to criminalize offence of marital rape by removing Exception 2 to Section 375 of IPC. सर, यह बड़ा ही संवेदनशील विषय है और इस विषय को मैं इस प्राइवेट मेंबर्स बिल के माध्यम से हाउस के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। जैसा मैंने कहा कि the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, that is, CEDAW, which was adopted by United Nations General Assembly in 1979, for the first time in the history of international law, accorded primacy and supremacy to human rights of women. Whereas India ratified the Convention on 25th June, 1993, much remains to be done within our domestic laws to recognise and enforce the equal right of women to dignity and sexual autonomy. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, that is, Act 43 of 2005, falls short of explicitly including rape within the definition of 'domestic violence'. The marital rape exception, which has been retained in the statute book for decades, is a representation of our colonial past and outdated conception of marriage in Common Law tradition, which regarded wives as no more than a property of their husbands.

Under Article 253 of the Constitution of India, the Parliament is empowered to enact laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaties and conventions entered into with other countries, or decisions made at any international conferences. This Bill proposes to remove the exception of marital rape from the definition of 'rape' under the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and recognise that such extreme forms of violence against women are a violation of Fundamental Rights guaranteed equally to all citizens. However, the growing epidemic of violence against women, especially, acts of sexual violence within the household, is eroding the fabric of our society and needs urgent attention. The abysmally low rate of reporting of incidents of sexual violence committed against women by husbands is an alarming symptom of the historical domination over and discrimination against women by men. This was also recognised by the Report on Amendments to Criminal Law drafted by the Justice Verma Committee in January, 2013 wherein it was recommended that the law ought to be amended to delete the marital rape exception and bring our domestic law in conformity with India's international human rights' obligations.

In 2011, the International Men and Gender Equity Survey revealed that one in five has forced their wives or partners to have sex. The United Nations published a

Report that stipulated that sixty-nine per cent of Indian women believe that occasional violence was justified, for instance, when a meal has not been prepared in time or when sex has been refused. Further statistical research reveals that nine to fifteen per cent of married women are subjected to rape by their husbands, a staggering and sobering statistics. It is often wrongly said that criminalising marital rape is a threat to the institution of family. I wish to voice my strong disagreement with such an assumption. In fact, the contrary is true. Our failure to criminalise such a heinous offence and protect women from sexual violence by their intimate partners is weakening the institution of family. The foundation stone of family cannot be based on violence and abuse. If there are procedural safeguards needed, we must bring them too, but this heinous offence must be criminalised and punished to the full extent of the law. However, Sir, it is indispensable that the legal prohibition on marital rape introduced by this Bill is accompanied by changes in the attitude of not only husbands towards their wives but also prosecutors, police officers and law-makers so that we can include women as equal partners in our families and societies.

Sir, with these words, I put this Private Member's Bill for the consideration of the House. Thank you, Sir.

The question was proposed.

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू (तेलंगाना): सर, यह हमारा देश, मां भारती, एक ऐसा देश है, जहां की मान्यता है, "यत्र नार्यस्तु पूज्यन्ते, रमन्ते तत्र देवता"। हमारे सनातन, आदि-भौतिक धर्म में आज तक हम जो मुद्दे सीखते-सीखते आए हैं the modernity is challenging the fabric of the civilised living, which has been taught to us by our great civilisation, which was respectfully followed by several other civilisations across the globe.

Just now one Avinash, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, has tried to throw great light on the plight of orphans. Now another Avinash from our side, Shri Avinash Pande, is taking up another vital issue in the changed context of the challenges of modernity and livelihood.

The United Nations Charters were very respectfully adopted by India. The convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against Women was adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly. It was ratified by India in 1993. Challenges are growing. The Government is trying to rise to the occasion by bringing necessary legislation and support mechanism. One such step is the Nirbhaya Act. There is not just the Act but also the supportive fund with the envisaged mechanism. At this juncture, we are very sorry to note that the envisaged vision of the then Government is being diluted by the present Government. This is giving us a shock. There is a need to have a relook into the latest needs. In this background,

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

the Private Bill moved by our esteemed friend, Avinash Pandeji, has its relevance. He has rightly mentioned that the piece of Indian Penal Code having the imprint of 1860. British Empire was looking towards our Indian civilisation and the people of India in a very segregative manner – divide and rule. For gender-wise respect, our Indian Vedic and all other cultures have taught us to see the women as equal. But, the 1860 Code and the subsequent amalgamations by the then Governments before Independence have just treated women as subjects of men of India. We tried to address that challenge, but these days, the domestic violence is a greater challenge. The advanced families, the advanced urban families, the cosmopolitan families and metropolitan families are able to go to certain counsellors or are able to go to the justice system wherein majority of India, that is, rural India, is deprived of the required safety to the *abla*, who is weaker, but in its right sense, she is *sabla*, who can never be weak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): There is one more speaker from your Party.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: This challenge has made us look at it in the right perspective and ensure equality. This is not only a mental or psychological status of both women and men, but also a requirement to be ensured by the society as well as the Government. This has prompted my friend, Avinash Pandeji, to move this Private Bill to sensitise and alert the Union Government to rise to its immediate responsibility to look after and ensure equity within the family. Thank you very much.

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA (Gujarat): Sir, the present Bill which is presented to this House needs a serious discussion on this point and the public opinion should be obtained for this.

Sir, I am surprised to see the words, “wife who is not less than 15 years of age”. These words are very important. In modern State, we are coming to the conclusion that the age limit of the wife and the husband should be increased to 18 and 21 years respectively. How can we imagine that below the age of 18, there can be a marriage? We have to look to the Marriage Acts also. Hindu Marriage Act is there. There is an amendment pending in the House. Sir, it is very important to look at the provisions pertaining to rape. We should know whether the present provisions about rape in Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code would include this provision or not; whether there is a space in this Section or in this provision or not. That also we have to see because in the Bill in Section 1 it is stated, “It shall come into force with immediate effect”. If this Bill is allowed to be passed in this House, it will have immediate effect. But what would be the effect of it, that also is to

be seen. And, so, Sir, for that, I would like to read the provisions of Section 375.

Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code says, "A man is said to commit "rape" if he—" and, then, four set of circumstances are given in (a), (b), (c) and (d), and after that, it is stated, "...under the circumstances falling under any of the following seven descriptions—". So, if a man commits sexual intercourse as provided in Section 375 (a), (b), (c) and (d), under the circumstances falling under any of the following seven descriptions:-

"First.— Against her will.

Secondly.—

*Thirdly.—*Without her consent, when her consent has been obtained by putting her or any person in whom she is interested, in fear of death or hurt.

*Fourthly.—*With her consent, when the man knows that he is not her husband and that her consent is given because she believes that he is another man to whom she is or believes herself to be lawfully married.

*Fifthly.—*With her consent when, at the time of giving such consent, by reason of unsoundness of mind or intoxication or the administration by him personally or through another of any stupefying or unwholesome substance, she is unable to understand the nature and consequences of that to which she gives consent.

*Sixthly.—*With or without her consent, when she is under 18 years of age."

I wish to draw your attention to this sixth explanation. Would this provision be amended or not? Is this provision likely to be amended? Unless and until we amend this, we cannot pass this Bill or give consent to it.

*"Seventhly.—*Then, when she is unable to communicate consent."

Then, there are some Explanations given in Section 375. I wish to draw your attention to these Explanations.

*"Explanation 1.—*For the purposes of this section, "vagina" shall also include *labia majora*." ...(*Interruptions*)... If someone has some other explanation, I am prepared to give that too. Then, Explanation 2 says, "Consent means unequivocal voluntary agreement when the woman by words, gestures or any form of verbal or non-verbal communication, communicates willingness to participate in the specific sexual act". There is also a proviso which says, "Provided that a woman who does not physically resist to the act of penetration shall not, by the reason only of that fact, be regarded as consenting to sexual activity". There is one more explanation which says, "A medical procedure or intervention shall not constitute rape". In

[Shri Dilipbhai Pandya]

Explanation 2, it says, "Sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under fifteen years of age, is not rape." Now we have to amend or delete this provision of explanation. We must delete this Explanation 2, the present Amendment, which reads, "Sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under fifteen years of age, is not rape." And when we read this, I find strange with the words 'with his own wife'. Wife is one's wife. It cannot be his friend's wife. Why should there be a definition to that effect? Sir, I don't find any substance in this Bill to support it because unless and until the original explanation and provisions of Sections 375 (First, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth) and Explanations 1 and 2 are amended, this Explanation cannot be allowed. So, Sir, I oppose this Bill. Not only do I oppose this Bill, I would also request the Mover of this Bill to withdraw it in the interest of the community at large. Now, Sir, the reasons given for this Amendment are very interesting. There is no specific Statement of Objects which supports this Amendment. So, Sir, it is my humble request that Shri Avinash Pande, who has brought this Bill, should withdraw it because the purpose of this Bill is already included in Section 375 of the present Act, and it will not make any difference even if this Amendment is not made in Section 375.

So, Sir, I oppose this Bill and request that it should be withdrawn. Thank you.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): सर, श्री अविनाश पांडे जी ने किसी औरत के साथ जबरदस्ती से सेक्सुअल एक्ट करने के सम्बन्ध में यह जो बिल लाया है, मैं उसके समर्थन में खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

सर, इसके ऊपर उन्होंने खुद बहुत अच्छी तरह से अपनी बात रखी है, भास्कर जी ने भी अपनी बात रखी और कुछ हद तक दिलीप साहब ने भी उसका समर्थन किया है। यह बात हम लोगों को ध्यान में रखनी चाहिए कि हमारे देश में एक सेक्शन क्या सारा पुरुष वर्ग अपना male chauvinism अभी भी नहीं भूला है।

सर, 1975 में पहली International Women Conference हुई थी, जिसमें महिलाओं के अधिकारों के बारे में बात की गई और एक रेजोल्यूशन पास किया गया। उसका असर हमारे देश की महिलाओं के ऊपर भी हुआ। हमारे देश में भी इस तरह का एक मूवमेंट खड़ा हुआ। यह हम लोगों का भाग्य है, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ, क्योंकि एक तरह से जब-जब जो बातें इंटरनेशनली होती हैं, मानवाधिकार के बारे में जो सुधार होता है, वह हमारे यहां बिना विरोध स्वीकारा जाता है। यह इस देश की परम्परा रही है। मैं कहता हूँ कि यह बहुत अच्छी परम्परा है, क्योंकि आज दुनिया भी एक हो गयी है, ग्लोबलाइजेशन की वजह से 'हम सब एक हैं', लोग ऐसा बोलने लगे हैं। अमेरिका में रहने वाली औरत और हमारे देश के देहात में रहने वाली औरत के जो हक हैं, उनमें उनको equality मिलनी चाहिए और उनको भी समान अधिकार मिलने चाहिए। हम लोगों ने यह कहीं न कहीं स्वीकारा है और यह एक बड़ी अच्छी बात है।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

इसके पहले इस सदन में महिलाओं को रिजर्वेशन देना चाहिए, पोलिटिकल रिजर्वेशन देना चाहिए, इसकी भी बात हुई है। उसमें कुछ खास विरोध है, ऐसा नहीं है। इसमें जो विरोध है, वह थोड़ा कास्ट सिस्टम की वजह से है। आगे जाकर वह भी समाप्त हो जायेगा और यहां महिलाओं की संख्या बढ़ेगी।

महोदय, एक बार मैं सूडान गया था। वह अफ्रीका महादेश का एक पिछड़ा हुआ देश है। वहां जब मैं उनकी पार्लियामेंट में गया, तो मुझे ज़रा आश्चर्य हुआ कि वहां बड़ी तादाद में महिलाएँ थीं और वे भी मुस्लिम महिलाएँ थीं। मैं नॉर्थ सूडान की बात कर रहा हूँ। मुझे ज़रा आश्चर्य हुआ कि इतनी बड़ी तादाद में महिलाएँ चुन कर वहां कैसे आईं? तो उन्होंने मुझे बताया कि इन्हें यहां 30 परसेंट रिजर्वेशन है। तो एक तरह से पूरी दुनिया में महिलाओं की आवाज़ बुलन्द होती जा रही है और हम लोगों को उसका आदर जरूर करना चाहिए। इसी हक में हमारे ऑनरेबिल अविनाश जी ने यह बिल लाया है।

सर, हमें यह मानना चाहिए कि 1969 और 1979 में कानून में जो बदलाव आया, उस बदलाव में यह बात क्यों रही कि जहां डोमेस्टिक वायलेंस की बात की गयी, लेकिन जबरदस्ती से सम्भोग करने की जो बात है, उसमें यह क्यों नहीं कही गई, यह मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा है। कहीं न कहीं हमारी जो परम्परागत बातें हैं, उनका एक प्रकार का असर होता जा रहा है। मैं यहां एक उदाहरण दूंगा कि जिन नेता लोकमान्य तिलक ने, जिनका नाम हम आदर से लेते हैं और एक तरह से जिन्होंने इस देश की स्वतंत्रता या स्वाधीनता आन्दोलन का नेतृत्व किया और जिन्होंने लोगों को जागृत करके उन्हें यह बताया कि 'आज़ादी हमारा हक है', 'हमारा जन्मसिद्ध हक है', यह बात कहने का काम किया, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि उन्होंने सम्पत्ति बिल के ऊपर उस वक्त विरोध किया था। लेकिन, आज हम यह नहीं मानते। आज हम यह मानते हैं कि जितना पुरुषों को अधिकार है, उतना ही अधिकार हमारी औरतों को, हमारी महिलाओं को मिलना चाहिए। इतना ही नहीं, बल्कि मैं कहूंगा कि कई हद तक आज बड़े-बड़े बैंक्स के एमडीज़ ...(समय की घंटी)... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now the Private Members' Business time is over. You can continue your speech next time when the Bill comes.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Mungekar can speak on that day when the Bill is taken up. Private Members' Business time is over. Now, I am taking up Special Mentions. Kindly remember, in the morning I said that at 5.00 p.m. we will take up the discussion on agriculture, but the consensus of the House is that agriculture discussion should be taken up only on Monday. So after the Special Mentions the House will be adjourned. Now, Shri Husain Dalwai. If you want to read, you can read also.

SPECIAL MENTIONS**Demand for addressing threat posed to domestic *agarbatti* industry by import of *agarbattis* from China and Vietnam**

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, *agarbatti* is part of India's rich culture and heritage. This industry is a small scale handicrafts-based industry, which employs millions of people across the country.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) *in the Chair.*]

The backward linkages ensure that some money is transferred to the forest dwellers, particularly those in the North-East through procurement of raw materials such as forest products and bamboo sticks. Since this is a handicrafts industry, it is very labour intensive and typically has lower returns than other industries. However, due to the advent of globalization, this industry faces great threat from Chinese and Vietnamese imports. These products are factory made and are cheaper than the indigenous product. The product is deliberately priced low and floods the market so that the consumer is influenced into buying these *agarbattis*, thus killing the local business and making around two million people unemployed. I have been told that every day around 10-15 containers of *agarbattis* arrive from Vietnam and China. Not only are these imports killing local business, but they are also duping consumers into buying a hazardous product, and cheating the Government of taxes. These imported *agarbattis* and *dhoops* contain a mosquito repellent chemical called Allethrin, and research has stated that prolonged exposure to this is particularly harmful to children. However, the consumer remains ignorant as these are sold under the disguise of lemongrass or citronella, and the packaging does not fully disclose the ingredients. A mosquito repellent is charged an additional 14 per cent tax. However, as mentioned by the Finance Minister, *agarbattis* are fully exempt from excise tax. On the one hand, the Government is emphasizing "Make in India" and on the other hand, such regressive practices are leading to large scale unemployment and health issues while destroying an important traditional industry. I urge upon the Government to take immediate action in this matter.

श्री अविनाश पांडे (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

हाजी अब्दुल सलाम (मणिपुर): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Husain Dalwai.

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Husain Dalwai.

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Husain Dalwai.

**Demand to make distinct law limiting expenditure by
political parties during elections**

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, in every General Election or by-election, the Election Commission is trying to control spending of money by candidates contesting Assembly or Lok Sabha elections. Earlier, the Representation of People Act, 1951, and the Rules made thereunder permitted spending of amount by relatives and friends of candidates without any limit. The Government, a few years back, deleted the provision from election law.

However, unlimited powers which permit political parties to spend amount during an election are unjust and unfair. Amount spent by parties who can arrange for funds for hiring aircraft, helicopters, luxury cars, for advertisement in print and electronic media runs into thousands of crores.

Concept of paid news has not been able to control mischievous elements from violating election laws, though it forms part of election expenditure.

Since the Commission is finding itself helpless to curb the menace of excess spending, the Commission too, unfortunately, resorts to issuing instruction purportedly, under article 324, which amounts to Election Commission itself by exceeding its limits.

Circulars/instructions issued by the Commission with respect to major public meetings are so vague that expenditure observers interpret the instructions differently in different constituencies. Prices of election material and snacks supplied to the party workers become the bone of contention between the candidates and election expenditure observers.

In these circumstances, law pertaining to all aspects of election expenditure should be unambiguous and there should be limit to the spending by political parties prescribed by clear statutory provisions.

***Demand for taking immediate steps to repair Shenbagavalli
Dam on Tamil Nadu-Kerala border**

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, one of the basic principles of National Water Policy, 2012 is that the water needs to be managed as a Common pool community resource held by the State under public trust doctrine to achieve food security, support livelihood and ensure equitable and sustainable development for all. But, in practice, this is not followed and Shenbagavalli dam is an example of this.

Shenbagavalli dam is located in the border area between Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Catchment area is in Kerala and irrigated areas to the extent of 35,000 acres are in

Tamil Nadu, particularly, in Sankarankoil and Sivagiri taluks of Tirunelveli District and Rajapalayam Taluk in Virudhunagar Districts besides catering to drinking water needs in this area.

As the responsibility of undertaking repairs in dam is vested with the State of Kerala, the Tamil Nadu Government is continuously persuading the Kerala Government to undertake the repairs. When our leader, Dr. Kalaighar, assumed the office of the Chief Minister for the third time, as per the revised estimates sent by Kerala Government, released ₹ 6 lakhs. No action was taken by the neighbouring State stating that it could not be carried out due to the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act but the same was held null and void by the Supreme Court in Mullaperiyar Dam case. The Ministry can undertake this project together with Keeriyaru Project for which National Water Development Agency has already granted ₹ 1,300 crores.

In view of the above, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to undertake repairs in the dam along with Keeriyaru project.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Shri Ram Nath Thakur. Not present.

**Demand to formulate comprehensive plan for cleaning and
beautification of Betwa river in Vidisha**

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी बात इस तारीखी सच के साथ शुरू करना चाहता हूँ कि दुनिया में हिन्दुस्तान ऐसा तन्हा मुल्क है जिसकी सभ्यता और संस्कृति सिंधु घाटी और गंगा-यमुना के रूप में नदियों के नाम से मंसूब हैं। सरकार यह बताए कि देश में कितनी नदियां अपना अस्तित्व खो चुकी हैं और कितनी नदियां अपने अस्तित्व की आस लेकर सिसक रही हैं। गंगा-यमुना से शुरू होने वाली यह दर्दनाक कहानी मेरे गृह नगर विदिशा और मेरी जन्म स्थली से वाबस्ता पाकीजा बेतवा नदी तक जाती है।

नदियों के प्रदूषण की दर्दनाक कहानी में जालिम की भूमिका अदा करने वाला कोई बाहरी मुल्क नहीं है, बल्कि अपने ही देश के कल-कारखाने और नागरिक हैं। आपके माध्यम से मेरा यह आरोप है कि नदियों की अपवित्रता में अंग्रेज शासकों ने भी ज्यादातर बस्तियों से बहने वाले गंदे नालों को नदियों से जोड़कर नदियों के स्वच्छ और शीतल पानी को जहरीला बनाने का काम किया है। इसका वैज्ञानिक उपचार होना चाहिए।

मैं विदिशा के ऐतिहासिक मैदान से बहने वाली बेतवा मैय्या का अस्तित्व बचाने की गुहार करते हुए भारत सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वर्तमान सरकार में ऐसे अनेक राजनैतिक किरदार हैं जो ऐतिहासिक तौर पर बेतवा के कर्जदार हैं। उन सबको अपने आप से जोड़ते हुए अपने अस्तित्व के लिए कराहती हुई बेतवा की सफाई के लिए मंडीदीप, जिला रायसेन से लेकर माताटीला तक एक विराट और विशाल योजना बनाने की मांग करता हूँ। बेतवा के किनारे बने हुए तमाम कल-कारखानों में एक बार पुनः प्रदूषण निवारक यंत्रों को अवलोकित करते हुए बेतवा

کو उसमें छोड़े جانے والے तेजाबी مٹेरیل سے بچانے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ اسکے ساتھ ہی، میں سرکار سے ویدیشا کے ऐتہاسیک چرنتیڑڈاٹ کو گھریकरण کے माध्यम سے सुंदर, व्यवस्थित और झील रूपी बनाकर पर्यटकों के लिए लुभावन योजना तैयार करते हुए उसे स्वीकृत करने की मांग करता हूँ। मेरा यह दर्द अपनी बेतवा सहित हिन्दुस्तान की तमाम नदियों के लिए भी है।

†**چودھری منور سلیم (اثر پردیش) :** مائے آپ سیہا ادھیکش مہودے، میں اپنی بات اس تاریخی سچ کے ساتھ شروع کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ دنیا میں ہندوستان ایک ایسا تنہا ملک ہے جس کی سیہیتا اور سنسکرتی سندھو گھاٹی اور گنگا جمنہ کے روپ میں ندیوں کے نام سے منسوب ہیں۔ سرکار یہ بتائے کہ دیش میں کتنی ندیاں اپنا آستو کھو چکی ہیں اور کتنی ندیاں اپنے آستو کی آس لے کر سیک رہی ہیں۔ گنگا جمنہ سے شروع ہونے والی یہ دردناک کہانی میرے گرہ ویدشا اور میری جنم استھلی سے وابستہ پاکیزہ بیتوا ندی تک جاتی ہے۔

ندیوں کے پردوشن کی دردناک کہانی میں، ظالم کی بھومکا ادا کرنے والا کوئی باہری ملک نہیں ہے، بلکہ اپنے ہی دیش کے کل-کارخانے اور ناگرک ہیں۔ آپ کے مادھیم سے میرا یہ آروپ ہے کہ ندیوں کی آبوترتا میں انگریز شاسکوں نے بھی زیادہ تر بستوں سے بہنے والے گندے نالوں کو ندیوں سے جوڑ کر ندیوں کو سوچھ اور شیتل پانی کو زہریلا بنانے کا کام کیا ہے۔ اس کا سائنسی اچار ہونا چاہئے۔

میں ویدشہ کے ایتہاسک میدان سے بہنے والی بیتوا میا کا آستو بچانے کی گہار کرتے ہوئے بھارت سرکار سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ورتمان سرکار میں ایسے انیک راج نیتک کردار ہیں جو ایتہاسک طور پر بیتوا کے قرض دار ہیں۔ ان سب کو اپنے آپ سے جوڑتے ہوئے اپنے آستو کے کراہتی ہوئی بیتوا کی صفائی کے لئے منڈو دیپ، ضلع رائے سینا سے لیکر ماتائیلا تک ایک وراث اور وشال یوجنا بنانے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ بیتوا کے کنارے بنے ہوئے تمام کل کارخانوں میں ایک بار پھر پردوشن نواریک پنتروں کو اولوکت کرتے ہوئے بیتوا کو اس میں جوڑنے والے تیزابی میٹیریل سے بچانے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ اس کے ساتھ ہی، میں سرکار سے ویدشہ کے تاریخی چرن تیرتہ گھاٹ کو گہریکرن کے مادھیم سے سندر، ویوستھت اور جھیل روپی بناکر سیاحوں کے لئے لبھاونی یوجنا تیار کرتے ہوئے اسے سویکرت کرنے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ میرا یہ درد اپنی بیتوا سہت ہندستان کی تمام ندیوں کے لئے بھی ہے۔

Demand for including Left Wing Extremism-affected districts in Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a major shortcoming in Pradhaan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. The Jan Dhan Yojana envisages opening of the bank accounts for all the families within a period of one year. But, unfortunately, the Left-Wing Extremism-affected districts have been excluded from the coverage of this Scheme in the first phase. Sir, the poor families living in these areas are more backward than any other part of the country. And mostly, these families belong to Tribals and SCs and extremely backward classes. Providing banking facility to them will help them in a big way. So the Government must take a more positive approach to these areas regarding banking services. Unless different basic services are provided

in these areas, the people living there will be further alienated from the mainstream of the society. Extra efforts need to be taken to bring them into the mainstream. This will also help combating the Left-Wing Extremism problem. Therefore, I will demand from the Government that under the Pradhaan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, the Left Wing Extremism-affected districts should also be included.

Demand for appointing committee to address issues pertaining to wage revision and other service conditions of gramin dak sevaks in country

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Gramin Dak Sevaks of the Department of Posts are humble servants of the people serving the people in villages with postal service and were formerly Extra Departmental Agents.

In the beginning, seven lakhs were appointed as postal employees; out of this, three lakhs were appointed in the daily wages category. They are Branch Post Master, Post Man, Mail Carrier, who are not still made permanent workers. They were appointed through Employment Exchanges in 1990 and according to their proficiency in Class-X with a condition that they should be local residents. Like other Government employees, they were not given leave, DA, etc. Previously, they got ₹ 3,500 as bonus every year. In the last two years, it has been reduced to ₹ 2,500. After much struggle, it was again enhanced to ₹ 3,500. But, if they want to take a leave, then they have to substitute a person and then go on leave. About 2,65,000 such Gramin Dak Sevaks work all over the country with no pension, no increment, no leave and no DA. Some of them are working for the last 40 years. There is a great injustice caused to them so far.

We urge your indulgence to prevail upon the Government (Ministry of Communication & IT) to appoint a Committee under a retired judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court as these issues were not included in the terms of reference of the Seventh Pay Commission.

I urge the Department of Posts to honour these words and appoint a Pay Committee under a retired judge.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shrimati Kanak Lata Singh, not present. Dr. Sanjay Sinh, not present. Shrimati Sasikala Pushpa.

Demand for early Constitution of the Cauvery Management Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Makkalin Mudhalvar Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had taken various measures for getting a favourable award from the Supreme Court of India regarding Cauvery water dispute.

As a result of our leader's initiatives and consistent efforts, on 20th February, 2013, based on the directions of the Supreme Court, the Government of India had notified the final historical award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal on sharing the waters of Cauvery among the basins of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry.

Again, the Supreme Court, on 10th May, 2013, issued interim direction to the Government of India to establish temporary Supervisory Committee to implement the Cauvery Tribunal Order till the constitution of the Cauvery Management Board.

I request the Government of India to immediately constitute the Cauvery Management Board and establish Cauvery Water Regulation Committee.

But in the meantime, the Government of Karnataka is going ahead with the construction of two dams across the Cauvery river at Mekadatu. It is against the established principles of peaceful coexistence. In this regard, on 27th March, 2015, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly passed a unanimous resolution requesting the Centre to constitute the Cauvery Management Board and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee, and also to prevent the Karnataka Government from proceeding with the proposed construction of the dams. If this is allowed to be constructed, it would further strain the relationship and the entire delta areas of Tamil Nadu would suffer.

In this connection, on 28th March, 2015, an All Party Delegation of MPs from Tamil Nadu met the Hon. Prime Minister and urged him to take steps in this regard.

Hence, as our leader insisted time and again, I urge upon the Centre to immediately constitute the Cauvery Management Board and Cauvery Water Regulation Committee and instruct the Government of Karnataka not to go ahead with the construction of dams across Cauvery at Mekadatu.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): All the names of the hon. Members, who have associated themselves with it, may be included.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri Majeed Memon.

Demand for taking concrete steps to check trespassing by foreign vessels into Indian Ocean, particularly off the coast of Porbandar in Gujarat

SHRI MAJEED MEMON (Maharashtra): Sir, as reported in various newspapers, the officers of the Indian Navy and Coast Guard on Monday, 20th April, 2015, in a joint operation, intercepted a boat after a long chase, around 250 nautical miles off the Porbandar coast near the International Maritime Boundary Line, which reportedly originated from Pakistan and was carrying a large consignment of narcotics.

Needless to bring to the notice of the House that on 1st January, this year also, a suspicious Pakistani fishing vessel had sunk without a trace around 365 K.M. off Porbandar in mysterious circumstances after being intercepted by a Coast Guard offshore patrol vessel on the high seas.

I, therefore, humbly urge the Government through this august House to take strong and concrete steps to check recurrence of such incidents, especially in the Porbandar offshore.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri Ambeth Rajan, not present. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, not present. Shri Narendra Kumar Kashyap, not present. Shri Motilal Vora, not present. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

Demand for taking steps to bring reforms in Panchayati Raj Institutions in the Country

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, today is National Panchayati Raj Day. It marks the 22nd anniversary of the gazetting of the 74th Constitution Amendment as Part IX of the Constitution entitled "The Panchayats". On this Day of national importance, dedicated to fulfilling the Centre's duties towards the Constitutionally-mandated third tier of self-Government, involving 32 lakh democratically elected representatives, 14 lakh of whom are women, and comprising all sections of our society; SC, ST, OBCs, I rise to urge the Government to give its closest consideration to the following nine points:

- (i) Recognize that inclusive growth is not possible without inclusive governance;
- (ii) To this end, ensure the centrality of Panchayati Raj Institutions in all Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- (iii) Prioritize the implementation of the recommendations of the 2013 Expert Group on Leveraging Panchayati Raj Institutions;
- (iv) Complete with all deliberate speed the work of Activity Mapping in all Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

- (v) Restore the bi-annual State of the Panchayats Report and its associated Index of Devolution;
- (vi) Undertake a fresh survey of the role of Empowered Women Representatives in the Panchayats;
- (vii) Establish a Fund to incentivize States and Panchayati Raj Institutions to accelerate effective devolution and ensure transparency and accountability in their transactions;
- (viii) Revisit the 2008 report of the NDC's Sub-Committee on Panchayati Raj with a view to submitting it to the National Development Council.
- (ix) Revive the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Yojana and the Backward Regions Grant Fund to restore the cut in the Budget grant of the Ministry of Panchayat Raj from ₹ 7,000 crore to a mere ₹ 94 crore.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Kindly read what is there in the text. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I will just finish with this one suggestion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): That is all. Thank you very much. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know. Other than what is in the text, what he spoke, will not go on record. Only the text matter will go on record.

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): सर, इसमें आप केवल पढ़ सकते हैं, अलग से कोई भाषण नहीं कर सकते।

श्री मणि शंकर अय्यर: सर,*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much. Now, Shri Vivek Gupta. It won't go on record.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, he has agreed to transmit to the Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): It is not like that. During Special Mentions, only the text will be allowed to be read.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Thank you, Sir.

DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Take down all the names who have associated themselves with it.

Demand for declaring the Ganga Sagar Island a National Heritage Site

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this issue.

Sir, there is a very famous saying, "*Sab tirtha bar bar, Ganga sagar ek bar*". This phrase itself speaks the laurels of the historic heritage of the Ganga Sagar Island in the Sundarban Biosphere. The Ganga Heritage River Cruise Circuit is an initiative by the Government of West Bengal for identifying, preserving and promoting art, tradition, heritage, culture and environment as thrust areas for development of Indian culture and tourism.

Sir, the Ganga Sagar pilgrimage and fair is the second largest congregation after the holy Kumbh where over five lakh people take a holy dip on a single day of Makar Sankranti. The *tirthasthan* and the Kumbh Mela attract an annual footfall of 15-20 lakhs. The Government of West Bengal has connected the villages in the Sagar Islands with electricity through aerial wires across the river - the first ever initiative of its kind in the country.

Sir, West Bengal is the final recipient of all upstream pollution of River Ganga, while West Bengal is leading in Clean Ganga Mission, having completed 24 out of the 30 sanctioned projects implemented in 24 towns across the State. The previous Government had sanctioned ₹ 1,200 crore for West Bengal under NGRBA, however no amount has been allocated to West Bengal under the Namami Ganga either in 2014 or in 2015.

Sir, tourism boosts the socio-economic development of the people in the region. The Ganga Sagar, as a place of religious importance and a hub for tourism and promotion of Indian culture, should be declared as a National Heritage Site. Sir, through you, I would like to draw the Government's attention to this. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much.

The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 27th April, 2015.

*The House then adjourned at twenty-four minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 27th April, 2015.*

Special Mentions — *Laid on the Table*

Demand for addressing threat posed to domestic agarbatti industry by import of agarbattis from China and Vietnam (page 348)

Demand to make distinct law limiting expenditure by political parties during elections (page 349)

Demand for taking immediate steps to repair Shenbagavalli Dam on Tamil Nadu-Kerala Border — *Laid of the Table* (pages 349-350)

Demand to Formulate Comprehensive plan for cleaning and beautification of Betwa river in Vidisha (pages 350-351)

Demand for including Left Wing extremism-affected districts in Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (pages 351-352)

Demand for appointing committee to address issues pertaining to wage revision and other service conditions of gramin dak sevaks in country (page 352)

Demand for early constitution of the Cauvery Management Board and the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (pages 352-353)

Demand for taking concrete steps to check trespassing by foreign vessels into Indian Ocean, Particularly off the coast of Porbandar in Gujarat (pages 354)

Demand for taking steps to bring reforms in panchayati raj institutions in the country (pages 354-356)

Demand for declaring the Ganga Sagar Island a National Heritage Site (page 356)

