

Vol. 237

No. 17



सत्यमेव जयते

Friday

18 December, 2015

27 Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

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

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PUBLISHED UNDER RULE 260 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS
IN THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA) AND PRINTED BY PRINTOGRAPH,
KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 18th December, 2015/27th Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (2014-15) of ILI, New Delhi and related papers

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

- (a) Fifty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3627/16/15]

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

II. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of HVOC and WDRA, New Delhi and related papers

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. G.S.R. 847 (E), dated the 9th November, 2015, publishing the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2015, under sub-section (3) of Section 9 of the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.3527/16/15]

- II (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.3893/16/15]

- (ii) 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 —

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.3526/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

II. Regulations (2015) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

III. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various companies, society and related papers

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद): 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 Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications), under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and sub-section (4) of Section 10 of the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933:—
- (1) G.S.R. 696 (E), dated the 16th September, 2015, publishing the Use of Very Low Power Radio Frequency Devices or Equipments for Wireless Microphones (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2015.
 - (2) G.S.R. 697 (E), dated the 16th September, 2015, publishing the Use of Very Low Power Radio Frequency Devices or Equipments for Inductive Applications (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2015.
 - (3) G.S.R. 698 (E), dated the 16th September, 2015, publishing the Use of Very Low Power Radio Frequency Devices or Equipments including the Radio Frequency Identification Devices (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2015.

- (4) G.S.R. 699 (E), dated the 16th September, 2015, publishing the Use of Very Low Power Radio Frequency Devices or Equipments for Short Range Radar Systems (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2015. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (4), *See* No. L.T. 3581/16/15]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) F.No. 305-25/2014-QoS, dated the 15th October, 2015, publishing the Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2015, under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3964/16/15]
- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (i) (a) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Performance Review of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.3579/16/15]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
(b) Performance Review of the Telecommunications Consultants of India Limited (TCIL) for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.3580/16/15]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hemisphere Properties India Limited (HPIL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Performance Review of the Hemisphere Properties India Limited (HPIL), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T.3956/16/15]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3959/16/15]

I. Accounts (2014-15) of ICAR, New Delhi and related papers

II. Guidelines contained in the Report of the Committee on Agriculture

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ—

- I. (a) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- II. Guidelines for Establishment of Central Agricultural University, as recommended in the Forty-fourth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (December, 2014).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.3529/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles

II. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various corporations, board, associations and related papers

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. S.O. 2353 (E), dated the 28th August, 2015, regarding nomination of Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, Member of Rajya Sabha (in place of Shri P. Bhattacharya) to 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. 3638/16/15]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. S.O. 2640 (E), dated the 28th September, 2015, extending the validity of S.O. 1676 (E), dated the 23rd June, 2015 till 31st December, 2015, under sub-section (2) of Section 17 of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3639/16/15]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI), Kolkata, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3631/16/15]

- (ii) (a) Thirty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited (NHDC), Lucknow, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3632/16/15]

- (iii) (a) Forty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited (CCI), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3633/16/15]

- (iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under subsection (4) of Section 12 and Section 12A of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Central Silk Board, Bengaluru, for the year 2014-15.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Central Silk Board, Bengaluru, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3635/16/15]

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

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3636/16/15]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA), Kolkata, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3634/16/15]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the South India Textile Research Association (SITRA), Coimbatore, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3637/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various corporation, boards, institute, federations, cooperative union 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 and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(1) S.O. 2898 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 1908 (E), dated the 28th July, 2014, to substitute certain entries in original Notification.

- (2) S.O. 2899 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, notifying certain specifications in respect of provisional fertilizer, Phosphogypsum (Granular) to be manufactured in India for a period of three years from the date of publication of the Notification.
- (3) S.O. 2900 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, fixing certain general specifications of hundred per cent of Water Soluble Mixture of Fertiliser to be manufactured or imported into India.
- (4) S.O. 2901 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 3058 (E), dated the 8th October, 2013, to insert certain entries in original Notification.
- (5) S.O. 2902 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, fixing certain specifications in respect of Calcium Cynamide to be imported into India for a period of two years from the date of publication of the notification, for the purpose of sale of the same in India for use of agricultural.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5), *See* No. L.T. 3919/16/15]

- II (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub section (3) of Section 14 and sub-section (4) of Section 17 of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962:—
 - (a) Annual Report of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Annual Accounts of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Employees Provident Fund, New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (d) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3540/16/15]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 29 of the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, Gujarat, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3913/16/15]

- (iii) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 15 and Section 17 of the Coconut Development Act, 1979:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, Kerala, for the year 2014-15.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, Kerala, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
- (d) Comments on the Audit Report of the above Board.

- (2) Chronological Statement (in English and Hindi) showing the sequence of events of laying of the Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts of the above Board, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. For (1) & (2), *See* No.L.T. 3910/16/15]

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

- (1) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Performance Review of the above Institute, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3915/16/15]

- (2) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3917/16/15]

- (3) (a) Annual Report of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Cooperative Union. [Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3916/16/15]
- (4) (a) Thirty-ninth Annual Report of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15.
(b) Annual Accounts of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.
(c) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3537/16/15]
- (5) (a) Fifty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited (AIFCOSPIN), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3536/16/15]
- (6) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Limited (NLCF), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3538/16/15]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

II. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various companies, institute and related papers

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) Notification No. S.O. 745 (E), dated the 12th March, 2014, publishing the Chemical Weapons Convention (Criteria for Appointment as Enforcement Officer) Rules, 2014, under sub-section (3) of Section 56 of the Chemical Weapons Convention Act, 2000.

[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 4086/16/15]

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:—

(i) (a) Sixty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, 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. 3455/16/15]

(ii) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL), Marine Lines, Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, 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. 3543/16/15]

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

(a) Twenty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT), Gurgaon, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3546/16/15]

**Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various companies,
corporations and related papers.**

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनोज सिन्हा): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ—

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) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), New Delhi, along with that of its subsidiary company, the High Speed Rail Corporation of India Limited, for the year 2014-15, 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. 4013/16/15]
- (ii) (a) Twenty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL), Belapur, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 4012/16/15]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the RITES Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, 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. 4011/16/15]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4014/16/15]
- (v) (a) Sixteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T.4010/16/15]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Limited (MRVC), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3590/16/15]

- (vii) (a) Twenty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (IRFC), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3588/16/15]
- (viii) (a) Fifteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RAILTEL), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3589/16/15]

I. Mid-year Economic Analysis 2015-16

II. Recommendations of JPC on Stock Market Scam

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

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003:—
 - (i) Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, at the end of the first quarter of the financial year 2015-16, under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003.
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3732/16/15]
 - (ii) Mid-Year Economic Analysis 2015-16.
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3680/16/15]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twenty-fifth Progress Report on the Action Taken Pursuant to the Recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto (December, 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No.L.T. 3740/16/15]

Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of various institutes, board and related papers

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT), Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No.L.T. 3570/16/15]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Haryana, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3569/16/15]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Meat and Poultry Processing Board (NMPPB), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3937/16/15]

Reports of CAG for the year ended March, 2014 and March, 2015

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Jayant Sinha, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2014 - Performance Audit of Construction Activities in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) - Union Government (Civil), Ministry of Home Affairs, Report No 35 of 2015, (Performance Audit);
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.3748/16/15]
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2014 - Performance Audit of Mid Day Meal Scheme (2009-10 to 2013-14) - Ministry of Human Resource Development, Union Government (Civil) -Report No.36 of 2015, (Performance Audit);
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3751/16/15]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2014 - Union Government (Defence Services), Air Force, Report No.38 of 2015; [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3745/16/15]
- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2015 - Union Government (Civil), Autonomous Bodies - Special Audit of Medical Education Projects of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (Ministry of Labour and Employment), Report No.40 of 2015, (Special Audit); [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3755/16/15]
- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Ratna and R-Series Hydrocarbon Fields for the period ended March, 2015 - Union Government, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Report No.43 of 2015, (Compliance Audit); [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3746/16/15]
- (vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2014 - Union Government (Defence Services), Army, Ordnance Factories and Defence Public Sector Undertakings, Report No.44 of 2015; [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3750/16/15]
- (vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on National Skill Development Fund and National Skill Development Corporation for the year ended March, 2014 - Union Government, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Report No.45 of 2015, (Compliance Audit); [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3753/16/15]
- (viii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2015 - Working of Automation of Central Excise and Service Tax -Union Government, Department of Revenue, Indirect Taxes - Central Excise and Service Tax, Report No.46 of 2015; [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3752/16/15]
- (ix) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Information Technology Audit of Crew Management System in Indian Railways for the year ended March, 2015 - Union Government (Railways), Report No.47 of 2015 (Information Technology Audit); [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3747/16/15]
- (x) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Status of ongoing Projects in Indian Railways for the year ended March, 2014 - Union Government (Railways), Report No.48 of 2015; and [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3754/16/15]

- (xi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Public Private Partnership Projects in Major Ports for the year ended March, 2014 - Union Government, Ministry of Shipping, Report No. 49 of 2015 (Performance Audit). [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3749/16/15]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2015

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha—

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2015, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th December, 2015.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

REPORT ON INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report on the participation of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation at the 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) held in Geneva (Switzerland) from 12th - 16th October, 2014.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on ‘Role of Educational Institutions including Universities, Technical, Medical and Engineering in socio-economic development of SCs and STs - Implementation of reservation policy in University of Delhi’ pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third Report and Thirty-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance**

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, with your permission, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Arun Jaitley, I make the following statements regarding—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2014-15) pertaining to the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance; and
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance relating to “Tax Assessment/Exemptions related matter concerning IPL/BCCI”.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग की अनुदान मांगों (2015-16) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के चौथे प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में वक्तव्य देता हूँ।

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I beg to make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, ये क्या हो रहा है? ...(व्यवधान)... देश को कितना ड्रॉप किया है इन्होंने अपने राज में ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: मैं इस पर आपसे बहस करने के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... इसका क्या मतलब है? ...(व्यवधान)... मैं इस पर गंभीर आपत्ति दर्ज करना चाहता हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... It is very unfair. ...(Interruptions)... It is very unfair. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please don't do that. ...(Interruptions)... Please don't do that. ...(Interruptions)... Please behave properly. ...(Interruptions)... Don't make such shouting noises. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: आप बहस से भागते हो। मैं बहस के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... हाँ, करिए बहस।

श्री उपसभापति: श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी।

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह सूचित करता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: सत्र के शेष भाग के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिया जाएगा:-

1. आज की कार्य सूची से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार।
2. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में चीनी उपकर (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और लौटाना।
3. वाणिज्यिक न्यायालय, उच्च-न्यायालय वाणिज्यिक प्रभाग और वाणिज्यिक अपील प्रभाग अध्यादेश, 2015 (2015 का संख्या 8) का निरनुमोदन करने वाले सांविधिक संकल्प पर चर्चा और लोकसभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में वाणिज्यिक न्यायालय, उच्च न्यायालय वाणिज्यिक प्रभाग और वाणिज्यिक अपील प्रभाग विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।
4. माध्यस्थम और सुलह (संशोधन) अध्यादेश, 2015 (2015 का संख्या 9) का निरनुमोदन करने वाले सांविधिक संकल्प पर चर्चा और लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में माध्यस्थम और सुलह (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।
5. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:—

(क) विमानवहन (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015;

(ख) भारतीय मानव ब्यूरो विधेयक, 2015;

- (ग) उच्च न्यायालय और उच्चतम न्यायालय न्यायाधीश (वेतन और सेवा शर्तें) संशोधन विधेयक, 2015;
- (घ) भारतीय न्यास (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015;
- (ङ) परमाणु ऊर्जा (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015; और
- (च) उद्योग (विकास और विनियमन) संशोधन विधेयक, 2015.
6. राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति द्वारा प्रतिवेदन रूप में भू-संपदा (विनियमन और विकास) विधेयक, 2013 पर विचार और पारित करना।
7. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित और राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति द्वारा प्रतिवेदिन रूप में संविधान (एक सौ बाईसवां संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014 पर आगे और विचार तथा पारित करना और
8. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात् राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार तथा पारित करना।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Now, I will take up Zero Hour notices. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay; what does LoP want to say?

**RE. DEMAND FOR SUSPENSION OF LISTED BUSINESS FOR
DISCUSSING SITUATION IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सर, मैंने नोटिस दिया है कि आज के बिजनेस को स्थगित कर अरुणाचल की स्थिति पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। सर, आज पांचवां दिन है, जबकि अरुणाचल प्रदेश को लेकर सदन में गतिरोध चल रहा है और इसके चलते सदन में, हमारे चाहने के बावजूद, कोई काम नहीं हो पा रहा है। उसके लिए हमने कहा है कि गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया जिम्मेदार है। सर, जिस तरह से गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया के प्रतिनिधि, माननीय गवर्नर साहब, ने चीफ मिनिस्टर को पूछे बगैर, कैबिनेट को पूछे बगैर, उनकी अनुमति और उनकी request के बगैर विधान सभा का सेशन बुलाया था और माननीय गवर्नर साहब ने जिस तरह से एजेंडा पूरी विधान सभा में तय किया था कि किसे हटाना होगा, कौन चेयर पर बैठेगा, कौन सा item पहले लेना होगा, कितनी देर में उसका जवाब माननीय गवर्नर साहब तक पहुंचना चाहिए, यह असंवैधानिक था।

सर, भारत के इतिहास में आज तक न तो राष्ट्रपति ने और न ही किसी गवर्नर ने कैबिनेट की मर्जी के बगैर पार्लियामेंट या विधान सभा का सेशन बुलाया है और न ही किसी राष्ट्रपति, स्पीकर या गवर्नर ने विधान सभा को यह डायरेक्शन दी है कि कौन चेयर पर बैठेगा या कौन नहीं बैठेगा, किस वक्त बैठेगा, पहले सेशन में कौन बैठेगा और पहले सेशन में कौन सा item लिया जाएगा, किसे हटाया जाएगा और उसका पता तुरंत शाम को उन्हें दिया जाना चाहिए। सर, ये तमाम चीज़ें भारत के इतिहास में पहली दफा हो रही हैं और हिंदुस्तान के संविधान की धज्जियां उड़ायी जा रही हैं।

सर, एक और घटना हुई है। सर, लॉ एंड ऑर्डर स्टेट सब्जेक्ट होता है। कभी-कभी ऐसी स्थिति होती है ... कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट में लॉ एंड ऑर्डर की प्रॉब्लम होती है। पुलिस उस लॉ एंड ऑर्डर की सिचुएशन को कंट्रोल करने में असफल हो जाती है। कभी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को लॉ एंड ऑर्डर को कंट्रोल करने के लिए paramilitary forces की जरूरत पड़ती है और कभी-कभी army भी बुलाई जाती है। यह कोई नई बात नहीं है, लेकिन चाहे army बुलाने का काम हो या लॉ एंड ऑर्डर को मेंटेन करने के लिए paramilitary forces की जरूरत हो, यह ऑर्डर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट देती है। गवर्नर कभी यह requisition नहीं करता। हां, गवर्नर तब requisition करता है, जब गवर्नर रूल हो या प्रेजिडेंट्स रूल हो। जम्मू और कश्मीर में तो हमने कई सालों से देखा है। यह कोई नई बात नहीं है। वहां Armed Forces का स्पेशल एक्ट भी है। उसके बावजूद भी लॉ एंड ऑर्डर के लिए paramilitary forces को न तो गवर्नर बुला सकता है और न ही वे अपने आप intervene कर सकते हैं, जब तक कि उनको स्टेट गवर्नमेंट requisition करे और बुलाए।

अरुणाचल प्रदेश में इलेक्टेड गवर्नमेंट है और वह two-third majority से इलेक्टेड है। वहां चीफ मिनिस्टर हैं, मिनिस्टर्स हैं। उनकी मर्जी के बगैर, उनकी जानकारी के बगैर * मुझे अफसोस है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उसको accept कर लिया। ... (व्यवधान)...

[قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : سر، میں نے نوٹس دیا ہے کہ آج کے بزنس کو اسٹہگت کر ارونال کی استھی پر چرچہ ہونی چاہیے۔ سر، آج پانچواں دن ہے، جبکہ ارونال پر دیش کو لے کر سدن میں گئی۔ رودھہ چل رہا ہے اور اس کے چلتے سن میں، ہمارے چاہنے کے باوجود، کوئی کام نہیں ہو رہا ہے۔ اس کے لئے ہم نے کہا کہ گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا نمہ دار ہے۔ سر، جس طرح سے گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کے ہرنی ندھی، مائنے گورنر صاحب، نے چیف منسٹر کو پوچھے بغیر، کینیٹ کو پوچھے بغیر، ان کی اجازت اور ان کی ریکویسٹ کے بغیر ودھان سبھا کا سیشن بلایا تھا اور مائنے گورنر

صاحب نے جس طرح سے ایجنڈا پوری ودھان سبھا میں طے کیا تھا کہ کسے بٹنا ہوگا، کون چیئر پر بیٹھے گا، کون سا آٹم پہلے لینا ہوگا، کتنی دیر میں اس کا جواب مائنے گورنر صاحب تک پہنچنا چاہیے، یہ غیر انینی تھا۔

سر، بھارت کی تاریخ میں آج تک نہ تو رائٹریٹی نے اور نہ ہی کسی گورنر نے کینیٹ کی مرضی کے بغیر پارلیمنٹ یا ودھان سبھا کا سیشن بلایا ہے اور نہ ہی کسی رائٹریٹی، اسپیکر یا گورنر نے ودھان سبھا کو یہ ڈائریکشن نہیں دی ہے کہ کون چیئر پر بیٹھے گا یا کون نہیں بیٹھے گا، کس وقت بیٹھے

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

[श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद]

गा, پہلے سیشن میں کون بیٹھے گا اور پہلے سیشن میں کون سا آئٹم لیا جائے گا، کسے بٹایا جائے گا اور اس کا پتہ فوراً سام کو انہیں دیا جانا چاہئے۔ سر، یہ تمام چیزیں بھارت کی تاریخ میں پہلی دفعہ ہو رہی ہے اور ہندوستان کے انہیں کی دھجیاں اڑانی جا رہی ہیں۔

سر، ایک اور گھٹنا ہوئی ہے۔ سر، لاء اینڈ آرڈر اسٹیٹ سبجیکٹ ہونا ہے، کبھی کبھی ایسی حالت ہوتی ہے۔

کہ اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ میں لاء اینڈ آرڈر کی پرابلم ہوتی ہے، پولیس اس لاء اینڈ آرڈر کی سچویشن کو کنٹرول کرنے میں ناکام ہو جاتی ہے۔ کبھی اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ کو لاء اینڈ آرڈر کو کنٹرول کرنے کے لئے پیرامیٹری فورسز کی ضرورت پڑتی ہے اور کبھی کبھی آرمی بھی بلانی جاتی ہے۔ یہ کوئی نئی بات نہیں ہے، لیکن چاہے آرمی بلانے کا کام ہو یا لاء اینڈ آرڈر کو مینٹین کرنے کے لئے پیرامیٹری فورسز کی ضرورت ہو، یہ آرڈر اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ دیتی ہے۔ گورنر کبھی یہ requisition نہیں کرتا۔ ہاں گورنر تب requisition کرتا ہے، جب گورنر رول ہو یا پریزیڈنٹ رول ہو۔ جموں اور کشمیر میں تو ہم نے کئی سالوں سے یہ دیکھا ہے۔ یہ کوئی نئی بات نہیں ہے۔ وہاں آرمڈ فورسز کا اسپیشل ایکٹ بھی ہے۔ اس کے باوجود بھی لاء اینڈ آرڈر کے لئے پیرامیٹری فورسز کو نہ تو گورنر بلا سکتا ہے اور نہ ہی وہ اپنے آپ intervene کر سکتے ہیں، جب تک کہ ان کو اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ requisition کرے اور بلانے۔

اروناچل پردیش میں الیکٹڈ گورنمنٹ ہے اور وہ two-third majority سے الیکٹڈ ہے۔ وہاں چیف منسٹر ہیں، منسٹرس ہیں۔ ان کی مرضی کے بغیر، ان کی جانکاری کے بغیر^(*) مجھے افسوس ہے کہ مرکزی سرکار نے اس کو accept کر لیا۔ (مداخلت)۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; please. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I will just take one minute only. ... (Interruptions)...

I will conclude in one minute. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; already the motion is pending with the hon. Chairman. ... (Interruptions)...

So, why do you discuss that? ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I am not abusing anybody. ... (Interruptions)...

I am not ... (Interruptions)...

I am just concluding. ... (Interruptions)...

I am just concluding. ... (Interruptions)...

سر، इस तरह से पिछले दो दिनों में यह कार्रवाई हुई और हजारों लोगों ने विधान सभा को घेर लिया, जिसके चलते विधान सभा में कार्यवाही नहीं हो पाई। अगर

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

कार्यवाही नहीं हो पाई तो विधान सभा रुक सकती थी, लेकिन एक community hall में अलग से parallel विधान सभा चली और उस community hall में स्पीकर को हटा दिया गया। कल एक रेस्टोरेंट में ...(व्यवधान)...

’جناب غلام نبی آزاد : سر، اس طرح سے پچھلے دو دنوں میں یہ کاروائی ہوئی اور ہزاروں لوگوں نے ودھان سبھا کو گھیر لیا۔ جس کے چلتے ودھان سبھا میں کاروائی نہیں ہو پائی۔ اگر کاروائی نہیں ہو پائی تو ودھان سبھا رک سکتی تھی، لیکن یہ کمیونٹی ہال میں الگ سے parallel ودھان سبھا چلی اور اس کمیونٹی ہال میں اسپیکر کو ہٹا دیا گیا۔ کل ایک ریسٹورینٹ میں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, point of order. ...(Interruptions)... Point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Point of order. ...(Interruptions)... Point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Point of order, under Rule 238. ...(Interruptions)... See, the issue is very simple. I will not be lengthy. ...(Interruptions)... The substantive ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... I have allowed the point of order. ...(Interruptions)... You please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Substantive motion is already under your consideration. ...(Interruptions)... Substantive motion is under your consideration because you cannot ...(Interruptions)... One minute! ...(Interruptions)... One minute! ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: The matter which is *sub judice* ...(Interruptions)... The matter on which the High Court has already given some decision and by any means you cannot again start discussion on Governor's conduct without Chairman deciding on the substantive motion. ...(Interruptions)... That is my point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is valid. ...(Interruptions)... No; that point is valid. ...(Interruptions)... No, no; please. ...(Interruptions)... No; I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... No; LoP is still speaking. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. LoP please. ...(Interruptions)...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I would reply to that. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, that point of order is valid because the motion is with the hon. Chairman. ...(Interruptions)... So, until and unless the Chairman allows the motion, we cannot have a detailed discussion. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, मेरा यह कहना है ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : سر، میرا یہ کہنا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: आप conclude कीजिए। So, please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: परसों सबस्टेंटिव मोशन दिया है, लेकिन घटना तो आज हुई है। माननीय मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि यहां इस पर चर्चा नहीं हो सकती है। भारत के तमाम चैनल्स पर इस पर चर्चा हो सकती है, लेकिन सदन में नहीं हो सकती है, ...(व्यवधान)... Council of States में नहीं हो सकती है ...(व्यवधान)... यह कैसे हो सकता है? ...(व्यवधान)... सब चैनल्स पर हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : پرسوں سبسٹنٹیو موشن دیا ہے، لیکن گھٹنا تو آج ہوئی ہے۔ مائٹے منٹری جی کہہ رہے ہیں کہ یہاں اس پر چرچہ نہیں ہو سکتی ہے۔ بھارت کے تمام چینلوں پر اس پر چرچہ ہو سکتی ہے، لیکن سدن میں نہیں ہو سکتی،۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ Council of States میں نہیں ہو سکتی ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ کیسے ہو سکتا ہے؟۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ سب چینلوں پر ہو رہا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

SHRIPRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, again, I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)... It is under Rule 238(i). ...(Interruptions)... It says, "refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending." ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, रूल है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, देश के हर एक चैनल पर यह चर्चा हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं conclude करना चाहता हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: سر، رول ہے،۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ سر، نیشن کے ہر ایک چینل پر یہ چرچہ ہو رہی ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ سر میں conclude کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)... LOP, please conclude. ...(Interruptions)... Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, मैं conclude करना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नर साहब ने हाउस को समन करने का जो ऑर्डर दिया था, * ...(व्यवधान)... पूरी कार्यवाही को ...(व्यवधान)... पूरी

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

कार्यवाही को in abeyance कर दिया है ...**(व्यवधान)**... in abeyance कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसलिए जो हाई कोर्ट ने कहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... कि यह unconstitutional चीज़ हुई है ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब इस सरकार के द्वारा ...**(व्यवधान)**... और* ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†**آجناب غلام نبی آزاد:** سر، میں conclude کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ گورنر صاحب نے ہاؤس کو سمن کرنے کا جو آرڈر کیا تھا * ...**(مداخلت)**... پوری کارروائی کو ...**(مداخلت)**... کر دیا ہے۔ ...**(مداخلت)**... اس in abeyance کر دیا ہے ...**(مداخلت)**... in abeyance پوری کارروائی کو چیز ہوئی ہے۔ ...**(مداخلت)**... جب unconstitutional لئے جو ہٹی کورٹ نے کہا ہے ...**(مداخلت)**... کہ یہ ...**(مداخلت)**... اس سرکار کے ذریعہ ...**(مداخلت)**... اور [

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, the matter is sub judice. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: ऐसे गवर्नर को एक मिनट भी गवर्नर की कुर्सी पर रहने का हक नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसे गवर्नर को recall करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†**آجناب غلام نبی آزاد:** ایسے گورنر کو ایک منٹ بھی گورنر کی کرسی پر رہنے کا حق نہیں ہے ، ...**(مداخلت)**... ایسے گورنر کو recall کرنا چاہئے۔ ...**(مداخلت)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The LOP, please ...**(Interruptions)**... The LOP, please ...**(Interruptions)**... The LOP, please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please, listen. ...**(Interruptions)**... The position is ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... The position is that hon. Chairman has admitted the motion. ...**(Interruptions)**... Only the question of time is to be decided. ...**(Interruptions)**... In view of that fact, no further discussion because it is going to be discussed. ...**(Interruptions)**... So this subject cannot be raised now. ...**(Interruptions)**... The motion is admitted by hon. Chairman. ...**(Interruptions)**... Only time is to be decided. ...**(Interruptions)**... Your motion is also there. ...**(Interruptions)**... The motion of the LOP is there. ...**(Interruptions)**... Therefore, no more discussion now. ...**(Interruptions)**... A discussion will take place. ...**(Interruptions)**... So no more discussion on that subject. ...**(Interruptions)**... Therefore, I am taking up Zero Hour. ...**(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, one minute. ...**(Interruptions)**...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No discussion on that.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: No discussion on that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

सर, मेरी request यह है कि जब substantive motion चेयरमैन साहब के पास है, तो लीडर ऑफ दि अपोज़िशन ने जो कहा है, उसे रिकॉर्ड से बाहर किया जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Any aspersion against the Governor will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Any aspersion against the Governor will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Zero Hour submissions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri A.U. Singh Deo. ...*(Interruptions)*... Because motion is admitted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर (राजस्थान): आप बोलने का मौका नहीं देंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम क्या कर सकते हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर असेम्बली को भंग कर दें, ...*(व्यवधान)*... तो आप क्या करेंगे, आप ही बताएँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार): सर, मेरी बात भी सुनी जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, एक मिनट, मेरी बात सुन ली जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion is coming. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can speak at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Keshava Rao, you have not given any notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Have you given any notice? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, hear me ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to say something about the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is a point of order from Dr. K. Keshava Rao. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, the issue raised by the LOP is entirely a different thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... He raised it under Rule 167. ...*(Interruptions)*... What he is saying is about what has happened in Arunachal. ...*(Interruptions)*... He was trying to discuss the role of Governor ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not discussing that at all. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not under Rule 167. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am raising the basic issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Constitution is being violated. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not interested whether it is

about Arunachal or a Governor. ...(Interruptions)... I am posing a straight question to you. ...(Interruptions)... It is provided in the Rules with you and provided against them as far as the Constitution is concerned. When the Constitution is totally violated and vindicated by the High Court ...(Interruptions)... I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions)... When the Constitution is violated notwithstanding what is there in the Rule 167 the spirit of that matter be taken up ...(Interruptions)... Let me complete. You please read articles from 168 to 174. They explain how the Assembly is to be constituted, what is the membership of the constitution, the procedures of the Assembly. I am not discussing about the Governor at all. I am not discussing about the Assembly at all.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not a constitutional expert.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: My point of order is about the Constitution. I am asking the Chair, if the Constitution is violated in such a vulgar fashion, what should this House do? As the LOP has rightly said ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Keshava Rao, that is why hon. Chairman has informed that he has admitted the motion. ...(Interruptions)... When the motion is taken up, you can discuss it. ...(Interruptions)... When the motion is taken up, you can discuss it. You have every right to discuss it. Who is preventing you? Dr. Keshava Rao, the point raised by you, you can raise it when the motion is taken up. Hon. Chairman has admitted the motion. You sit down.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. K.C. Tyagi, what is your point? Mr. Tyagi, since the motion is going to be discussed, there is no point in raising it now here. Don't raise it.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: सर, मेरा एक निवेदन है, मैंने रूल 267 के तहत नोटिस दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, ये दोनों बड़ी पार्टियां हैं। मैं दोनों पार्टियों से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं, चाहे बीएसपी हो या एसपी, आरजेडी हो या जेडीयू, डीएमके हो या अन्ना डीएमके, टीएमसी हो, सीपीएम हो या सीपीआई ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All are equal for the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... मेरे लिए सभी ईक्वल हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: सर, आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... इन पार्टियों को सबसे ज्यादा खतरा है कि संविधान पर जो प्रहार हो रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... ये सब जो बीच में पार्टियां हैं ...(व्यवधान)... सर, आप मेरी बात सुनिए, ये कभी न कभी, किसी न किसी समय इसका शिकार रही हैं। सर, मैं अरुणाचल प्रदेश और जम्मू-कश्मीर के मामले में आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं, मैं कोई राजनीति नहीं करना चाहता। म्यांमार और चीन के साथ उसका लम्बा बॉर्डर लगा हुआ है।

[श्री के. सी. त्यागी]

सर, जनरल जे.जे. सिंह से लेकर लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल निर्भय शर्मा तक, जो भी आर्मी के हेड वहां के गवर्नर रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, यह मैं यह इस इंटरेस्ट में कहना चाहता हूं, जैसे वर्तमान में जम्मू-कश्मीर का मामला है, वहां पर चाहे इनकी सरकार बन या उनकी बने, हमें राजनीति नहीं करनी चाहिए। मेरा निवेदन है कि जो गवर्नर आपने यहां से भेजा, उसके, अरुणाचल प्रदेश और असम के टेरिटोरियल डिस्प्यूट्स रहे हैं। सर, ऐसे समय में आप जो कह रहे हैं, चूंकि जो बीच में पार्टियां हैं, ये इन फैसलों से हर रोज़ प्रभावित होती हैं।

सर, यह आज की बात नहीं है, यह सिलसिला 1957 से शुरू हुआ है, जो 2015 तक पहुंच गया है। गवर्नर की भूमिका को लेकर और आर्टिकल 356 को लेकर ऐसा कभी भी नहीं हुआ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... गलतियां इन्होंने भी की हैं, लेकिन ऐसी गलती कभी नहीं हुई कि डांस बार में बैठकर एलएलएज की मीटिंग करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज तक कभी ऐसा नहीं हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... How can you hold meeting in the restaurant?

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): सर, डिस्कशन से पहले ये इस पर डिस्कशन कैसे कर सकते हैं?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When we take up the subject, at that time, you can discuss it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Tyagiji, when we take up the subject, you can raise this point. You will be allowed to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Zero Hour.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: सर, अगर वहां के हाईकोर्ट का फैसला नहीं आया होता ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट का फैसला नहीं आया होता, तो मैं खड़ा नहीं हुआ होता। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: सर, गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट का कहना है ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, डिजीजन में गुवाहाटी हाई कोर्ट का कहना है कि *इसलिए उस गवर्नर को एक पल के लिए भी वहां नहीं रहना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: यह सबको मालूम है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... डिस्कशन के टाइम आप इसको रोज़ कीजिए, अभी आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Now, Zero Hour submission, Mr. A.U. Singh Deo.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Concern over growing disparity between Civil Services and Armed Forces

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO (Odisha): Sir, there is an urgent ...*(Interruptions)*... डिफेंस में OROP के लिए सरकार ने बहुत कुछ किया है और बहुत कुछ करना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अब

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

जो समस्याएँ हमारे सामने हैं, उन्हें हम दूर करना चाहते हैं। There is an urgent need to address the requisite reform sought in the current civil military structure. ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, आप अगर देखें तो आज एक Joint Secretary is equal to a Major General in protocol. यह हमारे लिए अच्छा नहीं है, इसे आप समझिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक ज्वाइंट सेक्रेटरी को अगर मेजर जनरल के equivalent रखते हैं, तो यह Armed Forces की मानहानि करता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसे हमें बदलना पड़ेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am not allowing you. You can see that Mr. A.U. Singh Deo is speaking. You must see that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only Mr. A.U. Singh Deo has the floor; nobody else. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. A.U. Singh Deo. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, don't do this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: The Armed Forces headquarters have functioned as subordinate offices of the Central Government, a framework unique to India that no other country has. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Service Headquarters are not part of the Government of India, but function as 'attached offices', which were upgraded in 2001 as 'associate headquarters'. ...*(Interruptions)*... The nomenclature was changed but there has been no substantive change. Their status can be compared to the Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The current reporting protocol discriminates against the venerated officials of the Armed Forces. In addition, it also undermines their ability to address security challenges. ...*(Interruptions)*... The civilians who are posted in the Defence Ministry do not have adequate past experience. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we must be on a par with other democracies in the world.

In 2000, a Committee headed by the venerated late K. Subrahmanyam recommended creation of a dedicated post of Chief of Defence Staff. So did the Naresh Chandra Committee, but it has not been done as yet. ...*(Interruptions)*... This should be taken up. In the US, the Goldwater-Nicholas Act on the directive of Congress brought about the requisite change. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... It is time for the Indian security framework to move towards a more mature construct wherein civil and military officials work seamlessly. It is essential that the issue be viewed holistically and a solution be crafted within a specific time-frame. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sanjiv Kumar. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sanjiv Kumar. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Pathetic condition of people in and around Jharia, Dhanbad district

श्री संजीव कुमार (झारखंड) : सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि ...**(व्यवधान)**... झारखंड के झरिया एवं उसके आसपास के इलाकों में सौ वर्षों से लगी underground fire के कारण अब तक करीब 41 मिलियन टन कीमती कोयला जल कर तबाह हो चुका है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... आग से संबंधित एक्सिडेंट्स एवं पॉल्यूशन के कारण हजारों लोग अपनी जान गंवा चुके हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... एवं अस्थमा, टीबी, कैंसर आदि बीमारियों से रोज लोग मर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

1973 में coal mines के nationalisation के बाद कई कारगर पॉलिसीज़ बनायी गयीं, ...**(व्यवधान)**... परन्तु coal management में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार के कारण कोई project सफल नहीं हुआ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अंततः सरकार ने निर्णय लिया कि झरिया एवं इसके आसपास की बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोगों को suitable location में बसाया जायेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... तब Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority का गठन हुआ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... धनबाद के बलियापुर प्रखंड में जमीन acquire करने के बाद झरिया, बिहार इत्यादि स्थानों में फ्लैट्स बनाये गये, ...**(व्यवधान)**... परन्तु भ्रष्टाचार, coal mafia, builder, police और coal management के nexus के कारण फ्लैट्स घटिया बनाये गये, ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके अलावा वहां पानी, बिजली, स्वास्थ्य एवं सड़क की समस्याओं पर ज़रा भी ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, ...**(व्यवधान)**... जिसके कारण झरिया एवं आसपास के इलाकों के 52,000 प्रभावित परिवारों में से सिर्फ 1,113 परिवारों ने ही उन फ्लैट्स में शिफ्ट किया, ...**(व्यवधान)**... जबकि बाकी लोग अब भी झरिया एवं आसपास की बस्तियों में नरक की जिंदगी जीने को मजबूर हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बी0सी0सी0एल0 मैनेजमेंट उनके जीवन को और बदतर बनाने के लिए नियम के विरुद्ध बस्तियों के आसपास ओपन कास्ट माइंस में रूल के विरुद्ध असमय ब्लास्ट करते रहते हैं और उनके जानमाल को क्षति पहुंचाते हैं। महोदय, मैनेजमेंट की इन्हीं हरकतों का विरोध झरिया के घनुडोई बस्ती में रहने वाले उमेश सिंह ने बस्ती के लोगों की मदद से किया था। लेकिन उसको पुलिस 23 जून, 2015 की रात उठा कर ले गई एवं 24 जून, 2015 को उसकी लाश पास की नदी के किनारे मिली। कोल मैनेजमेंट, कोल माफिया, बिल्डर्स, कॉन्ट्रैक्टर, सी0बी0आई0, आई0टी0, ई0डी0 एवं पुलिस आपस में नेक्सस बनाकर राष्ट्र को रोज अरबों का चूना लगा रहे हैं। वहीं कोयलांचल के लोग आग एवं पॉल्यूशन के कारण उत्पन्न बीमारियों जैसे टी0बी0, अस्थमा, कैंसर इत्यादि से मर रहे हैं। अतः आपके माध्यम से मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि झरिया एवं आसपास के रहने वाले लोगों को सम्मानपूर्वक suitable जगह में बसाने की तुरन्त व्यवस्था करे, जहां पानी, बिजली, सड़क, स्वास्थ्य इत्यादि के अलावा शमशान एवं कब्रिस्तान की व्यवस्था हो। इसके अलावा कोयलांचल के सभी अस्पतालों को केन्द्र सरकार अपने सुपरविजन में लेकर मॉडर्नाइज़ करे, ताकि लोगों इलाज के लिए झारखंड के बाहर नहीं जाना पड़े। धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इसके साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री गुलाम रसूल बलियावी (बिहार): सर, मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

†جناب غلام رسول بلیاوی (بہار) : سر، میں بھی اس کے ساتھ اپنے کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

श्री आलोक तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैं इनके साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इसके साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

†چودھری منور سلیم (اترپردیش) : مہودے، میں بھی اس کے ساتھ اپنے کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता (झारखंड): सर, मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, Shri K.K. Ragesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, all names should be added. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri K.K. Ragesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**Need to ensure admissions to socially/economically backward
students in professional colleges**

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Thank you hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir. At the very outset, through you, Sir, I am demanding the Central Government to enact a Central legislation to regulate fees and admissions in private self-financing institutions. In these private professional colleges, poor and needy students, especially, socially and backward sections among the students, are denied admissions due to the exorbitant fee being charged in those institutions and, that is why, I am demanding the Central Government to regulate fees and admissions in these institutions. Sir, it is an alarming situation existing in these institutions. During the last few years, in those private institutions, 45% to 50% of the total seats are lying vacant. Students are there and they are seeking admissions in those institutions. But they are not getting admitted because of the high fee, because of the exorbitant fee being charged in those institutions and that is why, the Government should intervene and ensure admission for those poor students in those professional institutions. Sir, it is an alarming situation that is existing. After the T.M.A. Pai Foundation case Judgement of the Supreme Court, these private institutions were given unfettered freedom for collecting fee and also these private institutions are admitting students according to their own definition of its spirit, according to their own whims and fancies, merit is being sabotaged and a rampant corruption is going on in these private professional institutions. Even though the Supreme Court itself had done away with capitation fee, still the capitation fee is being charged by these private institutions

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

[Shri K.K. Ragesh]

in a big way and the Government is not intervening unfortunately. I am demanding the Central Government to immediately intervene in this important issue and also enact a Central legislation for ensuring admission of the socially and educationally backward sections in these institutions and the Government must come up with a Central legislation that empower the State Governments to regulate fees and admissions in these institutions. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by of the hon. Member.

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

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

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by of the hon. Member.

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इसके साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

**Need to take special measures in sports for effective representation
of India in Olympics 2016**

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, ओलम्पिक खेल 2016 में हो रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not howl like this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please do not do this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Do not do this. ...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: हमें अपने खिलाड़ियों के लिए विश्व स्तर की सुविधाएं जुटाने की जरूरत है, जिससे कि ओलम्पिक खेलों में हम भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व अच्छा बनाने के लिए उपाय कर सकें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not do this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Howling is the nature of ...**(Interruptions)**... Do not do that. ...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: निश्चित रूप से इसके लिए देश में विश्व स्तर की ट्रेनिंग होनी चाहिए और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि सरकार आने वाले समय में देश के अंदर खेलों को प्रोत्साहन के लिए, खेलों में प्रतिस्पर्धा और अच्छा बनाने के लिए विश्व स्तर के प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र खोलने का काम करेगी। उसमें और अधिक काम करने की आवश्यकता है। इन सारे कामों को करने के लिए 'नेशनल स्पोर्ट्स डेवलपमेंट फंड' बनाया गया है। मैं चाहूंगा कि एनएसडीएफ को रेग्युलेट करने के लिए वित्त मंत्रालय और खेल मंत्रालय साथ मिलकर कोई नीति बनाए, जिससे उनके पास पर्याप्त धनराशि हो और

सुविधाएं जुटाने में विलंब न हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं चाहूंगा कि देश की खेल नीति इस प्रकार की बने, जिसके माध्यम से छात्र-छात्राओं, युवाओं को खेलों में प्रोत्साहन देने के उपाय किए जाएं। स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से खेलों को प्रोत्साहन देने का काम हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... विद्यालयों और महाविद्यालयों में सुविधाएं जुटाई जाएं और उसी आधार पर स्पर्धा में भाग लेने के लिए, देश का प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खेलों में भारत का नाम आगे बढ़ाने के लिए जिन-जिन ईवेंट्स में हम अच्छा कर सकते हैं, अगर हमारे देश में उनमें प्रशिक्षण का प्रबंध किया जाएगा, तो निश्चित रूप से हमको उन सारे कामों में मदद मिलेगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं चाहूंगा कि सरकार इस ओर ध्यान दे। इसको पूरी सहायता देकर, वित्तीय सहायता देकर ...**(व्यवधान)**... खेल मंत्रालय को खेलों के लिए इसका प्रोविजन करके उसको पर्याप्त धन देना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देश भर में प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र खोले जाएं। विद्यालय, महाविद्यालय और विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर प्रतिस्पर्धा बढ़ाई जाए। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जो विद्यालय हैं, उन विद्यालयों में खेल का मैदान बनाने का काम करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**Depiction of Indian Territory as part of Pakistan and China by
Microsoft and other U.S. companies**

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Sir, there is a cartographic attack on India's sovereignty and unity. Microsoft and other American agencies are publishing a wrong map of India, and surprisingly, we are not making correct and right noises against it. This is the map where entire Kashmir and our Aksai Chin are shown in China and Pakistan. This is an attack on our Indian sovereignty. The Indian Government must take up this issue very, very seriously. I was in a NATO meeting in Brussels a month back. There when I saw the NATO Generals in a briefing showing India's wrong map, I protested then and there. I said that this was against India and if you think that you are a friend of India, you should not be showing these wrong maps of India. Every single agency is showing the wrong map of India. The Indian Government must protest against it. We sing, "देंगे अपनी जान, न देंगे एक इंच भी भूमि", हम एक इंच जमीन भी न देने की कसम खाते हैं, लेकिन पूरे नक्शे में एक लाख, सवा लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर भूमि पाकिस्तान और चीन के हाथ में दिखाई जाती है और हम विरोध तक नहीं करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो विदेशी पत्रिकाएं यहां पर आती हैं, उनमें भारत के नक्शे गलत दिखाए जाते हैं। कश्मीर भारत का नहीं, बल्कि पाकिस्तान का दिखाया जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके बारे में हम क्यों शांत रहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... माइक्रोसॉफ्ट कंपनी का बहिष्कार किया जाना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... We must boycott all the products of Microsoft because they are showing the wrong map of India and they are attacking India's sovereignty and unity. Sir, we die for our country. We die for our Tricolour. Casablanca died for his country's flag. Sir, they are showing wrong maps of India. This should be corrected. In Kashmir newspapers also, they are writing 'Pakistan-Administered Kashmir'. It should be 'Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir'. वह पाकिस्तान के अवैध कब्जे में है, इसलिए to protect the sovereignty of India and to stop the cartographic attack on India by Microsoft and other American agencies, we must give them notice and we must boycott their products. Thank you.

श्री मेघराज जैन (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Severe drought condition in Bundelkhand resulting in suicide by farmers

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय को आपके माध्यम से उठाना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, बुंदेलखंड में सूखे की स्थिति है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां पर लाखों किसान आज रबी की फसल की बुआई ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your Member is raising a Zero Hour issue. How can you shout? ...**(Interruptions)**... Your Member is raising a Zero Hour issue. How can you shout? ...**(Interruptions)**... Your Member is raising a Zero Hour issue. How can you shout? ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no. That is not correct.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, वहां पर किसान बहुत परेशान हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your Member is raising a Zero Hour issue. How can you shout? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, ...**(व्यवधान)**... झांसी, ललितपुर के किसान परेशान हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां पर लोग बैंकों और साहूकार के कर्जे के कारण ...**(व्यवधान)**... खेती नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go back. You cannot do that. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, केन्द्र सरकार ने सूखा पीड़ित किसानों को 13 हजार रुपए प्रति हेक्टेयर देने की घोषणा की थी, लेकिन वहां पर केन्द्र सरकार से कोई मदद नहीं मिली है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only the Members who want to raise their issues ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, आज वहां पर किसान बहुत परेशान हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, बुंदेलखंड के किसान दलहन-तिलहन उगाने के लिए प्रसिद्ध हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां पर दलहन-तिलहन की खेती अच्छी होती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां न तो खरीफ की फसल हो पाई और न रबी की फसल की बुआई हो पाई। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, वहां का किसान बहुत ही परेशान है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कम वर्षा और मॉनसून असंतुलन के कारण वहां के किसान गत तीन सालों से लगातार परेशान हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनकी जो भी फसल शेष है, उसे "अन्ना प्रथा" और जंगली जानवर नष्ट कर देते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज हमारे बुंदेलखंड का किसान परेशान है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं कांग्रेस और भाजपा के माननीय सदस्यों से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि बुंदेलखंड का किसान मर रहा है,

पलायन कर रहा है, उनके बारे में आप चिन्ता करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... भारतीय जनता पार्टी और कांग्रेस के लोग मिले हुए हैं, वे बुंदेलखंड को नहीं चाहते हैं। ये दोनों लोग मिलकर बुंदेलखंड के किसानों को बर्बाद करना चाहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पिछली बार बुंदेलखंड को जो पैकेज दिया गया था, हमारे मुख्य मंत्री, अखिलेश यादव जी ने बुंदेलखंड पैकेज के शेष पैसे की माँग की है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am also to protect the interest of those Members who have given Zero Hour Notice. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, हम कहना चाहते हैं कि बुंदेलखंड का किसान इस समय बहुत ही परेशानी की हालत में है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज मैं देख रहा हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य एक इश्यू को लेकर शोरगुल मचा रहे हैं, उससे ज्यादा परेशानी बुंदेलखंड के किसानों की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बुंदेलखंड का किसान मर रहा है, परेशान है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां पर पानी नहीं है, वहां पर पानी का लेवल नीचे चला गया है, जमीनें फट रही हैं, वहां का किसान पूरी तरह से बरबाद हो चुका है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, कई सालों से किसानों के परेशान होने के बाद पिछले साल माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उनको भरोसा दिलाया था। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अखबारों में, मीडिया में बड़े-बड़े पोस्टर्स छपे थे कि किसानों को 13,000 रुपये प्रति हेक्टेयर देने का वे काम करेंगे, लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार ने एक रुपया भी नहीं दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down. अब आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: इसलिए मैं केन्द्र सरकार से यह माँग करता हूँ कि बुंदेलखंड के किसानों का जो पैसा है, वह उन्हें तुरंत दिया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, अब आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: यही मेरी माँग है, धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री आलोक तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

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

श्रीमती कनक लता सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

डा. तजीन फातमा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।
 †ڈاکٹر تزین فاطمہ (اترپردیش): مہودے، میں اس وٹھے کے ساتھ خود کو سمبڈ کرتی ہوں۔

श्री गुलाम रसूल बलियावी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।
 †ڈاکٹر تزین فاطمہ (اترپردیش): مہودے، میں اس وٹھے کے ساتھ خود کو سمبڈ کرتی ہوں۔

Delay in justice due to lack of forensic infrastructure

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, recently, the country observed three years of Nirbhaya rape case, but we are sorry to say that lack of forensic infrastructure is causing inordinate delay in getting justice to all the women who have been raped or physically abused. ...(Interruptions)... The newspaper reports suggest that it is so glaring that the Government is not even able to come up with proofs in the fast track courts. ...(Interruptions)... To give an illustration, in the National Capital itself, amongst eleven police districts in the city of Delhi, there are only two forensic laboratories, out of which even one is not functioning properly. ...(Interruptions)... Even the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has expressed extreme displeasure over the sorry state of affairs. ...(Interruptions)... The need of the hour is to ensure time-bound submission of forensic reports on various cases as well as to strengthen the existing capacity of forensic infrastructure in the country. ...(Interruptions)... The matter needs urgent attention of the Government because it involves the lives of so many victims and also women suffering from domestic violence are also associated with the same. ...(Interruptions)... Government needs to show the seriousness in its intent to bring to book all the wrongdoers and hence take necessary action in this direction at the earliest. ...(Interruptions)... Thank you, Sir.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned up to 12.00 hours.

The House then adjourned at forty-three minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vacant posts in consumer fora

*211.DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many posts are lying vacant in the consumer fora/ courts leading to piling up of cases, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

(b) if so, whether Government will undertake measures to fill up all vacant posts in a time-bound manner?

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

Statement

About 10% of sanctioned posts of President and Member are vacant at the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (National Commission) and State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions). In the District Consumer Redressal Fora (District Fora), about 17% of posts are vacant as on date. The State-wise, vacancy position of Presidents and Members in the State Commissions and the District Fora is given in Statement - I (see below). So far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, 44.4 % of posts of President and Member are vacant. The particulars of vacancies are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

On an all India basis the number of cases filed, disposed and pending is given below:

Name of agency	Number of cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of total Disposal
National Commission	98496	88505	9991	89.86%
State Commission	695646	599599	96047	86.19%
District Fora	3654248	3368764	285484	92.19%
TOTAL	4448390	4056868	391522	91.20%

As on 30.11.2015, out of 35,083 cases filed in Andhra Pradesh State Commission since inception, 34,446 cases have been disposed. Only 637 cases are pending, which constitutes 1.81 % of the cases filed. Similarly, out of 1,15,356 cases filed in the District Fora in Andhra Pradesh since inception, 1,13,073 cases have been disposed as on 30.11.2015. The number of cases pending is 2283, which constitutes less than 2%.

(1) As per the provisions of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and Consumer Protection Rules, 1987 the Central Government is responsible for filling up vacant posts in National Commission. The responsibility for filling up of posts of State Commissions and District Fora lies with State Governments.

(2) The Central Government has been taking timely action to fill up vacant posts in the National Commission. As present, there is only one vacant post of Member in the National Commission, the process of filling of which is at an advanced stage.

(3) As regards the vacancies in the Consumer Fora in Andhra Pradesh, the State Government has informed that measures will be taken to fill up the vacant posts in a time bound manner. The delay has been because of Writ Petition No. 14559/2015 pending before the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telengana and for the State of Andhra Pradesh at Hyderabad and constitution of a new State Commission for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(4) The State Governments have been requested from time to time to take action well in advance for filling of vacancies of Presidents and Members and maintain a panel of candidates for filling of future vacancies also to avoid delay in appointments.

(5) The Central Government and the National Commission have held a number of national and regional meetings with the State Governments to impress upon the need to take timely action for filling the vacancies of State Commissions and District Fora.

Statement-I

(A) Details of State-wise vacancy position in State Commissions

Sl. No.	State	Sanctioned Strength		Vacancy Status	
		President	Member	President	Member
1	2	3	4	5	6
	National Commission	1	11	0	1
1.	Assam	1	2	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	0	2
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2	0	0
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1	2	0	1
5.	Bihar	1	2	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	1	3	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	1	3	0	0
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	2	0	0
10.	Delhi	1	4	0	0
11.	Goa	1	2	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Gujarat	1	8	0	3
13.	Haryana	1	4	0	0
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	1	2	0	0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	2	0	0
16.	Jharkhand	1	2	0	0
17.	Karnataka	1	2	0	1
18.	Kerala	1	4	0	0
19.	Lakshadweep	1	2	0	2
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1	3	0	0
21.	Maharashtra	1	12	0	0
22.	Manipur	1	2	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	1	2	0	0
24.	Mizoram	1	2	0	0
25.	Nagaland	1	2	0	0
26.	Odisha	1	2	0	0
27.	Puducherry	1	2	0	0
28.	Punjab	1	5	0	0
29.	Rajasthan	1	8	0	3
30.	Sikkim	1	2	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	1	4	1	0
32.	Telangana	1	2	0	2
33.	Tripura	1	2	0	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1	10	0	0
35.	Uttarakhand	1	2	0	0
36.	West Bengal	1	2	0	0
TOTAL		35	114	1	14

(B) Details of vacancy position in District Fora

Sl. No.	State	District Fora			
		Sanctioned strength		Vacancy Status	
		President	Member	President	Member
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	8	46	3	7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	17	34	7	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	32	0	14
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1	2	0	0
5.	Bihar	38	76	5	10
6.	Chandigarh	2	4	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	12	54	1	23
8.	Daman and Diu	2	4	0	2
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	10	20	2	4
11.	Goa	2	4	0	0
12.	Gujarat	26	52	9	11
13.	Haryana	21	42	5	3
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	4	24	0	6
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	4	0	0
16.	Jharkhand	22	44	1	8
17.	Karnataka	31	62	3	5
18.	Kerala	14	28	1	1
19.	Lakshadweep	1	2	0	2
20.	Madhya Pradesh	27	108	1	23
21.	Maharashtra	40	80	8	8
22.	Manipur	3	6	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	7	14	1	4
24.	Mizoram	8	16	1	0
25.	Nagaland	11	22	0	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Odisha	31	62	4	9
27.	Puducherry	1	2	0	0
28.	Punjab	20	40	1	4
29.	Rajasthan	37	74	12	16
30.	Sikkim	4	8	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	25	60	10	7
32.	Telangana	12	24	8	17
33.	Tripura	4	8	0	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	79	158	11	15
35.	Uttarakhand	13	26	0	3
36.	West Bengal	21	42	0	3
TOTAL		572	1284	94	231

Statement-II

Details of vacancies in Andhra Pradesh

(A) Vacant posts of members in Andhra Pradesh State Commission

Sl. No.	State Commission	Male Member	Lady Member
1	Members	1	1

(B) Vacant posts of Presidents in District Fora

Sl. No.	Dist. Forum	President
1.	Vijayawada	1
2.	Eluru	1
3.	Ongole	1
4.	Kurnool	1
5.	Guntur	1
6.	Rajahmundry	1
7.	Kakinada	1
TOTAL		7

(C) Vacant posts of Members in District Fora

Sl. No.	Dist. Forum	Male Member	Lady Member
1.	Ananthapur	1	0
2.	East Godavari at Kakinada	1	1
3.	Guntur	1	1
4.	Krishna at Machilipatnam	1	1
5.	Krishna at Vijayawada	0	1
6.	Kurnool	1	0
7.	Nellore	1	1
8.	Ongole	1	1
9.	Visakhapatnam-II	1	1
10.	Vizianagaram	0	1
11.	West Godavari at Eluru	0	1
12.	Kadapa	0	1
13.	Tirupathi	0	1
14.	Visakhapatnam-I	0	1
15.	Chittoor	0	1
16.	Vizianagaram	1	0
TOTAL		9	13

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 211. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, in protest against the undemocratic and unconstitutional stand taken by the Constitutional Authority in Arunachal Pradesh, we are staging a walk-out.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No.211. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the question be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... is Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao asking his supplementary? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, hon. Members, I think, this matter was discussed in the first hour. Let us get on with the Question Hour now. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the time for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Maybe, it is a serious issue. But this is not the time for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair has already informed you about this thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Sir, we walkout in protest against the activities of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. *...(Interruptions)...*

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the question been answered? *...(Interruptions)...* Any supplementaries? *...(Interruptions)...* I believe, there are no supplementaries. *...(Interruptions)...*

Letters received by Minister from Members of Parliament

*212.SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received from Members of Parliament by him since August, 2014, till date;

(b) the number of letters on which interim and final replies have been sent to the Members of Parliament;

(c) the number of letters on which action has been taken and those on which action is still pending;

(d) the number of letters on which neither any reply has been sent to the Members nor any action has been taken, along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken to prevent the situation in part (d) above?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) 3081 letters from Members of Parliament have been received since August, 2014 till date. Interim/Final replies have been sent in 2383 letters. Action has been initiated in 686 letters. Action is pending in respect of 12 letters. Instructions for prompt disposal of such letters are issued from time to time and periodical reviews are undertaken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Q.No. 212. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Balyawi. *...(Interruptions)...* Please refrain from shouting slogans. *...(Interruptions)...* Please don't do that. This is not fair. *...(Interruptions)...* This is not fair. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Q.No. 212. Is he there? *...(Interruptions)...* Any supplementary? *...(Interruptions)...* Yes, Shri Dilipbhai Pandya. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: The Minister, in his reply, has given the details with respect to his Ministry. *...(Interruptions)...* With regard to complaints received, I want to know whether the replies are given within a week's time. *...(Interruptions)...* I would also like to know whether the complainant is heard or not. *...(Interruptions)...* If not,

he or she should be heard and the complaint must be resolved within a very short time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Whatever complaint an M.P. makes in writing, the reply is given. ...*(Interruptions)*... Also, the social media is used for giving replies to M.Ps' queries. ...*(Interruptions)*... Instructions are also given to send online M.Ps' questions so that they are replied ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Vijay Goel. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने बहुत ही ...*(व्यवधान)*... और अभी कॉल ड्रॉप में भी बहुत कमी आयी है, लेकिन जो टॉवर लगाए जाते हैं, उनसे जो रेडिएशंस निकलती हैं, उसका क्या आल्टरनेटिव मंत्री जी ने सोचा है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please stop shouting slogans. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो हमने प्रयास किया है, उस दिशा में ...*(व्यवधान)*... ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। हम उसे और सुधारने की कोशिश करेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसमें काफी सुधार आए हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जैसा मैंने बताया, देश भर में काफी टॉवर लगे हैं, 2000 से अधिक दिल्ली में लगे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो रेडिएशन की बात है, 30,000 सैम्पल्स की स्टडी के बाद डब्ल्यूएचओ का बाकायदा रिकमंडेशन है कि इसका कोई खतरनाक असर नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... कई बार हाई कोर्ट ने भी इस मामले में ...*(व्यवधान)*... डिसमिस किए हैं। जहां तक हमारे मानक का सवाल है तो भारत सरकार ने उसके मानक को इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड से 10 गुना अधिक सख्त किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम इसकी मॉनिटरिंग करते हैं और किसी बीटीएस टॉवर से अगर इस तरह के रेडिएशन की आशंका आती है तो हम बहुत पेनल्टी इम्पोज़ करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम आपको आश्वस्त करना चाहेंगे कि इस संबंध में हमारी सरकार काफी काम कर रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव: सर, जशपुर जिले में सकरडेगा नामक एक गांव है जहां पर दो साल से टॉवर लग चुका है, लेकिन अभी तक वह फंक्शनल नहीं हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... वह कब तक चालू होगा, कृपया उसकी जानकारी दें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: अभी आपने मुझे यह बात बतायी है, आप इसके संबंध में मुझे विस्तार से नोट बनाकर दे दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर टॉवर लगा है तो चलना भी चाहिए। मैं इसकी चिंता करूंगा और की गयी कार्यवाही से आपको अवगत भी कराऊंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप इसकी डिटेल्स मुझे दे दें, हम पूरी कार्यवाही कराएंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

Representations for railway projects

*213. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received representations from various organizations/road users as well as from Government of Gujarat for gauge conversion, new railway

lines and doubling of railway lines which are essential and necessary for development of ports and industries, if so, the full details thereof; and

(b) by when the work is likely to start along with the probable time-frame for each project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Requests for new lines, gauge conversion and doubling, both formal as well as informal, are received by Railways at various levels *i.e.* Railway Board, Zonal Railways and Divisional Headquarters, etc. As receipt of such requests/suggestions is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained. However, in recent past Government of Gujarat has suggested certain works, the details of which are given in Statement. (*See below*).

Two new lines, eight gauge conversion and nine doubling projects covering a length of 363 km., 1467 km. and 984 km. and costing ₹3766 crore, ₹ 6510 crore and ₹ 6477 crore respectively falling fully/partly in the State of Gujarat have been sanctioned which will help in development of ports and industries. On these projects, an expenditure of ₹ 3688 crore has been incurred upto March, 2015, with an outlay of ₹ 3078 crore for the year 2015-16.

Completion of these projects is dependent upon many factors such as land acquisition, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, cutting of trees, construction of road over bridges and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, apart from availability of adequate funds. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, timelines for completion of all the projects are not feasible to be fixed.

Statement

*Details and status of works suggested by Government of Gujarat
in the recent past are as under:*

Sl. No.	Subject	Status
New Line		
1.	Provision of adequate funds for new line between Somnath to Kodinar for development of Chhara Port.	Somnath to Kodinar new line has been added to Rajkot - Veraval gauge conversion project as material modification. The main project of gauge conversion has already been completed. An outlay of ₹ 50 crore has been provided for this project for the year 2015-16. This allotment is sufficient in

Sl. No.	Subject	Status
		present stage of land acquisition for the project.
2.	New Railway line Bhavnagar-Adhelai-Dholera-Vataman-Petland (Survey proposed)	1. Bhavnagar-Adhelai-Dholera-Vataman-Petland: Survey for Bhavnagar to Tarapur New Line <i>via</i> Dholera, has been completed. Cost of this line has been assessed as ₹ 745 crores with RoR of (-) 1% and Planning Commission has not agreed to the proposal.
3.	Dholera-Bhimnath (Survey proposed)	2. Survey for Dholera-Bhimnath new line has been completed. Cost of 27 Km. Line has been assessed as ₹ 252 crore with RoR of 3.2%. Survey report has been sent to DMIC for coming forward with any of the four Participative Models.
4.	Khambhat to Khambhat Port (Survey proposed)	3. Khambhat to Khambhat Port: Survey for this 20 Km. line was sanctioned in 2013-14 but Gujarat Maritime Board has informed that Khambhat port will not be developed due to the construction of Kalpsar Dam at location of Khambhat Port.

Gauge Conversion

1.	Gauge conversion of existing MG/NG rail line Ahmedabad-Botad-Bhavnagar.	Botad-Bhavnagar is already a broad gauge section. Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Botad has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 567 crores. An expenditure of ₹ 42.00 crore has been incurred upto 31.03.2015. An outlay of ₹ 120 crore has been provided for this project for the year 2015-16. Final Location Survey has been completed. Tenders for earthwork, bridges works, track linking, etc. have been awarded.
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Sl. No.	Subject	Status
Doubling		
1.	Bhruch-Samni-Dahej	Gauge conversion of this section has been completed and commissioned. At present, there is no proposal for doubling of this section.
2.	Surendranagar-Botad-Dhasa-Rajula-Pipavav	Survey for this project has not been sanctioned.
3.	Surendranagar-Viramgam-Mehsana	(a) Doubling of Viramgam-Surendranagar (65 Km.) section has been completed and commissioned in 2015. (b) Viramgam-Mahesana: No survey for doubling of this section has been taken up.
4.	Palanpur-Bhildi-Samkhiali-Gandhidham-Mundra (Survey completed)	Palanpur-Bhildi-Samakhiali-Gandhidham-Mundra: On this route, (a) Doubling of Palanpur- Bhildi-Samakhiali has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 1267 crore being funded by Kutch Railway Company Ltd. An outlay of ₹ 1.00 crore has been provided for the year 2015-16. Detailed estimate has been prepared and tendering taken up. (b) Samakhiali- Gandhidham-Adipur is already an existing double broad gauge line section. (c) No survey for doubling of Adipur-Mundra has been sanctioned.
5	Viramgam-Samakhiali-Gandhidham (proposed to be taken up in 2011 -12)	Viramgam-Samakhiali-Gandhidham: Doubling of Viramgam-Samakhiali (182 km.) has been taken up at an anticipated cost ₹ 685 crores. An expenditure of ₹ 257 crores has been incurred upto March, 2015, with an outlay of ₹ 600 crore for the year

Sl. No.	Subject	Status
		2015-16. Viramgam-Sadla section (21 km) has been completed and commissioned. Track linking in Jatpipli-Vasadva (12 km) and Chuli-Sukhpur (10 km) sections have also been completed. Works in balance section have been taken up. Samakhiali-Gandhidham is already an existing double line section.
6.	Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Jaipur	<p>(a) The work of gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Mehsana (70 km.) metre gauge (MG) line running parallel to existing broad gauge (BG) line has been included in the Budget 2015-16 at an anticipated cost of ₹ 420 crore subject to requisite clearances from Government.</p> <p>(b) Survey for Doubling of Mehsana-Palanpur (65 Km.) section has been taken up.</p> <p>(c) Doubling of Palanpur-Ajmer has been sanctioned in different patches and works have been taken up.</p> <p>(d) Ajmer-Jaipur is already a double line section.</p>
7.	Rajkot-Veraval	Rajkot-Veraval doubling surveys (in 2 parts) have been taken up.
8.	Rajkot-Okha	Survey has been taken up.
9.	Rajkot-Viramgam	<p>(a) Doubling of Surendranagar-Rajkot (116 km) has been included in the Budget 2015-16 at an anticipated cost of ₹ 1315 crore subject to requisite clearances from the Government.</p> <p>(b) Doubling of Viramgam-Surendrangar (65 Km.) section has been completed and commissioned in 2015.</p>

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 213. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad. He is absent. Shri Dilipbhai Pandya. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Sir, I am a Member of the Standing Committee on Railways. ...*(Interruptions)*... Many times I have raised this question that doubling of lines should be given priority because if doubling of lines are done as early as possible, it would be useful for transportation of goods and also for passengers. ...*(Interruptions)*... Trains are delayed due to non-availability of lines. So, I would like to know whether the Minister thinks that priority should be given to doubling of lines and whether he is going to come up with any proposals and schemes for that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for thirty minutes.

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

The House reassembled at thirty-eight minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

Direct procurement of farmers' produce

*214.SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would bring in a mechanism to procure the farmers' produce directly through Government Procurement Centres to stop farmers' suicides as many farmers are not aware of the market value of their produce and they are exploited by middlemen and traders who provide very limited price for their produce; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government would bring out a system to resolve farmers' issues all over the country and protect the welfare of grieving farmers?

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

Statement

(a) Government has a mechanism to procure the farmers' produce directly through the procurement centers opened by the designated procurement agencies for various agricultural commodities to ensure a remunerative price for their produce. For this purpose the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 25 agriculture products on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures wheat, rice and coarse grain. Cotton Corporation of India procures cotton. Jute Corporation of India procures jute. Pulses & Oilseeds are procured by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), and Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC). These Central Nodal Agencies engage State Government Agencies for wider outreach to the farmers and ensure procurement from them, when market prices of these commodities fall below MSP.

Government procurement agencies take adequate steps to make farmers aware of the procurement operations by way of advertisements like displaying banners, pamphlets, announcement for procurement and quality specification in print and through electronic media. In some States, Government agencies have taken steps to pre-register farmers for ensuring procurement from them through a computerized system.

(b) Government Procuring Agencies already have mechanisms to resolve the issues/ complaints of the farmers with regards to procurement of their produce and protect their welfare.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.214. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't disturb the Question Hour. Question No.214. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Member not present; any supplementary? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Question be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... Supplementaries. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि किन-किन राज्यों में किसानों से डायरेक्ट प्रोक्योरमेंट हुई है और कितनी-कितनी हुई है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... डायरेक्ट और इनडायरेक्ट प्रोक्योरमेंट के कारण किसानों को कितना लाभ हुआ है ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सभापति महोदय, जो प्रश्न है वह एमएसपी ...*(व्यवधान)*... इन्होंने जो प्रश्न किया है, उसमें लिखा है सरकार एमएसपी पर खरीदती है ...*(व्यवधान)*... और किसानों को उसका पैसा दिया जाता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री दिलीपभाई पंड्या: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि किसानों से डायरेक्टली खरीद किया हुआ जो धान है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसका परसेंटेज कितना है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... खरीद भाव का प्रोसीजर उनको समझाया जाता है या नहीं ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह मुझे बताया जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Services of BSNL and MTNL in Himachal Pradesh**

†*215. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL and BSNL are lagging behind the private telecom companies across the country and especially in Himachal Pradesh and in many States their services are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the concrete measures the Ministry is taking to streamline and strengthen the services of BSNL and MTNL; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL services in Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh have collapsed and sub-exchanges under Rohru Telecommunication Centre are either nearly closed or are closing down?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) operates in all parts of the country (except Delhi and Mumbai) including Himachal Pradesh and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) operates in Delhi and Mumbai. As on 30th September, 2015 Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has 60.28% and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has 13.60% market share in wireline segment. The private operators have a share of 26.12% only in this segment. BSNL is number one operator in the country including Himachal Pradesh in wireline segment.

In Global System of Mobile communication (GSM) segment, BSNL and MTNL together have 8.36 % of market share in the country. Government is conscious that the performance of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) needs improvement. These PSUs have been unable to invest in expansion of their networks due to financial distress. BSNL and MTNL are taking several steps to improve their network. The details of some of these steps are as follows:

- To provide better network connectivity, BSNL has planned to add 6.3 million Global System of Mobile communication (GSM) lines capacity in its network during the year 2015-16.
- Augmentation of mobile network by BSNL as part of its Phase-VII Project to create

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

additional capacity of 15 million lines at an estimated cost of ₹ 4804.77 crores. This will result in addition of 14,421 2G sites and 10,605 3G sites across the country.

- Based on traffic growth, BSNL is constantly updating the requirements of various Broadband network elements in the system. For improving broadband services, BSNL has installed Google caching servers at 13 locations and done peering with Google at 3 locations for 110 GB capacity. Also Akamai caching servers were installed for 100 GB capacity. BSNL has also upgraded 47 Broadband Network Gateways (BNGs) in Broadband network for higher capacity.
- Augmentation of Microwave (M/W) backhaul network by MTNL to support the enhanced speed by providing connectivity of existing mobile tower sites in Delhi & Mumbai on Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) network in place of Microwave network.
- BSNL has entered into an agreement for setting up Wi-fi hotspots on revenue share basis to increase its revenue and providing better services to its customers.
- Introduction of free night calling tariff plans for wireline customers to arrest decline in customer base and to acquire new wireline customers.
- Introduction of free national roaming on pan-India basis for mobile customers for retaining/increasing mobile customer base.
- Relocation of Exchanges/Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAMS) to reduce the cable length, use of MPLS-VPN for media & network.
- Introduction of Fiber to the Home (FTTH) in certain areas.
- Workshops/Training to educate staff for handling new challenges.
- Improvement in faults handling through provisioning of SMS to line staff/officers as well as customers.
- Preventive measures to minimize hardware faults.
- Online monitoring of BTS outages.

In order to improve the financial condition and support BSNL in additional revenue generation, Government has also assigned new projects to BSNL such as:

- Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam at estimated project cost of ₹ 1975.38 crore and implementation

of Transmission-Media Plan for North Eastern Region at an estimated cost of ₹ 295.97 crore on 10.9.2014.

- Implementation of providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores on 4.6.2013.
- Implementation of Comprehensive Telecom Development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth at an estimated cost of ₹120.49 crores on 7.11.2014.

(c) BSNL has reported that telephone services in Shimla District are running smoothly. There is some decline in wireline services due to cable breakdown and Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) backhaul media interruption between Theog and Rohru. The OFC has been damaged by civil agencies due to ongoing road widening work at several places between Theog and Rohru. At present 14 No. of telephone exchanges and 21 No. of Mobile BTSs are working in Rohru Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA).

To provide better mobile services, GSM Base Transceiver Stations(BTSs) are protected on Mini Link (Microwave) provided between Theog and Rohru. To further Strengthen the services, BSNL has planned to re-lay OFC between Theog and Rohru.

Arrangements for Simhashta Kumbh Mela

†*216. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the special additional arrangements made so far for pilgrims' convenience in Ujjain and all other routes leading to Ujjain for Simhashta Kumbh Mela to be held in Ujjain early in the year 2016 and at which stations these special arrangements have been made, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of additional trains to be in operation for the above purpose?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) In view of the importance and based upon the anticipated volume and pattern of rail traffic during the forthcoming Kumbh Mela in 2016, the following passenger amenities at Ujjain Railway Station and adjoining satellite stations such as Nagda, Vikramnagar, Shipra Bridge, Fatehabad, Naikheri, Chintaman Ganesh, Pingleshwar, Indore, Ratlam, Pawasa, Mohanpura etc. have been sanctioned at various stations. Some of the approved works have been completed and some are in different stages of progress.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. Ujjain Railway Station

(i) The following works have been completed:

- Improvement to shelter at Platform (PF) No.2/3 & 6/7
- Raising of platform Nos. 1, 2/3 & 4/5
- Improvement to circulating area
- Development of sitting space with shed at Nagda end on platform No.1
- Additional Foot Over Bridge (FOB) at Bhopal end
- Extension of existing FOB at Nagda end

(ii) The following works have been taken up:

- Provision of out to out FOB
- Augmentation of drinking water arrangements
- Additional entry and development of circulating area at Neel Ganga Colony side
- Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board.

2. Vikram Nagar Railway Station

The following works have been taken up:

- Augmentation of drinking water arrangements & toilet facilities
- Improvement to circulating area.

3. Works for Provision of temporary halt stations at Pawasa & Mohanpura have been taken up.

4. Nagda Railway Station

The following works have been taken up:

- Replacement of interconnecting FOB at Kota end
- Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board
- Raising of platform level from medium to high level & extension of covered shed on Platform No.4/5.

5. Indore Railway Station - The following work has been taken up:

Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board.

In addition, provision of additional facilities namely drinking water taps and toilets have been taken up at Naikheri and Pingleshwar stations.

Further, additional ticket booking counters are proposed to be operated as under:

Station	Location	No. of Booking counters proposed	Temporary additional Booking counters proposed	Total counters proposed to be operated
1	2	3	4	5
UJN	Main Entry	9	11	20
	Socond Entry	4	6	10
	Freeganj side	5	4	9
	Mohanpura	0	2	2
	Mahakal	0	2	2
	Datt ka Akahada	0	2	2
	Pawasa Gaon	0	2	2
MKC	Platform No.1	1	1	2
NAD	Main side	3	1	4
NAD	Birla Gram Side	1	1	2
FTB	Main Side	2	0	2
IND	MG Side	5	1	6
OM	PF No.1	3	1	4
VRG	PF No.1	1	1	2
NKI	PF No.1	1	1	2
PLW	PFNo.1	1	1	2
SJP	City Side	3	0	3
RTM	Rly colony side	3	0	3

1	2	3	4	5
MDS	PFNo.1	3	0	3
TOTAL		45	36	81

In wake of Simhashta Kumbh Mela 2016, in addition to security arrangement to be made by GRP and district administration, station-wise additional RPF deployment planned by security department in Ratlam Division of Western Railway is as under:

Duty Beat	Omkare-shwar	Mhow	Indore	Dewas	Nagda	Ratlam	Maski	Ujjain (3 shifts)
TOTAL	21	13	12	5	13	13	10	1137

(b) Based on previous experience, for catering to the huge influx of pilgrims expected during Maha Kumbh Simhashta at Ujjain to be held in 2016, many of whom are expected through rail mode, Indian Railways, to the extent feasible and justified, makes provisions for the running of special trains from various part of the country. Deployment of DEMU/MEMU rakes for short distance movements of pilgrims and augmenting the load of existing regular trains also undertaken to increase the throughput of passengers. In addition the security apparatus needed for handling the peak traffic is also reinforced in close coordination with civil authorities.

Production of onion

†*217. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of onion has declined in the current season as compared to the last season due to untimely and excessive rain, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is making any efforts to control the prices of onion and for its storage, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a marginal decline of 3.4% in the onion production during the agriculture year 2014-15 (187.36 lakh tonnes: 3rd advanced estimate) as compared to the year 2013-14 (194.02 lakh tonnes). The decrease is attributed to drought during 2014-15 and excessive rains and hailstorm in the major growing States,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in February- March, 2015. The production of onion during the last three years is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Government has taken following steps to ensure that prices are under control and for storage of Onion:

- To control the price rise in domestic market during lean season, notification had been issued on 24th August, 2015 to increase Minimum Export Price (MEP) from USD 425 per tonnes to USD 700 per tonnes. However, in view of the recent fall in Onion prices, notification has been issued on 11th December, 2015 to reduce the Minimum Export Price (MEP) from USD 700 per tonnes to USD 400 per tonnes.
- Government has set up a Price Stabilisation Fund with a corpus of ₹ 500 crores to provide working capital to State Governments/ State Agencies/ Central agencies such as SFAC, NAFED, FCI, etc. for procurement and distribution of perishables agricultural and horticultural commodities. The fund is to be used to buy produce directly from producers at the time of major production cycles and hold it in storage for its gradual / regulated release into major markets, so as to control the steep price rise in important commodities including onion. From this fund, in the current year, NAFED was released ₹ 8.75 crore for onion procurement and SFAC was released ₹ 9.16 crore as working capital advance for undertaking domestic onion & potato procurement. The agencies procured 5868 MT of onion. This was stored and was released through various outlets during the period when the prices started increasing in the markets.
- Government imported 2000 MT of onion in two batches through MMTC at a cost of ₹ 9.96 crore to cut down inflation in the market.
- Assistance is being provided by the Government under the scheme, namely, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture sector in the country which includes assistance for development of Postharvest Management and Marketing infrastructure, for perishable crops including Onion.
- Assistance is also being provided under MIDH for setting up of Low Cost Onion Storage Structures (maximum capacity of 25 MT) for a cost norms of ₹ 1.75 lakh/ unit with provision of 50% subsidy. In this regard the detailed physical and financial achievements from 2005-06 to 2014-15 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I*Production of Onion during last three years*

Sl. No.	Year	Production of Onion (In lakh tonnes)
1	2	3
1	2014-15 (3rd Advanced Estimate)	187.36
2	2013-14	194.02
3	2012-13	168.13

Statement-II*Physical and Financial achievement for setting up of Low Cost Onion Storage Structures from 2005-06 to 2014-15*

Sl. No.	NHM States	Onion Storage (No.)		Market Infrastructure (No.)	
		Physical (in No.)	Financial (₹in lakh)	Physical (in No.)	Financial (₹in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	11.00	136.11
2.	Bihar	336.00	187.18	50.00	271.85
3.	Chhattisgarh	462.00	228.24	107.00	1415.89
4.	Gujarat	-	-	99.00	740.07
5.	Haryana	145.00	46.12	15.00	2031.54
6.	Jharkhand	2.00	0.26	1.00	1.50
7.	Karnataka	639.00	342.98	405.00	1511.42
8.	Kerala	-	-	67.00	274.87
9.	Madhya Pradesh	452.00	110.81	18.00	854.16
10.	Maharashtra	780.00	407.32	19.00	77.19
11.	Odisha	763.00	282.21	30.00	305.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Punjab	-	-	59.00	284.65	
13. Rajasthan	3472.00	1505.41	19.00	63.85	
14. Tamil Nadu	44.00	32.73	77.00	625.03	
15. Uttar Pradesh	75.00	42.15	13.00	579.10	
16. West Bengal	136.00	86.87	19.00	80.76	
TOTAL NHM STATES	7306.00	3272.28	938.00	9117.58	
HMNEH States					
1. Assam	-	-	6.00	22.50	
2. Mizoram	-	-	3.00	120.00	
3. Nagaland	-	-	22.00	243.75	
4. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1.00	3.75	
5. Uttarakhand	-	-	31.00	94.54	
TOTAL			63.00	484.54	

Pathetic condition of farmers in Chhattisgarh

†*218. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of suicide by farmers due to drought or other reasons in Chhattisgarh has been deliberated upon;

(b) whether Government proposes to provide full assistance to farmers who are in pathetic situation and getting little relief for loss of their crops due to lack of rain and problems such as costly fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, ploughing and sowing; and

(c) whether Government proposes to provide sufficient relief to the drought affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes data on farmer suicides in its report entitled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for every calendar year (January to December). The Reports are available till the year

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2014. The Report for the year 2015 has not yet been published. However, the Revenue and Disaster Management Department of the Government of Chhattisgarh has reported 18 cases of suicide by farmers in six districts of the State during the year 2015, from January 2015 onwards. Out of these 18 cases, 4 cases are reported to have been due to family reasons and the remaining 14 due to other reasons including illness and poor financial status. The State Government has further, stated that they have given financial assistance of ₹ 1.20 lakh to one farmer family and ₹ 20 thousand each to two more farmer families of Rajnandgaon district, as per their norms.

(b) and (c) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is mandated to coordinate relief measures necessitated by drought, hailstorm, pest attack, frost/cold wave. The State Government initiates necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Over and above SDRF, National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) is sanctioned on receipt of relief memorandum from the State Governments in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

During Kharif, 2015, the State Government of Chhattisgarh submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance of ₹ 6093.79 crore from the Central Government. The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) have visited the State from 29th to 31st October, 2015 to review the reported drought situation. The proposal for assistance is under process of finalization.

Besides the following interventions have been made in the wake of deficient rainfall:

- (a) Implementation of diesel subsidy scheme for protective irrigation of crops;
- (b) Enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy to partially recompensate the farmer for the additional expenditure incurred in resowing and/or purchasing appropriate varieties of seeds;
- (c) Implementation of interventions on perennial horticulture crops under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (d) Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Also, in order to protect the farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and weather conditions, Government of India has recently introduced the National Crop Insurance Scheme (NCIP) with component schemes of Modified National

Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which was to be withdrawn after implementation of NCIP from Rabi 2013-14 has been extended further.

Inspection of railway tracks

*219. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have ordered all the Railway Zones to carry out inspection of tracks and to maintain them according to prescribed standards, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the inspection carried out at many places, it has been found that the tracks were in very shabby condition, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Indian Railways have a system of scheduled inspections by Railway officials which *inter alia*, includes daily inspection by Keyman, inspection/monitoring at predefined interval by various levels of inspecting officials and measurement/monitoring of track parameters by Track Recording Cars (TRCs) and Oscillation Monitoring Systems (OMS). In addition, directives/instructions/guidelines are issued and special drives are launched from time to time at various levels *viz* Divisions, Zonal Railways and Railway Board. Recently, a safety drive for inspection and maintenance of station yards was launched on 28/09/2015.

(b) No, Sir. However, wear of track and generation of defects is a normal process due to passing of traffic and the maintenance schedules of tracks have been drawn up keeping the same in view. The defects noticed during inspection get rectified in planned manner. If considered necessary, suitable speed restrictions are imposed by field officials till rectification of defects is done.

Women compartments in trains

*220. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are very few women compartments in various trains on important routes, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that generally, men have been found travelling in women's compartments and if so, the reasons for not providing adequate safety in women compartments?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Section 58 of the Railways Act, 1989 provides for earmarking of accommodation for female passengers in trains. Accordingly, in trains carrying passengers, Indian Railways have earmarked following accommodation for female passengers:

- (i) A reservation quota of six berths in sleeper class in long distance Mail/Express trains.
- (ii) A combined quota of four lower berths per coach in sleeper class and two lower berths per coach in Air Conditioned 3 tier (3AC) and Air Conditioned 2 tier (2AC) classes for senior citizens, Female passengers 45 years of age and above, and pregnant women.
- (iii) Second class accommodation for women in the second Class-cum-Luggage-cum-Guard's Coach (SLR) in most of the long distance trains.
- (iv) Unreserved coaches/compartments for female passengers in EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit)/DMU (Diesel Multiple Unit)/MMTS(Multi Modal Transport System) trains and local passenger trains depending upon demand pattern as well as availability of accommodation.
- (v) Running of ladies special EMU/MEMU/MMTS services on the suburban sections of Mumbai, Kolkata, Secunderabad and Chennai as well as on the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) sections.

(b) Although male passengers are not allowed to travel in the coaches/compartments earmarked for female passengers, sporadic instances of entry of male passengers in women compartments are not altogether ruled out. However, if male person is found travelling in women compartments, he is arrested and prosecuted under the provisions of the Railways Act, 1989. Moreover, Indian Railways have taken various steps to prevent entry of unauthorised passengers in the coaches earmarked for ladies, some of which are as under:-

- (i) In long distance trains running on non-suburban sections, generally ladies coach is marshalled adjacent to that of Guard compartment.
- (ii) Special lady ticket checking squads, comprising of lady ticket checking staff and women personnel from RPF have been constituted to check unauthorized travel of urchins, beggars and male students aged more than 12 years in ladies compartments.

- (iii) Train escorting staff are instructed to travel in coaches adjacent to ladies compartments and ensure that the vendors, beggars, hawkers and anti social elements do not board the ladies coaches.
- (iv) Joint intensive drives with ticket checking staff are also conducted from time to time to prevent entry of unauthorized passengers into the coaches.
- (v) The male persons found travelling in compartments reserved for women are arrested & prosecuted under section 162 of the Railways Act, 1989.
- (vi) Passenger outreach programmes have been launched including announcement through loudhailers / Public Address system as well as pasting of stickers providing the Security Help Line Number 182 of Railway Protection Force Security Control Room for security related assistance.
- (vii) Special Task Force teams have been constituted in Mumbai suburban section with the object to eradicate the menace of unauthorized hawkers, beggars, anti social elements, to prevent unauthorized entry in ladies coaches.
- (viii) The ladies compartments in local trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak/non peak hours.
- (ix) All ladies special trains running in sub-urban Railways are being escorted by lady RPF personnel.
- (x) Mass media programmes are being launched by zonal railways to create awareness *vis-a-vis* crime against women passengers through electronic and print media.

Restructuring of Railway Protection Force

*221. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railway Protection Force (RPF) and policing in railways badly need restructuring and revamping, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that RPF requires more legal support to tackle the menace of crime on railway network; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the States which is being discharged by them through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Besides sharing 50% cost on GRPs with respective States, Railways, through

the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of States to ensure security of passengers and passenger area. In addition, concerned District Police is responsible for security of tracks, bridges, tunnels and law and order issues.

In view of multiplicity of law enforcement agencies, overlapping of role and responsibilities of these agencies, problem of inter-State coordination, duplicity of manpower and resources, there is some time confusion among travelling passengers with regard to registration of First Information Report (FIR) etc.

RPF has been entrusted with the responsibility of protection and security of passengers and passenger area, with the amendments in the RPF Act and the Railways Act in the year 2003, without commensurate legal powers, which is proving a major hindrance in controlling crime against passengers. RPF needs legal powers to deal with passengers related offences to strengthen security of passengers and passenger area over Indian Railways.

A proposal for amendment in the RPF Act, 1957, to empower RPF to deal with passenger related offences in the passenger area, has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the concurrence of Ministries of Law and Justice and Home Affairs. As advised by the Cabinet Secretariat, comments of States have been solicited on the above proposal. Comments have so far been received from 25 States. 17 States/Union Territories (UT) have opposed the move to amend the RPF Act, 07 States/UT have given their consent, 01 UT has not offered any comment and reply is awaited from 06 States. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has recently conveyed their opposition to the proposed amendments in the RPF Act. Matter is being further considered in the Ministry of Railways.

Protecting identity of Bhagalpur as ‘Silk City’

†*222. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhagalpur is known as ‘Silk City’ but it is losing its said identity; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to protect its identity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Bhagalpur in Bihar is known for production of sarees, silk fabrics and furnishing materials made out of tasar silk for the domestic and export markets. However, this hand woven clothes industry has been facing several constraints. With a view to overcome the existing constraints and promote the industry, setting up of the Mega Handloom Cluster for Bhagalpur was announced at a total cost

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of ₹1715.15 lakh having Government of India share of ₹ 1621.71 lakh in 2014-15. Action has been initiated for implementation of the project in consultation with the State Government by the Office of Development Commissioner (Handloom) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Patna campus.

Further, the Government through Central Silk Board (CSB) in consultation with the State Governments has been taking up the following activities for promotion of tasar Sericulture:-

- (i) Tasar host plant in tasar growing States;
- (ii) Production and supply of tasar silkworm seed; and
- (iii) Promotion of tasar reeling.

Besides, the Government has been taking up the following steps for promotion of Handloom sector:-

- (i) Development of block level clusters with setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs), Skill upgradation programmes, services of a professional designer and a diploma holder, supply of raw material through National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC);
- (ii) Branding and marketing of high value quality products through 'India Handloom' Brand; and
- (iii) Linking handlooms with fashion and tourism. National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) campuses are mobilized for supporting promotion of handloom.

Backlog vacancies of SC and ST category

*223. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of backlog vacancies belonging to SC and ST category in Group A and B posts, as on 31st March, 2015; and

(b) the number of backlog vacancies filled up during April, 2014 to March, 2015 in Group A, B, C and D posts?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) There is no backlog vacancies of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Group 'A' services

in entry grade on Indian Railways as on 31.03.2015. There is no backlog vacancy in Group ' B' also as there is no direct recruitment in Group ' B' .

(b) The backlog vacancies filled up during April, 2014 to March, 2015 is as under:-

Group ' A' Nil

Group ' B' Nil

Group ' C' (including erstwhile Group ' D') Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Quality of service provided by telecom service providers

*224. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telecom service providers are lagging behind in providing quality service to customers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is of the view that service providers are not adhering to the norms laid down, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to make the service providers/ telecom companies follow the norms and provide quality service to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, TRAI has been monitoring the performance of service providers, against the quality of service benchmarks for the various parameters laid down by TRAI through Quality of Service Regulations issued from time to time and through compliance reports submitted by the service providers on monthly/quarterly basis.

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending September 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services 2G/3G, most of the service providers are meeting the benchmarks related to the parameters for its 2G/3G services. For 2G/3G services, non-compliance with the benchmarks is mostly observed in respect of the parameters (1) "Worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop (call drop) rate/and circuit switched voice drop rate" (2) "Worst affected Base Transmission Station(BTSs)/Node-B's due to downtime." In respect of Customer service parameters for 2G services, non-compliance with the benchmark is observed in respect of parameter (1) % age of calls answered by the operators (voice to voice) within 90 seconds" (2) "Time taken for refund of deposits after closures"

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending June, 2015 for

Basic (Wireline) / Broadband services, all the service providers are generally meeting the benchmarks related to the parameters for its Basic/Broadband services. Non-Compliance with the benchmarks is mainly observed in respect of the parameter “Response time to the customer for assistance” *i.e.* % age of calls answered by the operators (voice to voice) within 90 seconds.

(c) For ensuring quality of service, TRAI is closely monitoring the performance of service providers against the quality of service benchmarks. TRAI has structured mechanism for imposing financial disincentive. Wherever the Quality of Service benchmarks are not met the explanation of the service providers is called for and after considering the response of the service provider financial disincentive are imposed. Upto June 2015, a sum of ₹ 9.7 crore has been collected by TRAI. TRAI has now made financial disincentives more stringent in cases of continuous non compliance with the bench mark for mobile services. TRAI has been pursuing with service providers for improving Quality of Service and in this regard regular interactions are held with the service providers. TRAI has also engaged independent agencies for auditing and assessing the quality of service and surveys are being done regularly through independent agencies to assess the customer perception of service. The results of the audit and assessment of quality of service and surveys are published for the information of stakeholders, which also force the service providers to improve the quality of service.

Measures taken by Department of Telecommunication are as under:

- Secretary Telecom took a meeting of TSPs on 27th April 2015 to address the issues of call drop.
- Suggestions of Telewings regarding Free talk time against call drop forwarded to TRAI on 10th June 2015 for examination and offering their advice.
- Hon. Minister reviewed the status on 7th July 2015 and directed that a special Audit be undertaken by Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) cells to assess the gravity of situation and to take corrective measures. The special audit activity has commenced from 22.7.2015. The Telecom service providers have also been addressed to undertake Radio Frequency (RF) optimization exercise and augmentation of resources to curb the menace of call drop. The audit has concluded on 14th August, 2015 and number of cells not meeting the criteria identified.
- A letter has been written by Hon’ ble Minister (Communication and Information Technology) to Union Urban Development Minister/ all Chief Ministers of States citing “Digital India” and “m-governance” programs for providing:

- (i) Single window clearances;
 - (ii) Space in Government buildings for mobile sites;
 - (iii) Speedy Right of Way (RoW) clearances;
 - (iv) Ensuring 24x7 power.
- As a follow up of the letter of Hon' ble Minister (Communication and Information Technology), a meeting has been held between Secretary (T) and Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development(MoUD) on 22/07/2015, wherein it has been in-principle agreed that MoUD shall permit installation of mobile towers/ in-building solutions in the Government buildings under their control, subject to structural safety and payment of appropriate Licence fee by the TSP. Such mobile towers/ in-building solution shall be a shared facility for all TSPs.
 - Telecom Secretary held a meeting with Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of Telecom Service Providers to discuss the issues relating to call drop on 17.8.2015. The various issues were discussed and it was stressed that operators need to augment the infrastructure by way of additional towers and base stations in order to address the issue of call drop and quality of service. The operators assured that they have taken necessary action for optimization of networks and will do it on regular basis which will improve the performance of worst affected cells. The operators were asked to submit the weekly report.
 - A meeting was taken by the Hon' ble Minister on 26th August, 2015 where in it was decided that efforts which are being carried out to address the concerns should continue. It was also decided that Secretary will speak to the owner of the companies to convey the concerns on this issue. TRAI may consider to put penalties in terms of disincentives, poor performance as per the TRAI report published in June, 2015 for Delhi and Mumbai. As the licence agreement has also provision for imposition of penalties for meeting the quality of service parameters, the option will be exercised as last option in this respect for imposition of the penalties.
 - TSPs have been asked to take action for enhancing coverage by putting new mobile towers/ in-building solutions in the Government buildings in Delhi. Similar action has been suggested in other parts of the country as well.
 - A meeting was held with Chairman New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on 24.11.2015 for facilitating installation of towers in NDMC area.
 - The Department has taken pro-active steps at various forums to allay the fear of radiation hazard due to telecom towers. Secretary had participated in a discussion held by Doordarshan and media also has been sensitized.

TSPs have been asked to take action for enhancing the coverage by putting new mobile towers/in-building solutions in the Government buildings in Delhi. Similar action has been suggested in other parts of the country as well. The operator assured that they have taken necessary action for optimization of network and will do it on regular basis which will improve the performance of the worst affected cells. Weekly report is being obtained from the operators. As per weekly reports, there is improvement in call drop rate.

Due to proactive initiative of Department of Telecommunication, about 29 thousands new 2G/3G sites have been added by Private TSPs in their Mobile Network, across the country in the last six months. BSNL has added 4,144 new 2G/3G sites between April 2015 and Nov. 2015. In Delhi, TSPs have added 2,092 new 2G/3G sites in last six months.

In addition to above elaborate testing of Mobile service operators' Network is being done by Department of Telecommunication (DoT). Fortnightly review is being done at the highest level in DoT. Signs of improvements are already there and Operators are required to take further initiatives in this regard.

Manipulations in software of static and in-motion weighbridges

*225. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that manipulations have been found in the software of static and in-motion weighbridges of Railways for weighment purposes;

(b) if so, the quantum of freight charges likely to be lost due to such manipulations; and

(c) the action being taken by Government against the manipulators?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted checks on electronic in-motion weighbridges with the assistance of Vigilance Department of Zonal Railways. The outcome of the checks has not been shared by the CBI with Railways. As information in regard to the checks is not available with the Railways as of now, the Ministry of Railways is not in a position to give any details regarding the findings of the checks or about alleged manipulation of software or the loss to the exchequer, if any.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Compensation for crop failures

2241. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 18 States are affected by poor rains this season but only four States are declared drought affected making it difficult for the affected farmers to get compensation for their crop failure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to India Meteorological Department during South-West Monsoon, 2015 (1 June to 30 September), 18 States/Union Territories are affected by poor rainfall. As reported by State Governments, during Kharif 2015, the Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand declared drought in parts of their States. These State Governments submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance: ₹ 3830.84 crores by Karnataka, ₹ 6093.79 crores by Chhattisgarh, ₹4821.64 crores by Madhya Pradesh, ₹4002.82 crores by Maharashtra, ₹ 1687.56 crores by Odisha, ₹ 2057.79 crores by Uttar Pradesh, ₹ 2514.03 crores by Telangana, Rs.2000.56 crores by Andhra Pradesh, ₹1140.77 crores by Jharkhand and ₹ 10517.46 crores by Rajasthan from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An amount of ₹ 1540.20 crores has been approved for Karnataka from NDRF. The proposals from other States are at various stages of processing/finalisation.

Implementation of Crop Insurance Schemes

2242. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have insured their crops under National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and Weather-Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), State-wise; and

(b) the average area insured under these three schemes during 2011-12 to 2013-14, seasons-wise break-up thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) State-wise list of number of farmers insured and average area insured during 2011-12 to 2013-14 under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Modified NAIS (MNAIS) and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of number of farmers covered and area insured from 2011-12 to 2013-14 (season-wise) under Crop Insurance Schemes

Sl. No.	State/UT	NAIS						MNAIS					
		KH 2011			NAIS Total Year 2011-12			Kh 11			Rabi 2011-12		
		No. of Farmers Insured	Area in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andhra Pradesh	1693723	2328569.7	553750	910676.47	2247473	3239246.17	39568	53075.73	58602	89903.63	98170	142979.36
2	Assam	23770	18281.07	32547	20317.33	56317	38598.4	4641	3192.013	3942	2670.78	8583	5862.7933
3	Bihar*	333462	387706.97	11993	10107.14	345455	397814.11	40127	48943.48	40360	44154.79	80487	93098.273
4	Chhattisgarh	1011298	1955615.3	770	2563.92	1012068	1958179.22	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Goa	344	350.02	0	0	344	350.02	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Gujarat	976485	2083840.18	33282	72199.65	1009767	2156039.83	111	144.2	76	107.3	187	251.5
7	Haryana	2904	3543.49	31095	66117.14	33999	69660.63	35408	60718.36	46045	62578.9	81453	123297.257
8	Himachal Pradesh	16668	11219.86	12308	10679.25	28976	21899.11	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Jharkhand	157727	127877.85	58504	40282.28	216231	168160.13	2661	2369.83	14430	10300.55	17091	12670.38
10	Karnataka	492005	580056	877483	117450.7	1369488	1754556.71	152571	274295.1	23433	44181.94	176004	318477.05
11	Kerala	11142	10734.5	19288	20532.6349	30430	31267.1349	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	Madhya Pradesh	1529272	3424053.77	1362148	2941005.95	2891420	6365059.72	20888	53187.36	49273	58786.66	70161	111974.0269
13	Maharashtra	2192318	144074.31	319627	316239.55	2511945	1756982.86	46958	42812	1343	1658.11	48301	44470.11
14	Manipur	2569	3243.35	114	239.5	2583	3482.85	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Meghalaya	1080	1106.85	381	423.88	1461	1530.73	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	453	434	0	0	453	434
17	Odisha	1443257	163160.184	69150	82332.96	1512407	171393.48	0	0	14331	9277.797	14331	9277.796846
18	Rajasthan*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	179756	240089	179756	240089
19	Sikkim	0	0	108	45.28	105	45.28	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	TamilNadu	88430	117697.62	400463	585204.98	488893	702902.6	45510	61506.85	4599	7456.637	50109	68963.48658
21	Tripura	1040	752.98	186	140.85	1226	893.83	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Uttar Pradesh	1078498	1389228.05	1022357	11319.56	2100855	25211432.61	47281	46395.19	44326	45278.98	91607	91674.17355
23	Uttarakhand	20234	15118.66	16251	14332.45	36485	29451.11	21980	18579.67	3200	2458.49	25180	21038.16
24	West Bengal	476098	242004.24	412727	202539.36	888825	444543.6	0	0	271283	88477.55	271283	88477.55
21	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	230	392.02	0	0	230	392.02	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Puducherry	605	664.71	2506	3501.01	3111	4165.72	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Jammu and Kashmir	1402	2086.58	2264	3380.66	3666	5467.24	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		11554561	1577648.9	5239299	7609277.505	16793860	233857.43	458157	665653.8	754999	707381.1	1213156	1373034.917

Sl. No.	State/UT	WBCIS										all SCHEMES Year 2011-12			
		KH 2011			Rabi 2011-12			WBCIS total Year 2011-12				No. of farmers Insured		Season-wise Average Area Insured (Ha.)	
		No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi
1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
1	Andhra Pradesh	883630	1474847.5	12666	12630.934	896296	1487478.444	2616921	625018	1285497.647	337737.0113				
2	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	28411	36489	7157.694.444	7662.70333				
3	Bihar*	450945	534374.1	1350187	1383309.92	1801132	1917684.018	824534	1402540	323674.85	479190.17				
4	Chhattisgarh	0	0	87187	152995.19	87187	152995.19	1011298	87957	651871.7667	51853.03667				
5	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	344	0	116.6733333	0				
6	Gujarat	223819	223819	0	0	223819	223819	1200415	33358	769267.7933	24102.31667				
7	Haryana	13215	26077.384	33970	44210.4655	47185	70287.84952	51527	111110	30113.078	57635.50084				
8	Himachal Pradesh	607	118.58	22121	6874.49	22728	6993.07	17275	34429	3779.48	5851.246667				
9	Jharkhand	55690	42263.511	5764	2150.192	61454	44413.70315	216078	78698	57503.73038	17577.674				
10	Karnataka	132761	163878.52	22340	32920.94	155101	196799.4655	777337	923256	339409.8814	417201.1938				
11	Kerala	3160	3102.9521	1521	2796.1388	4681	5899.0909	14302	20809	4612.484033	7776.25879				
12	Madhya Pradesh	185504	423661.02	228330	371050.509	413834	794711.5241	1735664	1639751	1300300.716	1123614.374				

1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13	Maharashtra	0	0	451828	48349.16	451828	48349.16	2239276	366158	494518.4	122082.2733
14	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	2569	114	1081.117	79.83333
15	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	1080	381	368.95	141.293
16	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	453	0	144.6667	0
17	Odisha	114557	166652	0	0	114557	166651.998	1557814	83481	599417.9	30536.92
18	Rajasthan*	4741327	6625415	2931226	37531602.48	7672553	10378575.43	4741327	3110982	2208472	1331083
19	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105	0	15.09333
20	Tamilnadu	14837	26233.742	10998	22019.99	25835	48253.73153	148777	416060	68479.4	204893.9
21	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	1040	186	250.9933	46.95
22	Uttar Pradesh	25597	17843.23	12264	11559.68	37861	29402.9096	1151376	1078947	484488.8	396251.1
23	Uttarakhand	19858	7201.4771	1446	260.35	21304	7461.82705	62072	20897	13633.27	5683.763
24	West Bengal	40324	50790.906	825	381.6611	41149	51172.574	516422	684835	97598.38	97132.86
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	230	0	130.6733	0
26	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	605	2506	221.57	1167.003
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	1402	2264	695.526667	1126.387
Grand Total		6905831	9786278.9	4766033	5844670.102	11671864	15630948.99	18918549	10760331	8742807.205	4720442.908

Sl. No.	State/UT	NAIS						MNAIS							
		Kharif 2012		Rail 2012-13		NAIS Total Year 2012-13		Kharif 12		Rabi 2012-13		MNAIS Total Year 2012-13			
		No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured in Ha.	Area Insured in Ha.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1204398	1694223.84	300048	539616.275	1564446	2233840	115	493054	493108.5	35364	43093.1	528418	536201	559
2.	Assam	32053	24195.66	24012	13925.23	56065	38120.89	2722	3375.62	2229	1849.82	4951	5225.44		
3.	Bihar*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	386487	428147.4	0	0	386487	428147.3741	
4.	Chhattisgarh	1182203	2238048.11	240	394.421	1182443	2238442	531	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Goa	282	305.58	6	2.63	288	308.21		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	1143768	2472759.62	32772	71200.99	1176540	254396061	120	147.3	0	0	0	120	147.3	
7.	Haryana	2434	3098.65	4508	4430.96	6942	7529.61	44908	91710.57	43637	69873.79	88545	161584.36		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16372	15635.855	12189	11875.6	28541	27511455	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Jharkhand	395693	329021.9	18141	15473.78	413834	344495.68	24352	24724.86	3408	1821.31	27760	26846.17		
10.	Karnataka	422250	474129.657	124268	164219.425	546518	658349.0815	226767	358954.4	2083	4100.97	228850	363055.4		
11.	Kerala	9469	10535.044	19991	20277.575	29460	30812.619	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2032541	4706792.73	1986125	4304661.918	4018666	9011454.648	0	0	41465	69754.75	41465	69254.7457		
13.	Maharashtra	1330087	1048765.78	992274	882326.752	2322361	1931592.527	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sl. No.	State/UT	WBCIS										all SCHEMES Year 2011-12			
		Kh 11		Rabi 2011-12		WBCIS total Year 2011-12				No. of farmers Insured		Season-wise Average Area Insured (Ha.)			
		No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi
1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	921061	1507092.7	10791	10238.837	931852	1517331.506	2618513	406203	1231474.989	197649.404				
2.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	34775	26241	9190.426667	5258.35				
3.	Bihar*	1229325	1292573.5	1637208	1685709.83	2866533	2978283.311	1615812	1637208	573573.195	561903.275				
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	104939	194179.204	104939	194179.2041	1162203	105179	746016.0367	64857.87504				
5.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	282	6	101.86	0.876666667				
6.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1143888	32772	824302.3067	23733.66333				
7.	Haryana	60721	75675.907	65126	92272.943	125847	167948.8501	103063	113271	56828.37571	55525.89767				
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1322	241.7952	41324	961034.74	42646	961276.5352	17694	53493	5292.550067	324303.4467				
9.	Jharkhand	77721	79914.815	29361	26776.74	107082	106691.555	497766	50910	144583.8583	14690.61				
10.	Karnataka	210557	265563.36	1063	3699.0134	212620	269262.3693	859574	128414	366213.6141	64006.4694				
11.	Kerala	8243	6844.04	20076	13649.86	28319	20493.9	17712	40067	5793.028	11309.145				

1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4456	4932.39			4456	4932.39	2036997	2027590	1570575.04	1457972.221
13.	Maharashtra	0	0	111778	78620.593	81778	78620.593	1330087	1074052	349588.5917	320483
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	4992	683	2507.236667	660.8266667
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	1556	1584	430.6411111	338.9266667
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	59	0	18				
17.	Odisha	31733	52589.637	0	0*	31733	52589.637	147.7719	98229	434833.7744	94892.9918
18.	Rajasthan*	5381476	7787730.2	3532536	3806451.51	8914012	11594181.67	6058862	3993947	2803834.452	1397804.503
19.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2.95
20.	Tamil Nadu	18027	17626.544	11509	11940.257	29536	29566.801	269280	1005415	100024.6213	376721.1323
21.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	859	79	305.9266667	37.5
22.	Uttar Pradesh	43282	27114.196	62105	26285.6745	105387	3399.8701	814541	1123399	352247.3756	419759.5015
23.	Uttarakhand	17639	6092.81	3196	84831.468	20835	90924.278	59565	21611	10813.80417	34201.1522
24.	West Bengal	2560	741.85427	4253	5626.4096	6813	6368.263375	562996	747096	94476.1914	107810.3322
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	624	0	371.2083333	0
26.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	1750	1709	730.3774	701
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	3812	7730	1834.728333	3433.186667
GRAND TOTAL		8008123	11124734	5606265	7001317.08	13614388	18126050.73	20719922	12696951	9685916.834	5478075.686

Sl. No.	State/UT	NAIS						MNAIS					
		KH 2011			Rabi 11-12			NAIS Total Year 2011-12			Kh 11		
		No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured	No. of Farmers Insured	Area Insured in Ha.	No. of Farmers Insured
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	932255	1136816.02	296044	432065.001	1228299	1568881.022	475324	479312.7	21910	26587.17	497234	505899.8463
2.	Assam	30678	21354.325	22741	14004.597	53419	35358.922	3471	2546.22	827	486.04	4298	3032.26
3.	Bihar*	0	0	430853	497874.9	0	0	430853	497874.871	1430926	1477266.6	2153117	2005560.21
4.	Chhattisgarh	650602	1209863.53	0	0	650602	1209663.528	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Goa	315	465.402	3	2.12	318	467.522	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	1005105	2136479.34	27114	61758855	1032219	2198238.195	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Haryana*	0	0	0	0	0	0	44166	79555.24	48523	82252.22	92689	161807464
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11017	4030.95	0	0	11017	9030.95	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Jharkhand	188478	175630.48	0	0	188478	175630.48	27436	33971.88	9666	15440.05	37102	49411.92682
10.	Karnataka	236001	294394.091	0	0	236001	294394.091	162390	268989.6	51135	77643.02	213525	344632.6693
11.	Kerala	6898	7049.497	11386	13398.554	18284	20448.051	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2337102	5222154.98	2362060	4930110.37	4699162	10152265.35	14853	31150.31	57364	103233.8	72217	134384.112
13.	Maharashtra	1484258	1331670.77	258231	205978.1104	1742489	1537648.877	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14.	Manipur	5030	9801.213	5030	9801.213	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	2280	2065.78	1197	848.56	3477	2914.34	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Odisha	1309088	1193709.74	0	0	1309088	1193709.743	295608	180782.9	53405	44767.08	349013	225549.9566
18.	Rajasthan*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	751403	547265.1	1674861	1797463	2426264
19.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Tamil Nadu	99918	124047.855	476424	570769.799	576342	694817.654	101344	96124.95	117882	137776.7	219226	233901.6886
21.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh	853919	1057841.44	0	0	853919	1057841.442	38642	41455.29	659235	861793.7	698077	903249.0378
23.	Uttarakhand	13088	9672.833	0	0	13088	9672.833	15644	15422.44	6627	6955.137	22271	22377.58008
24.	West Bengal	574589	280892.277	516392	240866.7915	1090981	521759.0685	0	0	295969	99005.62	295969	99006.621
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	962	1458.326	224	261.235	1186	1719.561	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Puducherry	467	477.962	1726	1906.661	2193	2384.623	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	4545	5830.21	0	0	4545	5830.21	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		9746595	14230707	3973542	6471970.654	13720137	20702677.68	2361334	2274451	2997404	3253405	5355738	5527856.214

Sl. No.	State/UT	WBCIS												all SCHEMES Year 2013-14			
		Kh 13			Rabi 2013-14			WBCIS total Year 2013-14			No. of farmers Insured			Season-wise Average Area Insured (Ha.)			
		No. of Farmers Insured			No. of Farmers Insured			No. of Farmers Insured			Kharif						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1.	Andhra Pradesh	820243	1358322.7	8129	1502.601	828371	1359825.329	2227821	326083	991483.8098	153384.9226						
2.	Assam	0	0	859	295.8357	859	295.8357	34149	24427	7966.848333	4928.824233						
3.	Bihar*	3584043	3482826.391	1861779	2153117	656380.4854	668520.0687										
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	98415	169176834	98415	169176.8337	650602	98415	403257.8427	56392.27789						
5.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	315	155.134	0.706666667							
6.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1005105	27134	712159.78	20586.285						
7.	Haryana*	78053	144606.73	92474	178052.552	170527	32659.2808	122219	140997	74720.65649	86768.25845						
8.	Himachal Pradesh	816	110.86	66171	15917.205	66987	16028065	11833	66171	3047.27	5305.735						
9.	Jharkhand	118600	153217.89	68801	63843.9663	187401	217061.8528	334514	78467	120940.0811	26428.00542						
10.	Karnataka	202066	265526.11	4174	8435.01	206240	273961.1171	600457	55309	276303.2821	28692.577						
11.	Kerala	27088	13625.739	17097	13981.3056	44185	27607.0446	33986	28483	6891.745333	9126.619867						

1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	59081	21476.609	22354	144634235	81435	35940.03232	2411036	2441778	1755260.634	1682602.532
13.	Maharashtra	12221	12124.091	52084	55083.0833	64305	67207.1738	1496479	310315	447931.6192	87020.3979
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	5030	0	3267.071	0		
15.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	2280	1197	688.5933333	282.8533333
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	1604696	53405	458164.2061	14922.36057
18.	Rajasthan*	5819053	7535022.7	2609769	2732623.38	8428822	10267646.1	6570456	4284630	2694095.923	1510028.838
19.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Tamil Nadu	12050	10809.746	0	0	12050	10809.746	213312	594306	76994.18467	236182.1782
21.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh	229760	164171.35	102876	74420.1741	332636	238592.5217	1122521	762111	421156.3604	312071.3068
23.	Uttarakhand	38329	14293065	5219	1646.175	43548	15939.23973	67061	11846	13129.44638	2667.104058
24.	West Bengal	5877	1860.5303	904	368.6919	6781	2229.22217	580466	813265	94250.93576	113414.0348
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	962	224	486.1086667	87.07833333
26.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	467	1726	159.3206667	635.5536667
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	454\$	0	1943.403333	0
GRAND TOTAL		8854162	11172436	5302443	5335370.45	14156605	16507806.19	20962091	12273389	9225864.742	5020248.618

Damage to crops in Maharashtra

2243. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers of Maharashtra are facing tremendous loss of their crops due to insufficient rains;
- (b) if so, in how many hectares the crops were lost;
- (c) whether Government will come forward to compensate farmers who suffered damage to their crops; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) During Kharif, 2015 the Government of Maharashtra declared drought over 53.11 lakh hectare in 21 districts and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has visited the State to carry out an assessment of the drought situation and the quantum of financial assistance to be made available to the State by way of relief.

Installation of drip and sprinkler irrigation system

2244. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the Government scheme that helps in promoting drip and sprinkler irrigation system;
- (b) whether Government offers any subsidy to farmers through any scheme encouraging them to install these systems on their farms and whether there is some special package for poor and marginal farmers; and
- (c) the number of drip irrigation/sprinkler irrigation system installed during last five years in Punjab and Haryana with the help of Government scheme which have resulted in saving of precious water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation was launched in January, 2006 which

helps in promoting drip and sprinkler irrigation system. This was up-scaled to National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June, 2010, which continued till the financial year 2013-14. NMMI was subsumed under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and implemented as “On Farm Water Management” (OFWM) during the financial year 2014-15. From 1st April, 2015, Micro Irrigation component of OFWM has been subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) under the programme component “Per Drop More Crop”. Subsidy is provided to the farmers under this scheme for installing drip and sprinkler irrigation systems. There is no special package for poor and marginal farmers for installation of Micro Irrigation systems. However, small and marginal category of farmers are provided subsidy at higher rates as compared to other farmers.

(c) The numbers of drip irrigation/sprinkler irrigation systems installed during last 5 years in Punjab and Haryana with the help of above mentioned scheme are 14570 and 22099 respectively which have resulted in saving of precious water.

Non-payment by NAFED to State agencies of Rajasthan

†2245. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the reasons for non-payment of prices of groundnut procured on Minimum Support Price by NAFED, in the year 2013-14 and other expenses to the State agencies RAJFED and Tilam Sangh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): NAFED has released the entire Minimum Support Price (MSP) value of groundnut to RAJFED and Tilam Sangh procured in the year 2013-14 for its onward payment to the farmers. As per the established procedure of NAFED, administrative and incidental charges are paid after satisfactory completion of test checks of the documents and rectification of the shortcomings and CAG audit of the accounts.

Recognition of BVSc and AH degree introduced in veterinary colleges, Shimoga, Karnataka

2246. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka had approached the Central Government in June, 2014 for recognition of BVSc and AH degree introduced in veterinary colleges, Shimoga and to permit the graduates, who have passed out to register with the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Karnataka Veterinary Council so that they could be recruited in the Government departments/organisations;

(b) whether Central Government has considered the request; and

(c) if so, when will the Government approve of the same and communicate to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) A communication dated 02.06.2014 was received in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries from Government of Karnataka in regard to recognition of the veterinary colleges in Shimoga and to permit the graduates passed out from these college to register with the Karnataka Veterinary Council so that they could be recruited in the Government departments/organizations.

(b) The proposal regarding inclusion of BVSc and AH qualification being awarded by Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFU), Bidar in respect of Veterinary College Shimoga was examined in consultation with Veterinary Council of India and as per the recommendation of Veterinary Council of India, the Central Government has recognized the qualification of BV Sc and AH degree awarded by Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFU), Bidar in respect of Veterinary College Shimoga *vide* notification No. S.O. 3007 (E) dated 27th November, 2014.

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

Production of pulses

2247. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area and yield of pulses in the country;

(b) how they have moved during the last five years;

(c) whether there is a need to increase production of pulses in the country;

(d) if so, how the Government proposes to achieve this; and

(e) how far increase in MSP of pulses can help to achieve this objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) Depending

on yearly variations in weather, rainfall situation, irrigation facilities and inter-crop shift in area due to comparative profitability of other competing crops, area and yield of pulses in the country during the last five years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2014-15 have followed mixed trend. Details of area and yield of pulses during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Area (000 hectare)	Yield (kg/hectare)
2010-11	26401.7	691
2011-12	24462.2	699
2012-13	23256.8	789
2013-14	25212.5	764
2014-15*	23098.4	744

* As per 4th Advance Estimates.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. At present, annual production of the pulses in the country falls short of its demand/requirement by 4-5 million tonnes which is met through import. As such, there is a need to increase production of pulses in the country.

In order to increase production of pulses in the country, Government of India has been implementing through State Governments, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) - Pulses since 2007-08. Presently, around 50% of the funds under the umbrella scheme of NFSM are allocated for promoting cultivation of pulses. Since 2014-15, NFSM - Pulses is being implemented in 622 districts of 27 States including all districts of North-Eastern and hill States. Further, since 2010-11 the Scheme "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)" is being implemented in Eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. To give a boost to their area and production, pulses have also been included under BGREI from 2015-16 as part of demonstrations under cropping systems based approach to target rice fallow areas.

In order to increase productivity of pulses and to make the country self-reliant, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has undertaken research programmes in different pulses at commodity based research institutes. The research programmes include basic and strategic research related to crop improvement and production technologies in different pulse crops. For developing location-specific varieties/hybrids

and suitable production technologies of pulses to improve their production and quality, the research findings are validated in relevant agro-ecologies by crops-specific All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), mostly situated in the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).

Increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of agricultural commodities including pulses and their procurement arrangements help in ensuring remunerative prices to farmers and encourage them to cover more area under these crops.

Compensation for loss of crops

†2248. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have submitted applications for Government compensation for loss of their crops during the last three years, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of farmers who have been given compensation and the number of farmers for whom compensation has been sanctioned; and

(c) the total amount paid as compensation for loss of their crops the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) State Governments initiate necessary relief measures to farmers in the wake of drought and other 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.

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is concerned with coordination of relief measures necessitated by drought, hailstorm, pest attack, cold wave/frost. The details of financial assistance approved State-wise by the Government of India for National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for the last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below). Distribution of relief to the farmers is the responsibility of the State Governments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Statement indicating assistance sought by the State Government and assistance approved from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought, hailstorm, cold wave/frost in 2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No. State	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Assistance sought	Assistance approved
1. Andhra Pradesh	1090.78	142.97	638.09 59.71	254.54 40.06	1532.00	237.51
2. Bihar	-	-	12564.04	931.87	2041.10	791.42
3. Gujarat	7357.54	864.71	-	-	-	-
4. Haryana	-	-	-	-	4829.25 1925.97	168.87 369.09
5. Karnataka	7672.40	526.06	778.06 99.12	226.57 82.77	779.20 151.28	200.85 105.33
6. Kerala	1996.07 532.78	62.61 107.89	-	-	-	-
7. Madhya Pradesh	-	-	5723.65	494.95	-	-
8. Maharashtra	3232.15 1801.32	778.09 1036.98	4475.76	552.88	6013.28	1962.99
9. Rajasthan	1107.99	320.64	-	-	11885.45	1447.73
10. Tamil Nadu	19665.13	624.69	-	-	-	-
11. Uttar Pradesh	-	-	500.53	270.55	4819.49 7573.70	777.34 2801.59
12. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	353.595	71.53
13. Telangana	-	-	-	-	117.59	83.744

Adverse effect of climate change on agriculture

2249. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that clear indications of change in climate are being noticed in the country and this has begun affecting the agriculture of the country adversely, if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) whether Government has undertaken any study about the adverse effects of climate changes on agriculture; and

(c) if so, the details of the report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The climate change studies pertaining to India show enough evidence of rising mean temperature during post-1970 period. Greater warming of 0.21°C per 10 years during post-1970 period as compared to 0.51°C per 100 years during past century has been reported. Besides, country experienced 15 deficit and 6 excess monsoon years in post-1960 period in comparison to only 27 deficit and 20 excess monsoon years during 1871-2014. These climate change pattern has already begun affecting Indian agriculture sector adversely by enhanced abiotic and biotic stresses to crops and livestock.

The Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) to address the issues associated with effect of climate change in Indian agriculture through suitable adaptation and mitigation measures mainly in the domain of crops and animal husbandry. The adaptation and mitigation measures are devised to ensure food security, equitable access to food resources, enhance livelihood opportunities and economic stability of people through four major components of Rainfed Area Development (RAD), On-Farm Water Management (OFWM), Soil Health Management (SHM) and Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture Modeling and Networking (CCSAMN).

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) started National Network Project on Climate Change (2004-13) to study the changing climate and its impact on Indian agriculture. Subsequently, ICAR has taken a major initiative by launching a network project, “National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)” in 2011 to enhance resilience of Indian agriculture to climate change through strategic research and technology demonstration.

(c) Research studies indicate more erratic and intense monsoon rains/unseasonal rains and hailstorm, increasing risk of droughts and floods and rise in temperature including increased frequency of warm days. This leads to projected average reduction of yield by 6% in wheat, 4-6% in rice, 18% in maize, 2.5% in sorghum, 2% in mustard and 2.5% in potato. The crop yield were projected more vulnerable in Central and East India for wheat; Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan for irrigated rice, Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Assam for rainfed rice; Central India for mustard and Punjab, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for potato.

The impact of climate change is also expected in economic viability and production of livestock systems through poor availability of quality feed and fodder, decreased reproductive performance and decline in milk production. Further, ICAR- CRIDA has also mapped 572 districts of the country for their vulnerability to extreme events due to climate change. The vulnerability was assessed high to very high in 230 districts, medium in 114 districts and low to very low in 228 districts. The details are given in the Statement.

*Statement**District-wise Vulnerability Indices to Climate Change*

State	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands					Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor, Anantapur.	Kurnool	Cuddapah	Prakasam	Guntur, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Nellore, East Godavari, Vizianagaram, West Godavari, Krishna.
Arunachal Pradesh				Tawang, East Kameng, Upper Subansiri, West Siang, Upper Siang	West Kameng, Dibang valley, Tirap, Lower Subansiri, Lohit, Changlang, Kurung Kumey, Papum Pare, East Siang.
Assam	Karbi-Anglong	Barpeta	N C Hills	Hailakandi, Dhemaji, Nalbari, Kamrup, Dhubri, Morigaon , Golaghat	Karimganj, Nagaon, Kokrajhar, Goalpara, Bongaigaon, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Cachar, Darrang.

Bihar	Kishanganj, Madhubani, Araria, Darbhanga, Supaul, Bhagalpur	Gopalganj, Saran, Purnea, Saharsa, Siwan, Katihar, Patna, Buxar, Sitamarhi, Nalanda, Champaran (East), Champaran (West), Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali.	Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Jahanabad, Banka, Bhojpur, Jamui, Madhepura	Sheikhpura, Aurangabad, Khagaria, Sivhar, Rohtas, Bhabhua (Kaimur)	Gaya, Nawadha, Monghyr
Chhattisgarh		Kawardha, Sarguja, Rajnandgaon, Koriya, Dantewara, Jashpur, Durg	Mahasamund, Bilaspur, Bastar, Kanker	Korba, Raigadh, Janjgir, Raipur, Dhamtari	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli					Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
Daman and Diu	Daman and Diu				
Goa					Goa
Gujarat	Patan, Amreli, Surendranagar, Kutch, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Rajkot,	Gandhinagar, Dahod, Dang, Bharuch, Vadodara, Narmada	Kheda	Anand	Surat, Valasad, Navsari.

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Jamnagar, Junagadh, Sabarkantha, Panchmahal, Porbandar				
Haryana		Kaithal, Fatehabad, Jhajjar, Sirsa, Bhiwani, Panipet, Jind, Hissar, Mahendragarh.	Kurukshetra, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Rewari, Karnal, Sonapat	Rohtak, Panchkula	Ambala, Yamunanagar
Himachal Pradesh		Kullu, Shimla, Chamba, Bilaspur	Kinnaur, Hamirpur	Mandi, Una, Kangra	Sirmaur, Solan, Lahaul & Spiti
Jammu and Kashmir			Rajouri	Doda, Udhampur, Pulwama, Budgam, Poonch, Anantnag.	Srinagar, Kathua, Kupwara Kargil, Leh (Ladakh), Baramulla, Jammu.
Jharkhand	Godda, Pakur, Sahibganj	Bokaro, Gumla, West Singhbhum, Lohardaga, East Singbhum, Palamu	Giridish, Dumka, Garhwa, Chhota, Ranchi, Dhanbad, Deoghar	Hazaribag, Koderna	
Karnataka	Bijapur, Gulbarga, Gadag, Bagalkot, Raichur, Chitradurga, Haveri, Bidar,	Kolar, Bellary, Belgaum, Mysore, Mandya		Bangalore (Urban), Hassan	Chikmagalur, Uttara Kannada, Kodagu/Coorgu, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Shimoga

	Davanagere, Bangalore (Rural), Tumkur, Koppal, Dharwad, Chamarajanagar				
Kerala		Thiruvananthapuram, Malappuram, Kollam, Kozhikode.	Wayanad, Kasaragod, Kannur, Kottayam, Alappuzha, Idukki, Palakkad	Thrissur, Pathanamthitta, Emakulam	
Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua, Rajgarh, Mandsaur, Shajapur, Dindori, Ratlam, Dhar, Sidhi, Vidisha, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Bhind, Barwani, Shahdol,	Rewa, Mandla, Dewas, Neemuch, Khargone (West Nimar), Betul, Guna, Sehore, Umaria, Damoh, Panna, Satna, Chhatarpur, Datia, Chhindwara, Katni	Seoni, Morena, Sheopur Kalan, Raisen, Bhopal, Khandwa (East Nimar), Tikamgarh, Indore, Sagar	Narsinghpur, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Harda	Balaghat, Hoshangabad
Maharashtra	Solapur, Beed, Ahmednagar, Osmanabad, Latur, Nandurbar, Sangli,	Akola, Aurangabad, Jalgaon, Parbhani, Washim	Nanded, Pune, Hingoli	Yavatmal, Wardha, Satara, Nagpur, Raigad, Thane	Gondia, Ratnagiri, Gadchiroli, Bhandara, Sindhudurg, Kolhapur, Chandrapur

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Buldhana, Dhule, Nasik, Jalna, Amravati				
Manipur			Churachandpur, Chandel, Ukhrul	Senapati, Tamenglong, Imphal East	Imphal West, Thoubal, Bishnupur
Meghalaya			South Garo Hills	West Garo Hills, East Garo Hills, West Khasi Hills	Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills, Ri-Bhoi
Mizoram			Champhai	Saiha, Lawngtlai, Mamit, Serchhip, Lunglei, Kolasib, Aizawl	
Nagaland				Mon, Tuensang, Wokha	Phek, Zunheboto, Kohima, Mokokchung, Dimapur
Odisha		Nuapada	Kalahandi, Bolangir, Phulbani (Kandhamal), Keonjhar, Gajapati, Nabarangpur, Puri, Mayurbhanj, Kendrapara	Sundargarh, Koraput, Malkangiri, Deogarh, Bhadrak, Sonepur, Jagatsingpur, Baragarh, Dhenkanal, Nayagarh,	Boudh, Jajpur, Angul, Ganjam, Khurda, Cuttack

		Rayagada, Jharsuguda, Balasore (Baleshwar), Sambalpur	Puducherry	
Puducherry				
Punjab	Faridkot	Moga, Kapurthala, Mansa, Firozpur	Sangrur, Muktsar, Bathinda, Jalandhar	
			Fathegarh Sahib, Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar, Patiala, Hoshiarpur, Amritsar, Ludhiana	Rupnagar, Gurdaspur
Rajasthan	Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Nagaur, Jalore, Churu, Pali, Tonk, Ajmer, Sirohi, Dungarpur, Sikar, Rajsamand, Banswara, Hanumangarh, Bhilwara, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur, Sawai	Sriganganagar, Bundi, Dholpur, Alwar, Karauli, Baran	Kota	

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Madhopur, Udaipur, Jhalawar, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Bharatpur				
Sikkim				Sikkim-South, Sikkim-North	West-Sikkim, East-Sikkim
Tamil Nadu	Perambalur, Ariyalur, Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Ramanathapuram,	Villupuram, Thiruvannamalai, Karur, Thiruvavur, Dindigul.	Thanjavur, Coimbatore, Vellore, Cuddalore, Erode, Thoothukudi, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Thiruchirappalli	Kanyakumari, Pudukkottai, Theni, Sivagangai	The Nilgiris, Virudhunagar, Thirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram
Telangana		Mahabubnagar,	Medak, Adilabad	Rangareddy, Karimnagar	Warangal, Nizamabad, Khammam, Nalgonda
Tripura					Dhalai, South Tripura, North Tripura, West Tripura.
Uttar Pradesh	Mahoba, Chitrakut, Banda, Hamirpur, Ballia, Bahraich, Kaushambi, Mathura,	Bagpat, Lalitpur, Budaun, Gonda, Balrampur, Mau, Ghazipur, Sonbhadra,	Mirzapur, Hardoi, Kanpur (Dehat), Aligarh, Sant Ravidas Nagar,	Etawah, Kheri, Firozabad, Bijnor, Pilibhit, Barabanki, Mainpuri, Gautam	Ghaziabad, Meerut

Deoria, Shravasti, Jhansi, Siddharth Nagar	Fatehpur, Raebareilly, Basti, Kushinagar, Shahjahanpur, Jalaun, Agra, Jaunpur, Faizabad, Maharajganj	Pratapgarh, Sant Kabir Nagar, Hathras, Farrukhabad, Azamgarh, Allahabad, Muzaffarnagar, Unnao, Jyotiba Phule Nagar, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Etah, Saharanpur, Auraiya, Kannauj, Bareilly, Sitapur, Ambedkar Nagar, Sultanpur	Buddh Nagar, Kanpur City, Bulandshahar, Chandauli, Lucknow, Moradabad, Rampur
Uttarakhand	Bageshwar, Tehri Garwal, Chamoli	Uttarkashi	Pauri Garhwal
West Bengal	Malda	Purulia, Dinajpur (Uttar), Murshidabad, Nadia, Dinajpur (Dakshin), 24- Paraganas (South)	Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Hooghly, Bankura, Burdwan

Organic and innovative techniques of farming

2250. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are comprehensive schemes to initiate and encourage organic farming in the country;

(b) whether there are plans to provide subsidy to farmers to develop vermi compost, cow dung manure and other natural plant manures, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the detailed agenda before Government to enrich the fertility of soil, strengthen healthy soil with new innovative techniques; and

(d) the new planting, ploughing and harvesting techniques for increased paddy, wheat grains, pulses crops and mode of educating farmers in new types of profitable agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/ programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/ Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) of NMSA, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) of APEDA.

(b) The pattern of assistance provided to State Governments through various schemes for encouraging use of vermi compost/ manure/bio-fertilisers for promotion of organic farming is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government is implementing Soil Health Management under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Soil Health Management (SHM) is one of the components under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). SHM aims at promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures and biofertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity; upgradation of skill and knowledge of soil testing laboratory staff, extension staff and farmers through training and demonstrations.

“Soil Health Card” Scheme is also implementing in the country since February 2015 to provide Soil Health Card to all farmers in the country. Soil Health Card will provide

information to farmers on soil nutrient status of their soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrient to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil health card will be issued every 3 years for all land holdings in the country. Under this scheme, also financial assistance is given to State Governments for training of farmers on application of further on soil test basis, amounting to ₹ 24000/- per training.

(d) The Government under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) *w.e.f.* 2014-15. The following new technology machines/equipment have been identified and promoted under SMAM for planting, ploughing and harvesting of paddy, wheat and pulse:

1. Planting machines - Resource conservation technologies such as Zero till machine, strip till drill, happy seeder, raised bed planter, paddy transplanter, pneumatic planter, ridge furrow planter, multi-crop planter, pneumatic vegetable seeder etc.
2. Ploughing machines - Mould board plough, disc plough, hydraulically reversible mould board plough.
3. Harvesting machines - Multi crop combine harvester, crop reaper (self propelled and tractor operated), reaper -cum- binder, brush cutter etc.

As far as mode of educating farmers for use of these machines, the details are as under informed:-

1. The Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes (FMTTIs) conduct training programmes on operation, maintenance and repair of agricultural machines for farmers. The farmers admitted in these training programmes are provided stipend @ ₹ 500/-per week, to and fro travel expenses on actual basis and lodging is provided free of cost in the hostel of the Institutes. Financial assistance @ ₹ 4000/- per person per week is also provided to the State Governments and ICAR Institutions for conducting training of farmers through the institutions identified by them.
2. The FMTTIs also conduct demonstration of the equipments on the farmers' field in order to promote adoption of these equipments by the farmers. Financial assistance @ ₹ 4000 per hectare is also provided to the State Government and ICAR institutions for conducting demonstration of equipments on the farmers fields.

Statement*Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming*

Component	Pattern of assistance
NMSA	
1. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid / solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.
2. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana-(PKVY) Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification.	Under PKVY scheme- Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster and their 50 acres of land will be brought under Organic Farming. Details of Financial Assistance is as under: (i) Each farmer will be assisted for procuring liquid biofertiliser Consortia(Nitrogen fixing /phosphate solubilising /Potash mobilising biofertiliser @₹500 per acre, liquid bio-pesticides @₹500per acre, other bio pest which are locally available from natural resources @₹500 per acre and application of Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) @ ₹1000/- acre. (ii) For constructing of vermi-compost production unit (7' x3' xT) including earthworms, preparation of pits, construction of brick walls, labour charges and other raw material @ ₹5000/ unit.
MIDH	
Vermi compost Units/organic input production	Assistance for establishing vermi compost units is @ 50% of cost subject to a maximum

of ₹ 50,000/- per beneficiary for a unit having size of 30' x 8' x 2.5'. For smaller units, assistance is determined on pro-rata basis. For HDPE Vermi bed of 96 cft size (12' x 4' x 2'), the assistance is @50% of cost subject to a maximum of ₹. 8,000/- per bed. For organic certification, assistance is project based @ ₹ 5.00 lakh for a cluster of 50 ha, released in three installments.

NMOOP:

Has launched a scheme for increasing production and productivity of oilseed crops in the country. The expenditure on subsidies and pattern of financial assistance between the Centre and State Share in the ratio of 90:10 for North East and Hilly states and it is 60: 40 for other States. Financial assistance is being provided for different type of components including bio-fertilisers, Supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/ Zinc Solubilising Bacteria (ZSB)/Azatobacter/ Mycorrhiza and vermi compost.

RKVY:

Under RKVY, State Governments have flexibility and autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes including Organic Farming, as per their priorities. Accordingly, cost of projects under Organic Farming are approved by respective State Level Sanctioning Committees.

Cultivation of organic foodgrains

2251. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the cultivation, production and sale scenario of organic food in the country;
- (b) the steps Government is taking to familiarise the farmers about it;
- (c) the steps Government is taking to popularize and switchover to organic food;
- (d) the export potential of organic food;
- (e) the schemes/incentives to encourage its cultivation; and
- (f) the comparative profit margin to farmer, in cultivation of one hectare of wheat, by use of chemical fertilizers *vis-a-vis* organic manure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry maintains the data regarding cultivation, production and export of organic food in the country. As per APEDA, total area under certified organic cultivation and production during the year 2014-15 is as under:-

	Farm Area (ha)	Wild Area (ha)	Total Area (ha)
All States	1183871.38	3709980.32	4893851.70
	Farm Production	Wild Collection	Total Production
All States	1095754.14	14812.47	1110566.61

Source: APEDA Data regarding sale of organic produce/food in the country is not maintained by APEDA.

(b) and (c) Government is promoting organic farming across the country through various schemes / programmes viz. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP). Under these schemes assistance is provided for:

- (i) Adoption of Organic Village for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting.
- (ii) Promotion of Organic Input production on farmers' fields.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
- (iv) Promotion of NPOP certification for export of organic products.

The pattern of assistance for these interventions is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

During the year 2015-16 under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) funds to the tune of ₹ 179.00 crore has been released to the State Governments for promotion of Organic Farming. A State-wise detail of number of cluster approved is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad and its six Regional Centres are conducting various extension and publicity activities like exhibitions, radio talks, TV programmes, distribution of literature on organic inputs/organic farming etc. to educate

farmers. During 2015-16 (till November, 2015), 186 number of training programmes have been organized under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) programmes which have benefitted 11546 number of farmers across the country.

(d) During the year 2014-15, 2,85,663 MT of agricultural produce worth ₹ 2099.16 crore exported from India which is equivalent to 327 million US\$.

(e) There is a provision of financial assistance for organic farming under Soil Health Management (SHM), Paramparagat Kishik Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). For details refer to Statement-I (See below).

(f) As per ICAR Report, the gross returns (Rs./ha) under organic wheat cultivation is higher as compared to chemical farming system as shown in Statement-III.

Statement-I

Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming

Component	Pattern of assistance
NMSA	
1. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers, Liquid/solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50% of cost subject to a limit of ₹5000/-per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.
2. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana- (PKVY) Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee system (PGS) certification.	Under PKVY scheme- Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster and their 50 acres of land will be brought under Organic Farming.
MIDH	
1. Adoption of Organic Farming.	50% of cost limited to ₹ 10000/ha for a maximum area of 4 ha. per beneficiary, spread over a period of 3 years involving an assistance of ₹4000/- in first year and ₹ 3000/- each in second & third year. The programme to be linked with certification.

2. Organic Certification	₹ 5 lakh for a cluster of 50 ha which will include ₹ 1.50 lakh in first year, ₹ 1.50 lakh in second year and ₹ 2.00 lakh in third year.
3. Vermi compost Units (organic input production)	50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30' X8' X2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on <i>pro-rata</i> basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 cft (12' X4' X2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on <i>pro-rata</i> basis (₹100,000/unit for permanent structure and ₹ 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed).

Statement-II

Details of no of clusters approved for implementation under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) during the year 2015-16 till (5.11.2015)

Sl. No.	States	No. of Cluster
1.	Assam	220
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19
3.	Andhra Pradesh	411
4.	Bihar	327
5.	Chhattisgarh	188
6.	Goa	04
7.	Gujarat	100
8.	Haryana	20
9.	Himachal Pradesh	110
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	28
11.	Jharkhand	100
12.	Karnataka	545
13.	Kerala	119

Sl. No.	States	No. of Cluster
14.	Madhya Pradesh	880
15.	Maharashtra	932
16.	Mizoram	34
17.	Manipur	30
18.	Nagaland	24
19.	Odisha	320
20.	Punjab	50
21.	Rajasthan	755
22.	Sikkim	150
23.	Tamil Nadu	112
24.	Tripura	50
25.	Telangana	300
26.	Uttar Pradesh	575
27.	Uttarakhand	550
28.	West Bengal	120
29.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	68
	TOTAL	7141

(1 cluster = 50 acres)

Statement-III

*Comparative profit margin of wheat by use of chemical
fertilizers vis-a-vis organic manure*

Parameters	Organic Management	Chemical Management
Yield (kg/ha) (9th year of organicmanagement)	4142	4202

Parameters	Organic Management	Chemical Management
Gross returns (₹ /ha)*	84083*	60929
Cost of cultivation (₹/ha)	33262	28562
(organic manures <i>vis-a-vis</i> chemical fertilizers)		
Profit(/ha)	50821	32367

Source: Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Programme on Organic Farming (NPOF)

* Considering normal MSP of wheat ₹14.5/kg under conventional (chemical) practices and 40% premium price for organic produce.

Special package for organic farming development programme

†2252. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government would provide a special package to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe dominated forest areas in Madhya Pradesh for organic farming development programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): Government is promoting organic farming across the country under various Central Sector Schemes viz. National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) etc. for the benefit of all farmers including scheduled caste and scheduled tribe farmers.

There is a provision of financial assistance in all these Schemes @9% and 17% for Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Caste farmers (all India average) respectively, including in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Under PKVY, formation of organic clusters in 50 acres is promoted in such areas like hilly, tribal and also rain-fed, where utilization of chemical fertilisers and pesticide is less.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Implementation of NHM

†2253. Dr. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of districts/development blocks included by Government under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the criteria to include districts/development blocks under NHM, the details thereof; and
- (c) the facilities provided under the National Horticulture Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) National Horticulture Mission (NHM), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, is being implemented in the country since 2005-06 and from 2014-15 onwards NHM has been subsumed under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), which is being implemented in all States/ UTs of the country. A total of three hundred and eighty four (384) districts are covered in 23 States/UTs under the National Horticulture Mission. State-wise number of districts covered under NHM is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) For Inclusion of districts, NHM envisages a cluster approach for development of horticultural crops, in accordance with their comparative advantage based on agro climatic conditions, potential for development and marketing opportunities.

(c) The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables through various interventions. Activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, 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. Capacity building of farmers and technologies are also an integral part of MIDH for adopting improved technologies. The Scheme also envisages creation of infrastructure for post harvest management (like pack houses, cold storage units, pre-cooling units and refrigerated vans) and marketing for better price realization of produce.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*State wise Districts covered under National Horticulture Mission*

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of Districts
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Two (2)
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Eleven (11)
3.	Bihar	Twenty Three (23)
4.	Chhattisgarh	Nineteen (19)
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	One (1)
6.	Delhi	One (1)
7.	Goa	Two (2)
8.	Gujarat	Fifteen (15)
9.	Haryana	Eighteen (18)
10.	Jharkhand	Seventeen (17)
11.	Karnataka	Thirty (30)
12.	Kerala	Fourteen (14)
13.	Lakshadweep	One (1)
14.	Maharashtra	Thirty Three (33)
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Thirty Nine (39)
16.	Odisha	Twenty Four (24)
17.	Punjab	Eighteen (18)
18.	Puducherry	Four(4)
19.	Rajasthan	Twenty Four (24)
20.	Tamil Nadu	Twenty (20)

1	2	3
21.	Telangana	Nine (9)
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Forty Five (45)
23.	West Bengal	Fourteen (14)
TOTAL		384

MSP for agricultural produces

2254. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- the details of MSP of wheat, paddy and other grains/agricultural produce in Pakistan and China along with their comparison in India;
- whether MSP of wheat and paddy is more in Pakistan and China than India;
- if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- the details of the number of farmers who have left their profession due to non remunerative MSP of agricultural produces during 2015, so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The Minimum Support Price of wheat, paddy and other agricultural produce in India, Pakistan and China for 2014-15, as per the available information, is given in the Table below:

(\$ per quintal)

Commodity	MSP		
	India	Pakistan	China#
Wheat	22	31	38
Paddy	20	-	43*
Cotton	56	72&	-
Sugarcane	3	4	-

Note: Figures have been rounded off.

for 2014

*Early long grain rice & Seed cotton.

In India, Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the major agricultural produce on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of the State Governments, concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, CACP considers various important factors which, *inter alia*, include cost of cultivation, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living etc. The MSPs of wheat and Paddy for 2014-15 provide a return of 94.9 percent and 39.1 percent over their respective all India weighted average all paid out costs including family labour (A2+FL). Producers have the option to sell their produce to Government agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

(d) There is no information available regarding the number of farmers who have left their profession due to non-remunerative MSP. However, as per the Agricultural Census, 2010-11 the number of cultivators in terms of operational holdings in the country increased from 129.22 million in 2005-06 to 138.35 million in 2010-11.

Downward trend in foodgrain production

2255. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ₹ 50,000 crore Union Government Scheme Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana has seen progress in implementation given that India's foodgrains production has declined by 5.25 per cent to 251.12 million tonnes in 2014-15 crop year against the record 265.04 million tonnes in the previous year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the reasons for downward trend in foodgrains production despite the vast spending on irrigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) With the objective of enhancing irrigation coverage and improving the delivery system at farm level, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been operationalised from 1st July, 2015. A sum of ₹50,000 crore of central share has been provisioned for implementation of the scheme during next five years (2015-16 to 2019-20). PMKSY envisages end to end solutions in irrigation supply chain, *viz.* water sources, distribution network and farm level applications. The scheme is in the initial stages of implementation.

(b) As per available estimates, the total foodgrain production was 244.49 million tonnes in 2010-11 when the irrigation coverage was 47.8%. In the Year 2011-12 the

foodgrain production was estimated to be 259.29 million tones against the irrigation coverage of 49.8%. However, despite rainfall deficiency of 12% during 2014-15, as per the available estimates, the decline in foodgrain production has been only by 4.66% as against 2013-14. Fluctuation in foodgrain production is also dependent on various others climatic factors like floods, hailstorms, unseasonal rain etc.

Decline in sowing of coarse cereals

2256. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sowing of coarse cereals has declined 6 per cent to 5.51 million hectares in December last;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor compared to the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken to correct the situation by announcing the incentives to coarse cereals in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Depending on yearly variations in weather, rainfall situation, irrigation facilities and inter-crop shift in area due to comparative profitability of other competing crops, State-wise area of coarse cereals during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2014-15 in the country has followed mixed trend. State-wise details of area coverage under Coarse Cereals during 2012-13 to 2014-2015 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

It is observed that during 2014-15 area coverage under Coarse Cereals has been 241.49 lakh hectare which is lower by 10.71 lakh hectare than the area coverage of 252.20 lakh hectare during 2013-14.

- (c) In order to promote cultivation of coarse cereals in the country, the Government of India is implementing since 2014-15, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “National Food Security Mission NFSM-Coarse Cereals” NFSM-Coarse Cereals being implemented in 264 districts of 28 States aims to increase production of coarse cereals in the country by 3 million tonnes by the end of 12th Plan period *i.e.* 2016-17. The scheme is focused on organization of cluster demonstrations on improve package of technologies and distribution of quality seeds of new varieties/hybrids. Under the scheme, assistance is being provided at the rate of ₹ 5000/- per hectare for demonstrations of improved packages of technologies, ₹ 1500/- per quintal for distribution of seeds of high yielding

varieties and ₹ 5000/- per quintal for hybrid seeds.

To encourage farmers to grow coarse cereals by ensuring remunerative prices, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of coarse cereals have also been increased over the years.

Statement

State-wise estimates of Area of Coarse Cereals during 2012-13 to 2014-15

(' 000 Hectares)

States	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15*
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1405.0	1354.0	1311.0
Assam	28.1	29.5	28.0
Bihar	713.7	756.2	738.9
Chhattisgarh	263.7	238.2	247.2
Gujarat	1197.0	1335.0	1005.0
Haryana	524.0	524.0	475.0
Himachal Pradesh	326.9	317.5	330.3
Jammu and Kashmir	355.2	339.1	350.6
Jharkhand	264.2	269.5	284.5
Karnataka	3527.0	3491.0	3354.0
Kerala	0.5	0.3	0.2
Madhya Pradesh	1639.5	1627.1	1754.0
Maharashtra	4971.0	4808.0	4328.0
Odisha	179.7	181.6	173.0
Punjab	145.0	142.8	137.0
Rajasthan	5976.7	6263.8	6018.4
Tamil Nadu	624.4	898.0	971.2

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	1998.0	2016.0	2005.0
Uttarakhand	249.7	225.0	222.0
West Bengal	121.2	142.9	166.3
Others	254.0	260.5	249.0
ALL INDIA	24764.6	25219.9	24148.7

* As per Fourth Advance Estimates

Failure of crops due to unseasonal rains and monsoon failure

2257. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been unseasonal rains and monsoon failure this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, meteorological subdivision-wise;
- (c) how many crops have failed this year because of unseasonal rains or monsoon failure, State-wise details for each crop;
- (d) how many cases of farmers' suicide have been reported so far this year, Statewise; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to reduce the dependency of agriculture on monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) According to India Meteorological Department, during South-West Monsoon, 2015 (1 June to 30 September), the country as a whole received 760.6 mm rainfall as opposed to the normal rainfall of 887.5 mm, which 14% deficient. Details of meteorological sub-division-wise rainfall is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). During South-West Monsoon, 2015, in view of the deficit monsoon, many States like Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan have declared drought in their States and submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). The main Kharif Crops affected are Paddy, Jowar, Maize, Soyabean, Bajra, Cotton, Pulses, Groundnut, etc. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare had constituted Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) to visit the affected areas for assessment of the ground situation and recommendation of financial assistance.

(d) As per the information provided by the Government of States/UTs for the year 2015 the number of suicides due to agrarian reason is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) The following interventions have been made in the wake of deficient rainfall as per IMD forecast of below average monsoon:

- (a) Implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme for protective irrigation of crops;
- (b) Enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy to partially recompense the farmer for the additional expenditure incurred in resowing and/or purchasing appropriate varieties of seeds;
- (c) Implementation of interventions on perennial horticulture crops under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (d) Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Central Government has relaxed the norms under MGNREGA to provide additional employment of 50 days over and above the 100 days per household in the areas affected by natural calamities including drought for the current year.

Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of any extreme climatic events.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched with the objective of extending the coverage of irrigation in a focused manner. Under PMKSY focus has been given for: Creation of new water sources; Repair, restoration and renovation of defunct water sources; Construction of water harvesting structures, secondary and micro storage, ground water development and Enhancing potentials of traditional water bodies at village level.

States have also been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such a need arises. All State Governments have also been advised to initiate advance remedial action e.g. constructing water harvesting structures under MGNREGA and other such schemes, promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation, promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops and restoring irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals, energizing tube-wells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps, etc.

Statement-I
Sub-Division-wise Rainfall (MM) Distribution

Sl. No.	Meteorological Sub-divisions	Week : 24.09.2015 to 30.09.2015				Period: 01.06.2015 to 30.09.2015			
1	2	Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.	Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	EAST & NORTH EAST INDIA	28.3	61.9	-54%		1317.5	1438.3	-8%	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	60.7	78.1	-22%	D	1875.0	1768.0	6%	N
2.	Assam and Meghalaya	38.9	62.5	-38%	D	1747.7	1792.8	-3%	N
3.	NMMT	34.6	61.2	-43%	D	1050.3	1496.9	-30%	D
4.	SHWB and Sikkim	54.7	90.7	-40%	D	1883.0	2006.2	-6%	N
5.	Gangetic West Bengal	13.3	72.0	-82%	S	1265.5	1167.9	8%	N
6.	Jharkhand	2.2	47.8	-95%	S	941.9	1091.9	-14%	N
7.	Bihar	7.6	42.9	-82%	S	742.3	1027.6	-28%	D
	NORTH WEST INDIA	2.8	17.5	-84%	0%	510.6	615.0	-17%	0%
1.	East U.P.	0.3	27.8	-99%	S	472.1	897.6	-47%	D
2.	West U.P.	0.1	20.5	-99%	S	439.9	769.4	-43%	D

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Uttarakhand	3.7	27.6	-87%	S	881.5	1229.1	-28%	D
4.	Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi	1.6	12.5	-87%	S	295.5	466.3	-37%	D
5.	Punjab	1.1	20.9	-95%	S	336.3	491.9	-32%	D
6.	Himachal Pradesh	9.7	27.3	-64%	S	638.3	825.3	-23%	D
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.4	19.8	-58%	D	614.0	534.6	15%	N
8.	West Rajasthan	0.3	4.8	-94%	S	384.0	263.2	46%	E
9.	East Rajasthan	0.2	11.3	-99%	S	556.6	615.8	-10%	N
	CENTRAL INDIA	0.9	30.0	-97%	0%	815.5	975.5	-16%	0%
1.	Odisha	2.6	40.1	-94%	S	1034.4	1149.9	-10%	N
2.	West Madhya Pradesh	0.1	21.5	-99%	S	914.5	876.1	4%	N
3.	East Madhya Pradesh	0.1	21.7	-99%	S	745.1	1051.2	-29%	D
4.	Gujarat Region	0.1	25.6	-99%	S	659.4	901.0	-27%	D
5.	Saurashtra & Kutch	0.0	11.6	-99%	S	502.5	473.5	6%	N
E	Konkan & Goa	0.6	79.1	-99%	S	2005.0	2914.3	-31%	D
7.	Madhya Maharashtra	0.5	43.3	-99%	S	488.1	729.3	-33%	D

8. Marathwada	3.2	38.8	-92%	S	412.4	682.9	-40%	D
9. Vidarbha	0.2	26.5	-99%	S	848.2	954.6	-11%	N
10. Chhattisgarh	1.7	30.3	-94%	S	1009.8	1147.3	-12%	N
SOUTH PENINSULA	36.0	42.0	-14%	0%	605.7	716.1	-15%	0%
1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	104.5	111.0	-6%	N	1678.5	1682.5	0%	N
2. Coastal Andhra Pradesh	19.2	44.1	-57%	D	642.0	581.1	10%	N
3. Telangana	12.2	35.5	-66%	S	600.8	755.2	-20%	D
4. Rayalaseema	34.0	35.6	-4%	N	358.3	398.3	-10%	N
5. Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	54.3	31.7	71%	E	285.8	317.2	-10%	N
6. Coastal Karnataka	17.1	71.9	-76%	S	2285.0	3083.8	-26%	D
7. N. I. Karnataka	12.5	42.5	-71%	S	357.3	506.0	-29%	D
8. S. I. Karnataka	59.0	40.9	44%	E	607.4	660.0	-8%	N
9. Kerala	76.9	75.2	2%	N	1514.7	2039.6	-26%	D
10. Lakshadweep	38.2	43.8	-13%	N	860.9	998.5	-14%	N
COUNTRY AS A WHOLE	12.8	33.6	-62%	0%	760.6	887.5	-14%	

Statement-II*The number of suicides due to agrarian reason in the year 2015*

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	For the year 2015	Date reported on
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28	24-07-15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	20-07-15
3.	Assam	0	01-07-15
4.	Bihar	1	13-08-15
5.	Chhattisgarh	18	14-12-15
6.	Goa	0	01-12-15
7.	Gujarat	1	31-07-15
8.	Haryana	1	14-07-15
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	15-07-15
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	
11.	Jharkhand	NR	
12.	Karnataka *	107	22-07-15
13.	Kerala	1	30-06-15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	03-06-15
15.	Maharashtra	725	30-09-15
16.	Manipur	NR	
17.	Meghalaya	0	11-03-15
18.	Mizoram	0	30-11-15
19.	Nagaland	NR	
20.	Odisha	0	20-07-15
21.	Punjab	32	#22-07-15
22.	Rajasthan	1	21-04-15
23.	Sikkim	NR	

1	2	3	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	NR	
25.	Telangana	NR	
26.	Tripura	0	31-07-15
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	23-07-15
28.	Uttarakhand	0	16-07-15
29.	West Bengal	0	24-07-15
	TOTAL (States)	897	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	22-07-15
31.	Chandigarh	0	28-07-15
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	02-07-15
33.	Daman and Diu	0	03-08-15
34.	NCT Delhi	0	01-05-15
35.	Lakshadweep	NR	
36.	Puducherry	0	22-07-15
	TOTAL (UT)	0	
GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		897	

NR = Not reported,

Due to various reasons (including agrarian reason),

* The period in this case is Financial Year and not Calendar Year.

Impact of monsoon on production of foodgrains

2258. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of monsoon this year compared to the last year;
- (b) the impact of this year's monsoon on the foodgrains production in the country;
- (c) the alternative measure Government is taking in the event of less foodgrains production; and

(d) the status of production of pulses and their demand in the country this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Rainfall during the monsoon season has been deficient/erratic in several parts of the country both in 2014-15 and 2015-16. As against overall rainfall deficiency of 12% over the LPA during the monsoon season of last year, the rainfall during the current year has been deficient by 14%.

(b) Rainfall during monsoon season is crucial for good agricultural production. The rainfall deficiency during last year as well as current year has adversely impacted kharif production in the country. Total production of Kharif Foodgrains during 2015-16, estimated at 124.05 million tonnes (1st Advance Estimates), is lower by 2.26 million tonnes as compared to Kharif foodgrains production of 126.31 million tonnes during 2014-15.

(c) Although production of foodgrains during 2014-15 has suffered due to erratic monsoon rainfall conditions and also untimely rains/hailstorms during February/March, 2015, there is sufficient stock of cereals under central pool for the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes and also for making available in open market at affordable prices. As on 1st November, 2015 there is a stock of 112.92 lakh tones of rice as against the stocking norm of 102.50 lakh tones and 299.06 lakh tones of wheat as against the stocking norm of 205.20 lakh tones.

(d) The demand of pulses in the country for the current year *i.e.* 2015-16 is projected at 21 million tones. As per the 1st Advance Estimate (only Kharif) released on 16th September, 2015, the production of Kharif pulses in 2015-16 season is estimated at 5.56 million tones. However, the annual estimates of total production of pulses for the current year are not yet available.

Assistance to farmers for loss of crops

2259. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts faced deficient monsoon this year, State/UT-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to help farmers who lost their crops due to insufficient rains; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure better preparation in the future to address the issue of deficient rains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) According to India Meteorological Department during South-West Monsoon, 2015 (1 June to 30 September) 302 districts of the country have faced the deficit rainfall. State/UT wise details is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) State Governments initiate necessary relief measures to farmers in the wake of drought 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. During Kharif 2015, the Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand declared drought in parts of their States and submitted memoranda seeking financial assistance for drought affected areas from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An amount of ₹ 1540.20 crore has been approved for Karnataka from NDRF. The proposals from other States are at various stages of processing / finalisation.

Besides other measures and provisions of funds under SDRF as also NDRF, the following interventions have been made in the wake of deficient rainfall as per IMD forecast of below average monsoon:

- (a) Implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme for protective irrigation of crops;
- (b) Enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy to partially recompense the farmer for the additional expenditure incurred in resowing and/or purchasing appropriate varieties of seeds;
- (c) Implementation of interventions on perennial horticulture crops under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (d) Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Central Government has relaxed the norms under MGNREGA to provide additional employment of 50 days over and above the 100 days per household under MGNREGA in the areas affected by natural calamities including drought for the current year. Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the

eventuality of any extreme climatic events. States have also been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such a need arises. All State Governments have also been advised to initiate advance remedial action *e.g.* constructing water harvesting structures under MGNREGA and other such schemes, promoting agronomic practices for moisture conservation, promoting cultivation of less water consuming crops and restoring irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals, energizing tube-wells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps, etc.

Statement

Details of districts affected by deficit and scanty rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2015

Sl. No.	State	Deficient	Scanty	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	4
3.	Assam	3	0	3
4.	Meghalaya	2	0	2
5.	Nagaland	1	3	4
6.	Manipur	0	0	0
7.	Mizoram	1	2	3
8.	Tripura	0	0	0
9.	Sikkim	0	0	0
10.	West Bengal	3	0	3
11.	Odisha	8	0	8\
12.	Jharkhand	10	0	10
13.	Bihar	22	1	23
14.	Uttar Pradesh	51	17	68

1	2	3	4	5
15. Uttarakhand		10	0	10
16. Haryana		17	2	19
17. Chandigarh (UT)		1	0	1
18. Delhi		3	0	3
19. Punjab		11	3	14
20. Himachal Pradesh		3	1	4
21. Jammu and Kashmir		2	0	2
22. Rajasthan		8	0	8
23. Madhya Pradesh		21	0	21
24. Gujarat		16	0	16
25. Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)		1	0	1
26. Daman and Diu (UT)		1	0	1
27. Goa		1	0	1
28. Maharashtra		22	0	22
29. Chhattisgarh		7	0	7
30. Andhra Pradesh		1	0	1
31. Telangana		5	0	5
32. Tamil Nadu		13	0	13
33. Puducherry (UT)		2	0	2
34. Karnataka		12	0	12
35. Kerala		11	0	11
36. Lakshadweep (UT)		0	0	0
TOTAL		272	30	302

Development of pest-resistant varieties of soyabean

2260. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has developed certain pest-resistant and high-yielding varieties of soyabean which have shorter duration;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay in making these varieties available to farmers; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent large scale damage to soyabean crops due to bad weather and pests?

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

(b) ICAR has developed a number of high-yielding, pest and disease resistant/tolerant varieties of soyabean having short duration (85-100 days) such as JS 95-60, JS 93-05, NRC 7, NRC 86, JS 20-34 and JS 20-29. Of these, JS 93-05, JS 95-60 and NRC 7, are very popular among the farmers, while the other three varieties (JS 20-34, JS 20-29 and NRC 86) have been released recently. Usually it takes three years for production of quality seed through a well-structured seed chain and making it available to the farmers.

ICAR is mandated to produce breeder seed of different soyabean varieties as per the indents from different soyabean producing States received by DAC&FW and has taken up breeder seed production of these newly released varieties during kharif 2015. The breeder seed will be made available to the stakeholders to take up quality seed production.

(c) ICAR has developed and demonstrated improved production technologies to prevent large scale damage to soyabean crop due to bad weather and pests. Further, weekly agro-advisories to various State and central agricultural development agencies, print and electronic media are issued regularly along with farm visits.

Setting up of primary processing centres

2261. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased state:

- (a) whether ICAR plans to set up primary processing centres in the agricultural institutes across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to curb high scale post-harvest losses through adopting innovative techniques and information dissemination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) mainly focuses on agricultural research and setting up of primary processing centres is not the mandate of the ICAR. However, as part of its research programmes conducted through ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (ICAR-CIPHET), Ludhiana and the centres of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology located at various Agricultural Research Institutes and State Agricultural Universities, ICAR has provided technical assistance and training support to the farmers and entrepreneurs for the establishment of 135 small Agro-Processing Centres (APCs) in different States of the country.

(b) Details pertaining to the primary processing centres set up by farmers and entrepreneurs with the technical assistance from ICAR in different States of the country, including those in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana undertakes research in the area of post-harvest technology for storage, value addition and processing of agricultural produce to contain post-harvest losses. These lists of the tools, equipment/machines, structures and technologies developed at ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana has also taken up a ICAR funded Consortia Research Platform (CRP) mode project on Secondary Agriculture. Under this CRP 04 Agro Processing Centers (APCs) are being established *i.e.* 01 APC at CIAE, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh; 02 APCs in Punjab (PAU, Ludhiana and ICAR-CIPHET, Abohar); and 01 APC at AAU, Anand, Gujarat.

Further, ICAR-CIPHET conducts a number of entrepreneurship development programs and trainings for farmers/entrepreneurs related to post-harvest processing and value addition to agricultural commodities to reduce post-harvest losses.

Statement-I

Details showing primary processing centres set up with technical assistance from ICAR in different States of the country

Sl. No.	State	AICRP on PHET Centres	APCs established by farmers/entrepreneurs with technical support from ICAR (No.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	PDKV, Akola	10
2.	Uttarakhand	VPKAS, Almora	1
		GBPUA&T Pantnagar	2
3.	Karnataka	UAS, Bangalore	16
		UAS, Raichur	12
4.	Madhya Pradesh	JNKVV, Jabalpur	3
		ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal	1
5.	Andhra Pradesh	ANGRAU, Bapatla	1
6.	Odisha	OUAT, Bhubaneswar	10
7.	Tamil Nadu	TNAU, Coimbatore	4
8.	Haryana	CCS, HAU, Hisar	3
9.	Assam	AAU, Jorhat	5
10.	Gujarat	JAU, Junagadh	3
11.	Kerala	CPCRI, Kasargod	1
		KAU, Tavanur	3
12.	West Bengal	IIT, Kharagpur	1
13.	Punjab	PAU, Ludhiana	46
		ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana	01
		ICAR-CIPHET, Abohar	01

1	2	3	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	ICAR-IISR, Lucknow	3
15.	Bihar	RAU, Pusa	1
16.	Chhattisgarh	IGKV, Raipur	1
17.	Himachal Pradesh	YSPUH&F, Solan	2
18.	Kerala	KAU, Tavanur	2
19.	Rajasthan	MPUAT, Udaipur	4
20.	Srinagar	SKAUST&T, Srinagar	5
TOTAL			135

Statement-II

Technologies of ICAR-CIPHET available for commercialisation post-harvest equipments/machines, tools and storage structures

1. Automatic Custard Apple Pulper
2. Automatic Litchi Peeler
3. Automatic Blender-cum-Mixer
4. Basket Centrifuge
5. Ber Fruit Grader
6. Castor Depodder and Decorticator
7. CIPHET-Aonla Pricking Machine
8. CIPHET- Banana-comb Cutter
9. CIPHET-Cryogenic Spice Grinding System
10. CIPHET-Tomato Grader
11. CIPHET-Pomegranate Aril Extractor
12. CIPHET-Fruit Collector-cum-Grader for saving of fruits

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13. Composite Mini Dal Mil for Pigeon Pea
 14. Fish Descaling Machine
 15. Fish Processing Table cum Retail Sales Unit
 16. Guar Seed Dehulling Machine and Process for Dehulling
 17. Groundnut Pod Decorticator
 18. Groundnut Pod grader
 19. Hand Tool for Easy Separation of Arils from Pomegranate
 20. Lotus Seed Decorticator
 21. Low Cost Fish Descaling Hand Tool
 22. Low Cost Tray Dryer having a unique design of Plenum Chamber
 23. Low Cost Poly House for higher benefit: cost ratio
 24. Mechanized System for Popping and Decortications of Makhana Seeds (Gorgon Nut, *Euryale ferox*)
 25. Mobile Iced Fish Storage and Transport Chamber
 26. Mobile Agro Processing Unit suggested for cleaning, grading, destoning of foodgrains
 27. Potato Peeler cum Washer
 28. Pilot Scale Millet Mill
 29. Poultry Processing Table for Poultry Butchers and Small Poultry Meat entrepreneurs and Poultry Slaughter Cone
 30. Small Capacity Maize Degermer for dry degerming of Maize
 31. Sunflower Dehuller
 32. Vendor's Vegetable Cabinet
 33. Rotary Maize Cob Sheller
 34. Evaporative Cooled Room (2 ton)
 35. Evaporative Cooled Structure (5-7 tons)
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Processes/Products

36. Dried Onion Flakes and Powder
37. Low cost technique for enhancement of shelf life of tomato
38. Method of determining maturity of intact mango in tree
39. Method of Predicting Maturity Stage and Eating Quality of Indian Mangoes using Near Infrared Spectroscopy
40. Modified atmospheric packaging of different vegetables
41. Minimal processing of vegetables
42. Porous bricks
43. Production of dried ginger flakes and powder and paste
44. Process technology for Pomegranate Jelly and Grenadine
45. Production of Carrot shreds and powder
46. Process for production of beetroot powder
47. Process of manufacturing mix for ready to constitute Makhana Kheer
48. Processing of Pomegranate and by-product utilization
49. Processing of ber for manufacturing of value added products
50. Processing of Aonla for manufacturing of value added products
51. A process of separating a compound containing allyl isothiocyanate from mustard seed (Bioinsecticide from mustard seed)
52. A new process of oil extraction from Karanj seed (*Pongamia glabra*) through mechanical expression
53. A low energy process of dehulling of mustard seeds
54. Tomato puree manufacturing and bottling technology
55. Shrink wrap packaging of fruits and vegetables
56. Sunflower kernel based confectionary products

Value added Food products

57. Flax seed based Nutritious Energy bar
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- | | |
|-----|---|
| 58. | Groundnut based Flavoured Beverage, Curd and Paneer |
| 59. | Pearl millet based Extrudates, Pasta and Weaning mix |
| 60. | Pearl millet based ready to reconstitute Upma and Halwa |
| 61. | Green chilli puree and powder |
| 62. | Anardana ready to mix Chutney |
| 63. | Blended guava leather/bar |
| 64. | Ready to reconstitute mustard (<i>Brassica juncea</i>) Saag |
| 65. | Cattle feed from Potato Industry waste |
| 66. | Value added products from meat |
| 67. | Dried Beetroot supplemented extrudates |
| 68. | Energy efficient Bengal gram <i>Sattu</i> making technology |
| 69. | Aonla beverage |
| 70. | Digestive product from Anardana (Anardana Hazmhazam) |
| 71. | Sorghum-soy-blended biscuit |
| 72. | Ber preserves |
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Promotion of micro-irrigation

2262. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a scheme to promote micro-irrigation in the water stressed and quality affected areas across the country;

(b) if so, the details of the area of land covered under the micro-irrigation and whether micro-irrigation is widely used by farmers as a method of irrigation, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the various steps taken by Government for promotion of micro-irrigation in the entire country along with the funds allocated and utilized under the scheme during the last three years, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS

WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) during current financial year in which the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on micro irrigation has been included as one of the components, namely “Per Drop More Crop” for promoting micro-irrigation in all the States across the country which includes water stressed and quality affected areas. As per available information, the total area covered under micro irrigation in the country as on 31-3-2015 was approximately 77.29 lakh hectare. The target area proposed to be covered under micro irrigation during 2015-16 is 5 lakh hectare. The micro irrigation technologies (both Drip and Sprinkler) are quite popular amongst the farmers and adoption rate is also high.

(c) Various steps taken by Government for promotion of micro-irrigation includes (i) Training and awareness programmes, (ii) Awareness through print media and radio and TV talks, (iii) Organization of workshops, seminars and interactive meetings, (iv) Publicity creation through Exhibitions, Fairs and Kisan Melas, (v) Publication of literature and (vi) Short duration films.

The State-wise position regarding Central Government share released and its utilization during the last three years is given in the Statement.

Statement

Central Government share released to various States and its utilization during last three years

Sl. No.	States	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
		Released Amount	Utilized Amount	Released Amount	Utilized Amount	Released Amount	Utilized Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	289.93	270.21	265.56	265.56	121.48	351.10
2.	Bihar	52.00	53.40	57.50	42.00	35.00	2.98
3.	Chhattisgarh	31.72	26.78	30.00	22.50	10.00	6.62
4.	Goa	0.00	0.07	0.17	0.22	0.20	0.10
5.	Gujarat	182.00	182.01	220.00	203.06	140.68	137.06
6.	Haryana	30.00	25.71	33.00	32.16	23.00	16.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Jharkhand	25.00	22.26	15.00	3.30	15.00	0.28
8.	Karnataka	140.65	151.22	173.30	186.19	124.25	117.40
9.	Kerala	3.00	2.60	5.62	0.00	3.75	3.75
10.	Madhya Pradesh	63.84	80.52	106.52	96.82	66.50	67.14
11.	Maharashtra	150.18	152.21	141.01	124.70	177.50	177.50
12.	Odisha	20.00	16.90	25.86	28.81	10.14	10.57
13.	Punjab	10.00	7.46	5.00	5.91	0.00	0.88
14.	Rajasthan	110.00	103.47	80.00	79.29	75.00	95.16
15.	Tamil Nadu	83.00	132.35	86.90	167.92	56.63	87.57
16.	Telangana	NA	NA	NA	NA	77.57	66.02
17.	Uttar Pradesh	5.95	3.93	2.00	3.04	3.00	3.22
18.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.95
21.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	1.50	1.50
22.	Manipur	1.25	0.00	1.50	0.00	2.72	0.00
23.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	6.75	0.00	4.50	0.00
25.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Sikkim	2.00	0.00	5.89	0.00	4.26	4.26
27.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	2.00	2.00
28.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.69
29.	Uttarakhand	1.50	0.70	5.40	6.40	6.98	3.44

NA: Not Applicable since Telangana came into existence in June, 2014.

Utilized amount includes unspent balances of previous year.

Abandoning farming by farmers

2263. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been acute shortage of agricultural workers/labourers in the agriculture sector during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has conducted any survey to assess the number of farmers/agricultural workers/labourers who have left farming/agricultural profession in the country;

(c) if so, the details and the results thereof, State-wise along with the main reasons identified for abandoning of farming by the farmers; and

(d) whether Government has conducted any survey in Vidarbha where farmers are finding it difficult to carry on with agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per Census 2011, the total number of agricultural workers in the country, comprising of cultivators and agricultural labourers, have increased from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011. State/UT-wise number of agricultural workers is given in the Statement (*See below*). However, studies on implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have reported that the scheme has put competing demand on labour in the rural sector, thereby creating a temporary shortage of labour for agricultural operations, particularly, during the peak seasons of sowing and harvesting.

(b) and (c) Government periodically conducts Employment-Unemployment Surveys to assess activity-wise employment levels in the country. These are conducted annually by the Labour Bureau and every five years by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). In addition, under the Population Census conducted by the Registrar General of India (RGI) every ten years, total workers are enumerated on the basis of economic activity. However, no survey has been conducted to assess the number of farmers/agricultural workers/labourers who have left farming/agricultural profession in the country.

(d) The NSSO conducted "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural households" during 70th round (January, 2013-December, 2013), including in Maharashtra, to study various aspects of farming, viz., level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness, resource availability, indebtedness, etc.

Statement*Number of agricultural workers in India (in Million)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cultivators		Agricultural Labourers		Total	
		2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ALL INDIA	127.31	118.81	106.78	144.33	234.09	263.14
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.59	1.25	0.25	0.55	1.84	1.80
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1.95	2.06	0.09	0.18	2.04	2.24
3.	Punjab	2.07	1.93	1.49	1.59	3.56	3.52
4.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Uttarakhand	1.57	1.58	0.26	0.40	1.83	1.98
6.	Haryana	3.02	2.48	1.28	1.53	4.30	4.01
7.	Delhi	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.07
8.	Rajasthan	13.14	13.62	2.52	4.94	15.66	18.56
9.	Uttar Pradesh	22.17	19.06	13.40	19.94	35.57	39.00
10.	Bihar	8.19	7.20	13.42	18.35	21.61	25.55
11.	Sikkim	0.13	0.12	0.02	0.03	0.15	0.15
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.28	0.30	0.02	0.04	0.30	0.34
13.	Nagaland	0.55	0.54	0.03	0.06	0.58	0.60
14.	Manipur (Excl. 3 Sub- divisions)	0.38	0.57	0.11	0.11	0.49	0.69
15.	Mizoram	0.26	0.23	0.03	0.04	0.29	0.27
16.	Tripura	0.31	0.30	0.28	0.35	0.59	0.65
17.	Meghalaya	0.47	0.49	0.17	0.20	0.64	0.69
18.	Assam	3.73	4.06	1.26	1.85	4.99	5.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	West Bengal	5.65	5.12	7.36	10.19	13.01	15.31
20.	Jharkhand	3.89	3.81	2.85	4.44	6.74	8.25
21.	Odisha	4.25	4.10	5.00	6.74	9.25	10.84
22.	Chhattisgarh	4.31	4.00	3.09	5.09	7.40	9.09
23.	Madhya Pradesh	11.04	9.84	7.40	12.19	18.44	22.03
24.	Gujarat	5.80	5.45	5.16	6.84	10.96	12.29
25.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.05
27.	Maharashtra	11.81	12.57	10.82	13.49	22.63	26.06
28.	Andhra Pradesh	7.86	6.49	13.83	16.97	21.69	23.46
29.	Karnataka	6.88	6.58	6.23	7.16	13.11	13.74
30.	Goa	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.09	0.06
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Kerala	0.72	0.67	1.62	1.32	2.34	1.99
33.	Tamil Nadu	5.12	4.25	8.64	9.61	13.76	13.86
34.	Puducherry	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02

Note: The Census 2001 figures for India and Manipur exclude that of Mao Param, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur.

Source: PCA, Census of India, 2011.

Implementation of NAIS

2264. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is covering all the crops that are listed under its mandate, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the crops that are actually benefited from the existence of NAIS;
- (c) how was NAIS beneficial to those farmers who joined this scheme; and
- (d) whether Government will consider expanding the scope of NAIS so that those left out can also be roped in?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) National Agricultural Crop Insurance Scheme (NAIS) envisages coverage of all food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops, in respect of which past yield data is available for adequate number of years and capacity of the State Government/UT administration to conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) to assess the yield of crop. Only one category of crops *i.e.* perennial horticultural crops is not covered under the scheme due to non-availability of yield data based on CCEs for sufficient period and their multi-picking nature. However, perennial horticultural crops can be covered under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). A list of crop so far covered under NAIS is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) NAIS provides insurance coverage and financial support to the insured farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crops as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases and which helps to stabilize farm incomes, particularly in disaster years. Since inception of the scheme during Rabi 1999-2000, 25.58 crore farmers have been covered over an area of 37.33 crore hectares insuring a sum amounting to ₹ 422031.96 crore. Claims to the tune of ₹ 38696.54 crore have been paid against premium of ₹12835.91 crore benefiting about 6.63 crore farmers.

(d) Improvement in crop insurance schemes to make these more scientific in order to better serve the interests of the farmers, is a continuous process and steps are taken in this regard by the Government from time to time. Therefore, based on evaluation studies, experience gained through implementation and feed-back of the stakeholders, and to make the crop insurance scheme more farmer friendly, a restructured scheme in the name of 'National Crop Insurance Programme' (NCIP) has been launched by merging Pilot Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Pilot Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) with various improvements/changes for implementation throughout the country from Rabi 2013-14. However, on the basis of requests received, States have also been allowed to implement the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

Statement*Details of crops covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme*

Sl.No	Crops covered during Rabi season	Crops covered during Kharif season
	Food crops and oil seeds	Food crops and oilseeds
1.	Paddy	Paddy
2.	Wheat	Maize
3.	Jowar	Jowar
4.	Bajra	Bajra
5.	Maize	Ragi
6.	Barley	Moth
7.	Rape and Mustard	Korra
8.	Linseed	Navane
9.	Blackgram	Save
10.	Bengal gram	Blackgram
11.	Greengram	Greengram
12.	Redgram	Horsegram
13.	Horsegram	Redgram
14.	Sunflower	Groundnut
15.	Safflower	Sesamum
16.	Sesamum	Sunflower
17.	Groundnut	Soyabean
18.	Ragi	Niger
19.	Peas	Castor
20.	Lentil	Kodo Kutki

	Annual comm./ hort. crops	Annual comm./ hort. crops
1.	Cotton	Sugarcane
2.	Sugarcane	Banana
3.	Potato	Cotton
4.	Onion	Potato
5.	Ginger	Chilly
6.	Chillies	Ginger
7.	Tapioca	Onion
8.	Banana	Turmeric
9.	Jeera	Pineapple
10.	Garlic	Tapioca
11.	Isabgol	Jute
12.	Sonf	
13.	Brinjal	

Supply of new varieties of seeds to farmers

†2265. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has resolved to strengthen the farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any arrangement has been made to make seeds and fertilizers available to farmers on time; and

(c) if so, the number of panchayats in Bihar where the new kind of seeds and fertilizers have been made available, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To ensure seeds and fertilizers availability to farmers on time the following actions are

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

taken by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW):-

- In the beginning of crop, season seed requirement and source-wise availability of seeds is assessed through the State Agriculture Department.
- As per the requirement, district-wise and source-wise seed distribution target is fixed and this is monitored at state and central levels through regular meetings/reviews.
- To make available chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP & NPK) to farmers on time, the following arrangements have been made by Department of Fertilizers:
- The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of current cropping season.
- On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC&FW, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitoring the availability through following system:
 - (i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS).
 - (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
 - (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
 - (iv) The gap between demand (requirement) and production is met through import.
- (c) In all existing 8460 panchayats in Bihar, new types of seeds have been made available to farmers by implementing various Central and State schemes like Chief Minister Seed Crash Programme, Integrated Seed Village Scheme and Distribution of Certified Seeds through various schemes.

All types of fertilizers which are notified under Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985 are made available in sufficient quantity through 23924 retail fertilizers dealers to the farmers in the State.

Demand and production of rice and wheat

2266. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of rice and wheat during the last three years ending 2014-15;
- (b) the gap between the demand for these grains and their production;
- (c) the estimate of production of these grains during 2015-16 and 2016-17;
- (d) the gap, if any, between the demand and supply of these grains in these two years; and
- (e) how shall Government fill up this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The details of estimated production *vis-a-vis* projected demand and gap between production and demand of rice and wheat in the country during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2014-15 are as under:

(In Million Tonnes)

Year	Estimated Production		Projected Demand		Gap (Production -Demand)	
	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat
2012-13	105.24	93.51	105.00	82.00	0.24	11.51
2013-14	106.65	95.85	106.00	84.00	0.65	11.85
2014-15	104.80*	88.94*	107.00	85.00	-2.20	3.94

* As per 4th Advance Estimates

(c) and (d) The details of projected demand of rice and wheat in the country for 2015-16 and 2016-17 are as under:-

(Million tonnes)

Year	Projected Demand	
	Rice	Wheat
2015-16	108.00	87.00
2016-17	109.00	89.00

The annual estimates of production of rice and wheat for 2015-16 and 2016-17 are not yet available. However, as per demand/supply projections of Working Group of Planning Commission for Twelfth Five Year Plan, the supply/production of total cereals (rice + wheat + coarse cereals) for the terminal year of Twelfth Plan period *i.e.* 2016-17 is projected to be 240-251 million tonnes which is higher than their projected demand of 235 million tonnes for the year.

(e) Except for rice in 2014-15, which had deficient monsoon rainfall, the current production levels of rice and wheat in the country have been higher than their projected demand. In order to meet the requirement of above commodities on sustainable basis, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM)- Rice/Wheat, Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

Under these Schemes/Programmes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State-specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for use of quality seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization, etc. The States are also provided support for creation of agricultural infrastructure for optimal use of water and other natural resources.

To achieve higher productivity of agricultural crops including rice and wheat, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also conducting basic and strategic research relating to crop improvement, production and protection technologies suitable to different situations including development of location-specific varieties/hybrids and technologies.

Suicide by farmers

2267. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicide by farmers in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15; and

(b) the actions taken by Government to prevent suicide by farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs Report entitled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India', the number of suicides due to various causes during the year 2013 and 2014 are as under:

	2013	2014	
		Farmers	Labourers
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Gujarat	582	45	555
Rajasthan	292	0	373
Maharashtra	3146	2568	1436
Madhya Pradesh	1090	826	372

The NCRB reports for the calendar year January to December 2014, has delineated for the first time the suicides under two sub-categories, namely, farmers and agricultural labourers. Further, during the year 2014, NCRB has reported that out of the total number of farmer suicides in column 2 above, those due to farming related issues and bankruptcy or indebtedness are as follows:-

	Year 2014	
	Farming related issues	Bankruptcy or indebtedness
Gujarat	3	0
Rajasthan	0	0
Maharashtra	352	857
Madhya Pradesh	119	1

Farming related issues as per NCRB Report 2014 include (i) failure of crop (a) due to natural calamities (b) due to other reasons and (ii) inability to sell. Bankruptcy or indebtedness as per NCRB Report 2014 include (i) due to crop loan (ii) due to farm equipments loan and (iii) due to non agricultural loan.

NCRB Report for the year 2015 is not yet published. However, as reported by the State Governments, the number of farmer suicides are as follows:

	2015	Date reported on
Gujarat	1	31-07-2015
Rajasthan	1	21-04-2015
Maharashtra	725	30-09-2015
Madhya Pradesh	0	03-06-2015

(b) The Government believes, that farmers welfare will improve if there is increase in net income from the farms. With this end in view, the approach is to reduce cost of cultivation, enable higher yield per unit and realize remunerative prices. Some of the important new initiatives in this context are :

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the exact nutrient level available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and save money. The balanced use of fertiliser will also enhance productivity and ensure higher returns to the farmers.
- (ii) Neem Coated Urea is being promoted to regulate urea use, enhance its availability to the crop and cut on cost. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promoting organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- (iv) The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) is another innovative scheme to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.

- (v) The Government is also implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes - National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET); National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP); Unified National Agriculture Markets; and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).
- (vi) The Government undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its ' Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations'. In addition, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under the Minimum Price Support Scheme on the request of State/UT Government. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared by the Central Government and the concerned State Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). Profit, if any, earned by the procuring agencies is retained by them.

Setting up of relief fund for distressed farmers

2268. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given financial assistance as relief to farmers in case of inadequate monsoon;
- (b) if so, the details of amount sanctioned and disbursed during last one year, State-wise including West Bengal;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to put in place a dedicated relief fund for the distressed farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, will Government consider any such plan in near future; and
- (e) how many farmers across the country have committed suicide due to financial distress and crop failure in last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) During Kharif 2015, the Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan declared

drought in parts of their States and submitted memoranda seeking financial assistance for drought affected areas from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). No Memorandum for financial assistance from NDRF on account of drought has been received from the State Government of West Bengal. An amount of ₹ 1540.20 crore has been approved for Karnataka from NDRF. The proposals from other States are at various stages of processing / finalisation. Details of financial assistance approved for the last one is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) A State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and a National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) has already been established to provide relief including to distressed farmers in the eventuality of notified natural calamities.

(e) As per the data released by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 1163 farmers committed suicide due to indebtedness and 952 due to crop failure during the year 2014.

Statement

*Details of financial assistance approved from NDRF
for the year 2014-15 for drought*

Sl. No.	State	Assistance sought	Assistance approved from NDRF
1.	Haryana	4829.25	168.87
2.	Uttar Pradesh	4819.49	777.34
3.	Karnataka	779.20	200.85
4.	Maharashtra	6013.28	1962.99
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1532.00	237.51

Policy to tackle drought and floods

2269. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any policy to save the farmers from drought/ floods, etc., if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, and the Government's reaction thereto?

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

Besides, Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 600 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of any extreme climatic events. Further, in order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pest and diseases and weather conditions, Government of India has recently introduced the National Crop Insurance Scheme (NCIP) with component schemes of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which was to be withdrawn after implementation of NCIP from Rabi 2013-14 has been extended further.

Adverse impact of global warming

2270. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study/survey on the adverse impact of global warming on agriculture which has manifested unusual trends such as erratic rainfall, shrinking forest cover, rising temperature and increasing food insecurity in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the findings of the study along with the regions identified as most vulnerable to climate change/global warming in the country, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps/launched any schemes to mitigate the impact of global warming on agriculture sector and if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is actively studying impact of

global warming on agriculture since 2004. Research studies indicate more erratic and intense monsoon rains/unseasonal rains and hailstorm, increasing risk of droughts and floods and rise in temperature including increased frequency of warm days. This leads to projected average reduction of yield by 6% in wheat, 4-6% in rice, 18% in maize, 2.5% in sorghum, 2% in mustard and 2.5% in potato. The crop yield were projected more vulnerable in Central and East India for wheat; Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan for irrigated rice, Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Assam for rainfed rice; Central India for mustard and Punjab, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for potato. Further, ICAR, CRIDA has also mapped 572 districts of the country for their vulnerability to extreme events due to climate change. The vulnerability was assessed high to very high in 230 districts, medium in 114 districts and low to very low in 228 districts. The details are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ No.2249,part(c)]

(c) Yes, Sir. ICAR has taken a major initiative by launching a network project, “National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)” in 2011 to enhance resilience of Indian agriculture to climate change through strategic research and technology demonstration. Another programme of Department of Agricultural Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) focuses to transform Indian agriculture into a climate resilient production system through suitable adaptation and mitigation measures mainly in the domain of crops and animal husbandry. The adaptation and mitigation measures are devised to ensure food security, equitable access to food resources, enhance livelihood opportunities and economic stability of people through four major components of Rainfed Area Development (RAD), On-Farm Water Management (OFWM), Soil Health Management (SHM) and Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture Modeling and Networking (CCSAMN).

New legislation for crop insurance

2271. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of farmers availing the crop insurance scheme throughout the country, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government has considered to introduce a new legislation to provide crop insurance to farmers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS

WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) State-wise percentage of farmers availing the crop insurance in the country is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir.

Statement

State-wise percentage of farmers availing crop insurance schemes in the country

State	Total Operational holding	Scheme-wise No. of Farmers Insured Year 2014-15			Total No. of farmers insured	% of No. of farmers insured (All Schemes)
		NAIS	MNAIS	WBCIS		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	13175100	308791	966968	167152	1442911	10.95%
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11803	0	783	0	783	6.63%
Assam	2720223	26538	0	23351	49889	1.83%
Bihar	16191391	1579229	447997	1850302	3877528	23.95%
Chhattisgarh	3746480	94188	0	974199	1068387	28.52%
Goa	78020	0	160	0	160	0.21%
Gujarat	4885610	660855	0	0	660855	13.53%
Haryana	1617311	0	0	22	22	0.00%
Himachal Pradesh	960765	32755	0	99015	131770	13.72%
Jammu and Kashmir	1449397	0	0	1364	1364	0.09%
Jharkhand	2708928	64644	35334	158589	258567	9.54%
Karnataka	7832189	0	938570	174771	1113341	14.21%
Kerala	6830789	0	19904	29502	49406	0.72%
Madhya Pradesh	8872377	4990892	0	168771	5159663	58.15%
Maharashtra	13698965	5594625	0	1424794	7019419	51.24%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Manipur	150620	3472	0	0	3472	2.31%
Meghalaya	209561	2010	0	0	2010	0.96%
Mizoram	91880	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Odisha	4667466	1918490	0	0	1918490	41.10%
Puducherry	33228	1541	0	0	1541	4.64%
Rajasthan**	6888436	**	**	**	**	**
Sikkim	74928	19	0	0	19	0.03%
Tamil Nadu	8118224	543048	44817	0	587865	7.24%
Telangana*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Tripura	578479	324	0	0	324	0.06%
Uttarakhand	912650	0	37987	41246	79233	8.68%
Uttar Pradesh	23325456	0	1488070	284520	1772590	7.60%
West Bengal	7123347	751827	1079087	3408	1834322	25.75%
TOTAL	136953623	16573248	9094147	11253264	36920659	26.96%

* Telangana included in Andhra Pradesh

** Not received.

- Data on State-wise total operations holding are taken from MOA publication - Agriculture Statistics at a Glance-2014 (Base Year 2010-11)
- The figures for farmers insured on all schemes are for Year 2014-15 (All Companies combined as information provided by the private companies) for Kharif 2014 and Rabi 2014-15.
- NAIS is implemented by AIC only

Proposal for universal crop insurance scheme

2272. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any crops have been damaged due to untimely rains and other natural calamities in the country in the current year;

- (b) if so, the details and the estimates of the losses thereof;
- (c) the number of farmers covered and the quantum of funds disbursed under various crop insurance schemes since last two years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government has any proposal to introduce a Universal crop insurance scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) In view of the deficit rainfall during South West Monsoon, 2015, many States are facing drought situation. As reported by State Governments, during Kharif 2015, the Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan declared drought in parts of their States. These State Governments submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance: ₹ 3830.84 crore by Karnataka, ₹ 6093.79 crore by Chhattisgarh, ₹ 4821.64 crore by Madhya Pradesh, ₹ 4002.82 crore by Maharashtra, ₹ 1687.56 crore by Odisha, ₹ 2057.79 crore by Uttar Pradesh, ₹ 2514.03 crore by Telangana, ₹ 2000.56 crore by Andhra Pradesh, ₹ 1140.77 crore by Jharkhand and ₹ 10517.46 crore by Rajasthan from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An amount of ₹ 1540.20 crore has been approved for Karnataka from NDRF. The proposals from other States are at various stages of processing / finalization. Financial assistance under SDRF/(NDRF) in the wake of natural calamities is by way of relief and is not for compensation of loss as suffered.

(c) to (e) In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pest and diseases and weather conditions, Government of India has recently introduced the National Crop Insurance Scheme (NCIP) with component schemes of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which was to be withdrawn after implementation of NCIP from Rabi 2013-14 has been extended further. Improvement in crop insurance schemes to make them more scientific and to better serve the interests of the farmers is a continuous process and steps are taken in this regard by the Government from time to time. Details of Number of farmers covered and claim disbursed during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is given in the Statement.

Statement*National Agriculture Insurance Scheme - MNAIS**AIC Business Stats from Kharif 2012 to Kharif 2015*

State	Kharif 2012				Rabi 2012-13				Kharif 2013				Rabi 2013-14			
	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
Andhra Pradesh	1204398	4866.59	70842	360048	15962.98	72877	932255	7939.56	89951	296044	926.76	25978				
Assam	32053	94.93	1654	24012	100.28	2097	30678	36.15	561	22741	98.99	1908				
Bihar	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0				
Chhattisgarh	1182203	160.69	22559	240	0.00	0	650602	1617.08	34665	0	0.00	0				
Goa	282	0.00	0	6	0.00	0	315	0.00	0	3	0.00	0				
Gujarat	1143768	219063.62	850725	32772	1172.82	16035	1005105	3808.55	42521	27114	1.51	304				
Haryana	2434	6.82	403	4508	1.41	207	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0				
Himachal Pradesh	16372	73.33	2366	12169	0.00	0	11017	36.75	1396	0	0.00	0				
Jharkhand	395693	956.13	60320	18141	64.53	2077	188478	15.81	2635	0	0.00	0				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Karnataka	422250	12970.93	183328	124268	2911.64	66461	236001	1309.42	21652	0	0.00	0
Kerala	9469	7.70	185	19991	472.50	8601	6898	7.65	374	11386	76.54	627
Madhya Pradesh	2032541	7507.77	74565	1986125	31681.63	359509	2337102	218906.14	1421570	2362060	43333.17	591192
Maharashtra	1330087	20153.40	417062	992274	56584.98	900875	1484258	8854.86	287244	258231	1468.79	67303
Manipur	4992	466.51	4992	683	0.00	0	5030	0.00	0	0	0.00	0
Meghalaya	1556	0.00	0	1584	0.00	0	2280	5.09	94	1197	0.00	0
Mizoram	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0
Odisha	1445986	6119.35	87601	76983	543.88	12068	1309088	39741.67	373261	0	0.00	0
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0
Sikkim	0	0.00	0	4	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0
Tamil Nadu	96708	3795.86	33849	986222	89897.16	887373	99918	2157.88	27037	476424	44448.22	170586
Telangana												
Tripura	859	000	0	79	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0
Uttar Pradesh	736405	929.04	28107	1030826	2866.94	106910	85,3919	1,3097.30	182809	0	0.00	0
Uttarakhand	24676	19.13	1894	15472	39.49	1219	1,3088	4.92	672	0	0.00	0
West Bengal	560436	1376.24	68882	445831	2936.70	107261	574589	12400.12	298318	516392	14005.83	138162

Andaman and Nicobar Islands	624	11.36	260	0	0.00	0	962	95.47	506	224	0.00	0
Puducherry	1750	0.00	0	1709	17.12	366	467	3.87	38	1726	1.44	122
Jammu and Kashmir	3812	0.00	0	7730	0.88	17	4545	2.35	183	0	0.00	0
TOTAL	10649354	278579.40	1909594	6141677	205254.95	2543953	9746595	310040.64	2785487	3973542	104361.26	996182
State	Kharif 2014						Rabi 2014-15			Kharif 2015		
	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	No. of Farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of Farmers benefitted	
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
Andhra Pradesh	0	0.00	0	42748	0.00	0	232435					
Assam	2895	2.81	57	23643	24.90	282	1628					
Bihar	0	0.00	0	1579229	112882.17	838856	906517					
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0	94188	110.86	5846	580454					
Goa	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0					

1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Gujarat	658907	50248.23	191579	1948	74.91	578	502922		
Haryana	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0		
Himachal Pradesh	16573	18.30	272	16182	27.32	130	8048		
Jharkhand	0	0.00	0	64644	166.88	5163	472679		
Karnataka	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	783091		
Kerala	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0		
Madhya Pradesh	2454304	54221.20	425136	25.36588	15086.81	0	1960647		
Maharashtra	4479025	159564.58	3486655	1115600	21098.40	683696	7214557		
Manipur	3472	185.13	3472	0	0.00	0	4683		
Meghalaya	1172	0.00	0	838	16.28	838	255		
Mizoram	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0		
Odisha	1800908	25534.61	175680	117582	796.62	10575	1819229		
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0		
Sikkim	0	0.00	0	19	0.00	0	11		
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00	0	543048	1044.17	8121	89635		
Telangana	266043	2204.19	53591	0	0.00	0	305709		

Tripura	0	0.00	0	324	0.00	0	482
Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
Uttarakhand	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
West Bengal	0	0.00	0	751827	10833.11	162628	752653
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	129
Puducherry	273	1.76	72	1268	0.00	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
TOTAL	9683572	291980.82	4336514	6889676	162162.44	1716713	15635764
							0

Note : final yield data for calculation of admissibility of claims for some crops of Rabi 2014-15 seasons and Kharif 2015 season are not received from concerned State Governments.

All Companies Business Stats from Kharif 2012 to Kharif 2015

[illegible]

Madhya Pradesh	41465	18.44	568	14853	192.32	1997	57364	49.43	1262
Mizoram	59	0.77	59						
Odisha	21246	297.44	4891	295608	20528.63	182604	53405	90.40	813
Rajasthan	677386	3622.70	127131	461411	942.54	44963	751403	4617.40	242952
Tamil Nadu	154545	5647.87	87926	7684	374.99	3459	101344	11100.61	70778
Telangana									
Uttar Pradesh	34854	82.54	1855	30468	9.51	1381	38842	96.98	5220
Uttarakhand	17250	6.08	710	2943	0.00	0	15644	229.92	3671
West Bengal			29701	2	2874.47	40264			
TOTAL	2062445	62345.36	605637	949009	5361.55	113335	2361334	85469.75	962605
							2997404	52757.48	803094

State	Kharif 2014				Rabi 2014-15				Kharif 2015			
	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers benefitted	No. of farmers insured	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers insured	No. of farmers benefitted		
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
Andhra Pradesh	167574	1127.05	16401	98809	1002.78	5937	356473	Claims under Process				

1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	686	5.71	175	97	0.16	9			
Assam									
Bihar	447997	999.44	30010						
Goa	155	0.00	0	5	0.00	0			99 Claims under Process
Gujarat									
Haryana									
Jharkhand	35334	35.17	938						
Karnataka	906617	14870.46	311986	31953	541.82	6125			
Kerala	6545	424.78	1367	13359	6.02	27			9824 Claims under Process
Madhya Pradesh									
Mizoram									
Odisha									
Rajasthan	2565676	26931.01	896582	1468794	20412.59	602927			483365 Claims under Process
Tamil Nadu	44817					Claims under Process			
Telangana						700585Claims under Process			

Uttar Pradesh	618203	10338.6	1	176063	869867	57154.27	711917	1176108	Claims under Process
Uttarakhand	23725	77.64		4105	14262	863.93	10094	48897	Claims under Process
West Bengal	1079087	6970.84		132346					
TOTAL	5896416	61780.69		1569973	3197731	79981.56	1337036	2074766	0

Note : final yield data for calculation of admissibility of claims for some crops of Rabi 2014-15 seasons and Kharif 2015 seasons are not received from concerned State Governments.

Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme - WBCIS

All Companies Business Stats from Kharif 2012 to Kharif 2015

State	Kharif 2012			Rabi 2012-13			Kharif 2013			Rabi 2013-14		
	No. of farmers	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers	No. of farmers	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers	No. of farmers	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers	No. of farmers	Claims (in ₹ Lakh)	No. of farmers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	921061	34794.74	664708	10791	991,29754	8159	820242	28254.969	588724	8129	406.8847	5036
Assam										859	35.39695	853

[illegible]

	43282	173.402	5	36832	62105	311.47617	58796	229760	4750.2437	226734	102876	993.3585	63775
Uttar Pradesh													
Uttarakhand	17639	2313.169		17639	3196	139.23937	2474	38329	1106.2818	18924	5219	335.71983	4239
West Bengal	2560	11.19877		1259	4253	76.14677	1398	5877	33.838747	5502	904	2.88731	769
TOTAL	8008123	87611.879		6750827	5606265	106081.71	4062209	8854162	119578.68	6854287	5302443	81685.257	3785391

[illegible]

1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Haryana				22	0.7934	7			
Himachal Pradesh	856	10.835295	856	98159	3454.933	93357	12321	62.91	2790
Jharkhand	158589	2638.9779	158589						
Jammu and Kashmir	1364	54.177473	1364						
Karnataka	169025	5459.606	119260	5746	1030.5084	5282			
Kerala	17897	90.956943	12908	11605	193.9527	9807	14492		Claims Under Process
Madhya Pradesh	68122	1374.0643	68122	100649	3473.3965	97413	77464		Claims Under Process
Maharashtra	1291123	28475.953	1173967	133671	12531.014	97676	687522	114.2605	429
Odisha									
Punjab									
Rajasthan	3300321	14091.969	2695536	2551937	56472.05	2417623	3322287		Claims Under Process
Tamil Nadu									
Telangana	69507	5518.0527	68721	1031	ClaimsUnder Process		91452		Claims Under Process
Uttar Pradesh	120392	6624.0007	120392	164128	2542.5059	158056	336533.9	15164.193	153181
Uttarakhand	34179	2739.6696	30990	7067	483.1669	6944	36960	444.48576	16510
West Bengal	2707	Claims Under Process		701	ClaimsUnder Process		13857		Claims Under Process
TOTAL	8173731	123574.46	6722691	3079533	80211.46	2886670	5348028.9	15808.8148	1729010

Drought in Odisha

2273. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the severe drought situation prevailing in the State of Odisha, the Chief Minister has requested the Prime Minister to consider timely financial assistance to protect the interest of the small, marginal and medium farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Odisha submitted a memorandum seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Fund (NDRF) in the wake of drought. The details of the proposal are as follows:

(₹ in crore)

Sector	Demand by the State Government
Agriculture	416.274
Cooperation	912.66
Water Resources	52.49
Animal Husbandry	81.00
Gratuitous Relief	200.357
Drinking Water Supply	24.78
TOTAL	1687.561

(c) An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted by the Central Government which has visited the drought affected areas in State for assessment of the drought situation. The Central Government will consider the IMCT report before finalizing the quantum of assistance to be provided to Odisha from the NDRF.

Mechanism to supervise royalty payments

2274. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether BT Cotton accounts for nearly 45 per cent of the industry and National Seed Association of India (NSAI) and farmers have paid over ₹5000 crore to a leading multinational seed company as royalty so far, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether the Hybrid seed producers' body wants Government to intervene and ensure a regulatory mechanism to supervise and determine royalty payments and licensing of hybrid technologies; and

(c) whether NSAI has urged the said company to slash royalty payments taking into account ceilings fixed by number of State Governments but failed to elicit positive response, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) National Seed Association of India (NSAI) has reported that Bt. Cotton accounts for nearly 45% in terms of value of the Indian seed industry and from 2002 to 2014, more than ₹ 5000 crores had been paid as royalty to the technology provider.

(b) Farmers Organizations and NSAI had requested this Department to intervene to regulate royalty charges for Bt. Cotton technology being charged by Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited. This Department has issued Cotton Seed Price (Control) Order, 2015 under Section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 so as to regulate cotton seed prices. The matter has also been referred to Competition Commission of India to investigate the allegations of monopolistic practices by Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited.

(c) NSAI has reported that their request to Mahyco-Monsanto Biotech (India) Limited, the technology provider, to reduce royalty payments has not elicited a positive response and that the matter is pending adjudication in the court.

Promoting organic farming

2275. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government for promoting organic farming in the country;
- (b) the type of incentives being given to farmers to produce organic food in the country, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the future plan/road-map of Government in respect of organic farming in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) To promote organic farming in the country, Government is providing financial assistance to the State Governments under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Paramparagat Krishi Yojana (PKVY). Details of pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Details regarding State-wise fund released during the year 2015-16 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The Policy of Government is to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading, and socially acceptable use of natural resources in favour of organic agriculture. It seeks to actualize the area and crop potential for organic farming, sustaining soil fertility, conserving bio-resources, strengthening rural economy, promoting value addition, for accelerating the growth of agro-business and securing a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families.

Organic farming shall be promoted in such areas like hilly, tribal and also rain-fed where utilization of chemical fertilizers and pesticide is less.

Statement-I

Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic/ Bio-fertilizers

Component	Pattern of assistance
1	2
NMSA	
1. Setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/ Agro waste compost production unit.	100% Assistance to State Govt./Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190 lakh /unit and 33% of cost limited to ₹63

1	2
	lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for 3000 TPA production capacity.
2. Setting up of state-of-art liquid/ carrier based Biofertilizer/ Biopesticide units	100% Assistance to State Govt./Govt. Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹160 lakh /unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹ 40 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity
3. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid / solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/ - per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.
MIDH	
Vermi compost Units/organic input production	50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30' X8' X2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on pro-rata basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 eft (12' x4' x2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on pro-rata basis (₹ 100,000/unit for permanent structure and ₹ 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed).
PKVY	
Adoption of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification through cluster approach	The cluster chosen for Organic Farming shall be 50 acres in extent and contiguous as far as possible. In order to facilitate this, the ceiling of subsidy that a farmer is eligible shall be a maximum of one hectare and the total financial assistance eligible for a 50 acre cluster shall be a maximum of ₹ 10(ten) lakhs for farmer members and ₹ 4.95 lakh for mobilization and PGS Certification.

Statement-II*Annual Action Plan of PKVY during the year 2015-16 (till 05.11.2015)*

Sl. No.	State	Allocation of Funds 50:50 ratio (₹ in lakhs) State Centre		No. of Cluster	Total outlay approved by EC. (₹ in lakhs)	75% of (GOI Share) released of funds. (₹ in lakhs)
1	2	3		4	5	6
1.	Assam	1518	1518	220	1552.42	576.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	263	263	19	137.08	51.41
3.	Andhra Pradesh	1452	1452	411	2933.75	1100.15
4.	Bihar	1169	1169	327	2336.15	728.98
5.	Chhattisgarh	693	693	188	1341.96	503.24
6.	Goa	69	69	04	28.55	7.14
7.	Gujarat	1663	1663	100	713.81	178.45
8.	Haryana	373	373	20	142.76	53.53
9.	Himachal Pradesh	395	395	110	768.52	288.19
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	209	209	28	199.87	74.95
11.	Jharkhand	479	479	100	713.80	178.45
12.	Karnataka	1926	1926	545	3890.26	1458.86
13.	Kerala	631	631	119	849.38	318.52
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3108	3108	880	6281.50	2355.56
15.	Maharashtra	3293	3293	932	6929.36	2598.51
16.	Mizoram	122	122	34	237.54	89.08
17.	Manipur	109	109	30	214.14	53.53

1	2	3		4	5	6
18.	Nagaland	171	171	24	171.31	64.24
19.	Odisha	1180	1180	320	2284.19	856.57
20.	Punjab	566	566	50	356.90	89.22
21.	Rajasthan	2614	2614	755	5274.86	1978.07
22.	Sikkim	472	472	150	818.21	306.83
23.	Tamil Nadu	1376	1376	112	799.46	299.80
24.	Tripura	183	183	50	356.90	133.84
25.	Telangana	1053	1053	300	2141.42	803.03
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3074	3074	575	4104.39	1534.68
27.	Uttarakhand	481	481	550	3925.94	981.485
28.	West Bengal	1057	1057	120	856.57	214.14
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	486	486	68	485.38	
TOTAL		30185	30185	7141	50846.38	17876.84
					25423.19	Say 179
					Say 254	crore
					crore 50%	59.66%

Distress among oil palm cultivators of Andhra Pradesh

2276. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the distress among oil palm cultivators in Andhra Pradesh owing to price slump;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking up any market intervention operations to avert the distressed farmers from committing suicide; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for procurement of oil palm Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFBs) under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during the current crop season. The proposal is under consideration.

(c) Doesn't arise.

Reduction in farm subsidies

2277. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand from World Trade Organization (WTO) to the Government to reduce farm subsidies, if so, the reaction of Government to such a demand; and

(b) the per capita subsidy in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) No, Sir. However, in Doha round of trade negotiations, reductions and disciplines on agricultural subsidies are being negotiated.

(b) As per notification sent by Department of Commerce to World Trade Organization (WTO), India's agriculture subsidies (*i.e.* investment subsidies and input subsidies) for 2010 notified to the World Trade Organization is US \$ 31,610.27 million.

Production rate of chemicals and pesticides

†2278. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of producing pesticides by leading chemical and petrochemical industries in the country during last three years;

(b) whether the rate of production of main chemicals has gone down;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Government to enhance production rate of chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The rate of producing Pesticides (Technical Grade) by the manufactures under large and medium scale of chemical and petrochemical industries in the country during last three years is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	(In Thousand Metric Tonne)
2012-13	155.424
2013-14	179.379
2014-15	186.834

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Chemical sector is delicensed and decontrolled. The entrepreneurs are setting up units in the private sector based on techno economic feasibility, demand and supply scenario and cost of feedstock/raw materials. Government has taken various steps including rationalization of custom duty on the feedstock/building blocks for having synergy in the complete value chain for boosting the Chemical sector and competitiveness of the industry in the country. In addition, various seminars/workshops including INDIA-CHEM 2014 were held for exchange of technology, ideas and innovations in the fields of chemicals for growth in the chemical sector.

High prices of Life Saving Drugs

2279. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no clear definition of Life Saving Drugs in Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013;

(b) whether, due to this lacuna, Life Saving Drugs are very costly and are out of reach of poor patients; and

(c) whether Government will come forward to rectify this lacuna, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) "Life saving drugs" are not defined in the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 2013. However, pursuant to the announcement of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP), 2012, Government notified Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 15th May, 2013. All medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the First Schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. Under DPCO, 2013. Prices of drugs are fixed on 'Market based pricing' methodology. 'Market based pricing'

methodology has been adopted in accordance with the principles outlined in the NPPP, 2012.

Out of total 680 NLEM medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed the ceiling prices in respect of 530 medicines based on market price data under provisions of the said order. Ceiling prices so fixed in accordance with the provisions of DPCO, 2013 are uniformly applied in retail marketing across the country for all medicines sold in either brand name or generic name. These also include medicines used for treatment of cardiovascular/heart disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, cancer, tuberculosis and kidney disease, specified in the Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013. Consequent to the price fixation of drugs under this order, affordability of the medicines has improved considerably.

Fall in price of urea in international market

2280. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the price of urea in the international market has registered a steep fall in the recent times;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the current import cost of urea; and
- (c) whether this steep fall will hamper the revival prospects of closed urea manufacturing units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Urea prices are determined by demand and supply of urea in the international market. The prices of urea shows a decline trend during the current year. The price of urea determined in the last tender opened in November, 2015 is from US\$ 254.44 to US\$ 255.94 per MT CFR. The details of urea imported through three STEs during the last three years and current year upto 30th November, 2015 and the weighted average price year-wise is as below:

Year	Quantity (in LMT)	Wt. Avg. Price (in US\$ PMT)
2012-13	62.11	417.40
2013-14	49.68	322.66
2014-15	72.86	303.94
2015-16*	42.29	290.01

* upto November, 2015

(c) The revival of the closed units of urea in the country is governed by the provisions of the New Investment Policy (NIP), 2012 announced by the Government on 2nd January, 2013 and amended on 7th October, 2014. The steep fall in the price of urea in international market, if it so happens, is not likely to affect the revival prospect of closed fertiliser units, since these issues are addressed in NIP 2012 by way of floor and ceiling price.

Fertilizer subsidy

2281. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that due to lack of sufficient allocation of fertilizer subsidy, the Urea producers are facing cash crunch forcing them to take bank loans for fulfilling requirement or work capital, thereby leading to huge bank interest payment;

(b) if so, the details thereof including effect of Urea industry and overall and production in the country;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide interest subsidy to extend relief or urea producers, the details thereof;

(d) the other steps, including budget subsidy, enhancement, taken contemplated by Government for improving the condition of Urea producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) Against the budgetary allocation of ₹ 38200 crores, an amount of ₹ 37814.85 crores covering subsidy on indigenous Urea produced upto the month of August 2015, has already been paid to the urea manufacturers leaving a balance of ₹ 385.15 crores. In order to meet the subsequent budgetary requirements for payment of urea subsidy, the Department has taken up with the Ministry of Finance for making additional allocation of ₹ 26190 crores under the supplementary grants. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Finance has also been requested to allow the Department of Fertilizers to avail loans to the tune of ₹ 26190 crores from nationalised banks under a Special Banking Arrangement and make payment of urea subsidy to indigenous urea manufacturers.

There have been no reports relating to loss of production on account of delay in subsidy payment.

Opening of more Jan Aushadhi stores

2282. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Jan Aushadhi stores opened in the country as on 31 October, 2015 particularly in Maharashtra along with their locations;

(b) whether Government proposes to open more such stores in Odisha particularly in its tribal and left wing extremism affected districts;

(c) if so, the targets fixed in this regard for the remaining period of Twelfth Five Year Plan, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to render necessary assistance to the individuals/agencies to open these stores in the far-flung areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As on 31st October, 2015, 184 Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) had been opened across 17 State/UTs, out of which 103 Jan Aushadhi Stores were operational. Out of these 103 Jan Aushadhi Stores 1 store is functional in Maharashtra as on 31st October, 2015. This store is located at: Jan Aushadhi Store, HAL Colony, Pimpri, Pune.

(b) In Odisha, 23 Jan Aushadhi Stores are functional as on date. Seven (7) more applications for new Jan Aushadhi Stores in Odisha have been approved and are now in the process of obtaining Drug Licenses and agreement signing. Efforts are on to open even more Jan Aushadhi Stores.

(c) As per the original plan, the objective was to open one Jan Aushadhi Store in each of the 630 districts of the country. Later, a new business plan was prepared in August, 2013 and the objective was revised to open 3000 stores across the country by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan period 2012-2017. As per the new action plan of opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores, they can be opened anywhere in the country.

(d) JAS run by private entrepreneurs/pharmacists/NGOs and Charitable organizations that are linked with Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) headquarters through internet will get incentive up to ₹ 1.5 lakhs. This will be given @10% of monthly sales subject to a ceiling of ₹ 10,000/- per month up to a limit of ₹ 1.5 lakhs. In NE States, Naxal affected areas and tribal areas, the rate of incentive will be 15% and subject to a monthly ceiling of ₹ 15,000 and total limit of ₹ 1.5 lakhs.

Decrease in prices of chemical fertilizers

2283. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of chemical fertilizers have decreased during the current year as compared to the last year;
- (b) if so, the details of the percentage decrease;
- (c) whether as a result of this, farmers would get chemical fertilizers at relatively low rates; and
- (d) if so, the percentage of decrease in prices of chemical fertilizers likely to be made in the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The price of Urea, which is fixed statutorily, has been kept at the same rate since November, 2012. However, the Maximum Retail Prices of subsidised Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers, which have been allowed to be fixed as per the market dynamics by the fertilizer companies, have registered a slight increase during the current year *inter alia* due to depreciation of Indian rupee against USD. A statement showing increase/decrease in average MRP of some of the subsidised P&K fertilizer grades is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement***Decrease in prices of chemical fertilizers***

Sl. No	Fert. Grade	Average MRP for 2014-15	Average MRP for 2015-16 (upto Oct.)	Percentage increase/ decrease
1	2	3	4	5
1.	DAP : 18-46-0-0	23782	25590	7.60
2.	MOP: 0-0-60-0	16782	16860	0.46
3.	16-20-0-13	18166	17226	-5.17
4.	20-20-0-13	18549	19026	2.57

1	2	3	4	5
5.	10-26-26-0	22193	23158	4.35
6.	12-32-16	22390	23137	3.34
7.	15-15-15	15484	18597	20.10
8.	AS : 20.6-0-0-23	12693	13444	5.92
9.	20-20-0-0	16694	17770	6.44
10.	28-28-0-0	23745	24869	4.73
11.	17-17-17	22161	22832	3.03
12.	SSP	7693	8078	5.00
13.	16-16-16-0	17833	18900	5.98

Supply of fertilizers to farmers

2284. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers are not getting fertilizers on time, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether farmers are suffering for want of fertilizers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon;
- (d) whether sub-standard fertilizers are being marketed, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by Government against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Sir, Farmers are getting fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP & NPK) on time. To ensure adequate availability on time, the Department of Fertilizers takes following steps:-

- (1) The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.
- (2) On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC&FW,

Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system: -

(i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);

(ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.

(iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

(iv) The gap between demand (requirement) and production is met through import.

(d) and (e) Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 has been promulgated to regulate quality of fertilizers. Specifications of fertilizers are prescribed in the said Order. Samples of fertilizers are drawn periodically by the fertilizer inspectors of the State Governments from retailers/wholesalers, manufacturing units etc. for testing in the notified laboratories to check their quality in respect of the quality parameters prescribed in the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. In case of imported fertilizers, the fertilizer inspectors of the Central Government (Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute and its regional centers) draw the samples from the ships/containers. The test results of some of the samples are found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the order.

Details regarding State-wise percentage of samples of fertilizers found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the Fertilizer (Control) Order during the year 2013-14 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

State Governments are empowered under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to take appropriate administrative and legal action against those not complying with the provisions prescribed in the Order. Details of follow-up action taken by the State Governments during the year 2013-14 in respect of samples found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise number of samples of fertilizers analysed and found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters during the year 2013-14

Sl. No.	States	No. of samples analysed	No. of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	324	11	3.4
2.	Mizoram	1	0	0.0
3.	Jharkhand	723	29	4.0
4.	Bihar	2080	64	3.1
5.	Odisha	3398	241	7.1
6.	West Bengal	2387	253	10.6
7.	Gujarat	14623	159	1.1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	6671	877	13.1
9.	Chhattisgarh	2171	117	5.4
10.	Maharashtra	17422	2720	15.6
11.	Rajasthan	14051	117	0.8
12.	Haryana	3901	76	1.9
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1673	43	2.6
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	2127	7	0.3
15.	Punjab	3576	94	2.6
16.	Uttar Pradesh	10848	722	6.7
17.	Uttarakhand	261	32	12.3
18.	Andhra Pradesh	15238	484	3.2

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Karnataka	10423	267	2.6
20.	Kerala	2463	102	4.1
21.	Puducherry	467	5	1.1
22.	Tamil Nadu	17900	661	3.7
23.	Govt. of India	6234	415	6.7
TOTAL ALL INDIA		138961	7496	5.4

Statement-II

State-wise details of follow-up action during the year 2013-14 in respect of samples found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Administrative Action Taken			Seizure of Stock/ Stop Sale	Pro-secution Launched	Cases- in Court	Con-viction under award- ded	Action under process
1	2	Auth- orisation letter cancelled	Auth- orisation letter sus- pended	Other action	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
2.	Bihar	13	0	34	9	5	5	0	6
3.	Jharkhand	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Odisha	0	0	241	0	0	0	0	0
5.	West Bengal	28	49	356	197	0	10	1	0
6.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	25	3	96	17	12	353	2	89
8.	Madhya Pradesh	175	51	1113	0	10	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
9.	Maharashtra	248	192	1030		32	212	1597	0	146
10.	Rajasthan	0	0	0		13	16	16	0	68
11.	Haryana	1	2	11		0	12	12	0	37
12.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0		0	0	4	0	0
14.	Punjab	0	0	2		0	1	0	0	25
15.	Uttar Pradesh	525	85	46	118.47 MT	31	0	0	0	35
16.	Uttarakhand	2	2	13		0	0	0	0	0
17.	Andhra Pradesh	1	5	389	2880 MT	10	0	0	0	55
18.	Karnataka	1	0	102		19	6	6	0	88
19.	Kerala	0	1	101		1	0	1	0	0
20.	Puducherry	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
21.	Tamil Nadu	7	82	194		136	16	87	0	362
TOTAL		1013	472	3713		415	326	2086	3	905

Release of subsidy on fertilizers

2285. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to release the outstanding amount of subsidy on fertilizers of more than ₹ 25 thousand crores; and

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) All the outstanding liabilities are

released subject to availability of budget and compliance to procedures as per policy. Details of subsidy released so far is as under:

Head of Accounts	BE 2015-16	Expenditure as on 30.11.2015 including carryover liabilities
Indigenous Urea	38200.00	34864.05
Imported Urea	16400.00	10958.99
Indigenous P&K	12500.00	10043.60
Imported P&K	9968.56	6881.52

Establishment of Jan Aushadhi stores

2286. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken a decision in the month of April to establish 25 Jan Aushadhi stores in every State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the status of the decision;
- (c) the reasons for delay in establishment of these stores; and
- (d) by when these stores will be established to make Jan Aushadhi medicines available to general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government is trying to start 200 new Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) by the end of the current financial year across the country. As on December 10, 2015, 112 stores are operational.

(c) and (d) There are many reasons for the delay in establishing Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) like (i) Delay in getting drug license from the State Drug Authority (ii) Over dependence on support from State Governments (iii) Supply Chain management (iv) Non-prescription of Generic Medicines by the Doctors (v) Scheme of State Governments for free supply of drugs etc.. Efforts are being made to open as many JAS across the country as possible.

Purchase of SIM cards by terrorists

2287. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognisance of the TRAI's comments in the Supreme Court, which suggest that terrorists are able to purchase SIM cards with ease due to absence of Aadhaar;

(b) whether TRAI has provided any evidence or data in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific action being taken by Government to ensure that terrorists are not able to get SIM cards, in light of the TRAI's submission?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has not filed such affidavit in Hon'ble Supreme Court.

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

Free roaming service

†2288. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not giving directions to telecom operator companies for free roaming service under some pressure, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, by when the free roaming service would be provided to mobile customers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, "One Nation - Free Roaming" is one of the objectives of National Telecom Policy (NTP) 2012. Being a predominantly tariff related issue, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), having legal authority to determine tariff, floated a consultation paper on 'Review of Tariff for National Roaming' on 25.02.2013. As per the comments received from the stakeholders, majority of the stakeholders were not in favour of Home Price Rule (HPR) in the national roaming service. Stakeholders were strongly averse to a regime in which incoming calls while on national roaming would become free.

After analyzing the comments received from the stakeholders, a view was taken by TRAI that fully free national roaming across all the tariff schemes may result in cross subsidization of roaming subscribers at the expense of non-roaming subscribers, and also it may create arbitrage opportunity.

Through the Telecommunication Tariff Order (60th Amendment), 2015 dated 09.04.2015, TRAI has made the following changes in the tariff regime for national roaming, which came into effect from 01.05.2015:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- Reduced the ceilings tariff for voice calls and SMS while on national roaming.
- Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have been mandated to offer a Special Roaming Tariff Plan to its pre-paid and post-paid subscribers. In Special Roaming Tariff Plan, incoming voice calls while on national roaming shall be free, on payment of fixed charge, if any. All the wireless access service providers have at least one tariff plan in which the incoming calls, while roaming, are free.

Investment on optical fibre cable system

2289. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has exclusive investment and usage of optical fibre cable laid throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the amount of money invested and areas covered by that network system; and
- (c) whether a prominent private sector company which advertises for 4G facilities through optical fibre cable throughout the country, is relying upon this Government investment on lease or on a separate system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No Sir, however National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was planned, in 2011, to connect all the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country with an estimated cost of ₹ 20,100 crore through optical fibre cable utilizing existing fibres of PSUs viz. BSNL, RailTel and Power Grid and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks, for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. An amount of ₹ 3054.43 crore has been released, as on 31.10.2015, by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL).

State-wise number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) which have been connected with optical fibre in the country under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) as on 06.12.2015 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (c) No such proposal has been received by the Government.

Statement*State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 06.12.2015*

Sl .No.	States/UTs	No. of GPs where OFC laid
1	2	3
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	32
2.	Himachal Pradesh	14
3.	Punjab	1605
4.	Haryana	2375
5.	Rajasthan	2764
6.	Chandigarh	12
7.	Uttarakhand	508
8.	UP (West)	1466
9.	UP (East)	3907
10.	Bihar	1675
11.	West Bengal	565
12.	Sikkim	0
13.	Assam	450
14.	Jharkhand	544
15.	Odisha	1173
16.	Andaman and Nicobar	0
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
18.	Nagaland	103
19.	Manipur	24
20.	Meghalaya	44
21.	Tripura	356

1	2	3
22.	Mizoram	0
23.	Madhya Pradesh	3454
24.	Chhattishgarh	1029
25.	Gujarat	1250
26.	Maharashtra	2616
27.	Daman and Diu	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
29.	Karnataka	4033
30.	Andhra Pradesh	0
31.	Telangana	1046
32.	Tamil Nadu	0
33.	Kerala	1129
34.	Puducherry	98
35.	Lakshadweep	0
36.	Goa*	-
TOTAL		32272

*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.

Progress under Digital India campaign

†2290. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress recorded in the objectives determined under the ‘Digital India’ campaign initiated by Government;

(b) the number of companies in India and abroad which have entered into an agreement with Government under the ‘Digital India’ campaign;

(c) the amount of investment and the number of employment opportunities generated through these?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments and is being coordinated by DeitY.

Digital India aims to provide the much needed thrust to nine pillars of growth areas that is (i) Broadband Highways, (ii) Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, (iii) Public Internet Access Programme, (iv) e-Governance - Reforming Government through Technology, (v) e-Kranti- Electronic delivery of services, (vi) Information for All, (vii) Electronics Manufacturing - Target NET ZERO Imports, (viii) IT for Jobs and (ix) Early Harvest Programmes.

Various projects/schemes are being implemented under above nine pillars covering the entire country *e.g* MyGov, Digital Locker System, e-Hospital, National Scholarships Portal, Common Services Centres (CSCs), Mobile Seva, e-Office, m-Kisan, North East BPO Promotion scheme (NEBPS), India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) etc. These projects/schemes are at various stages of implementation. Each project/scheme has specific project implementation methodology and stakeholders including private companies. The agreements under specific project/scheme have been signed between stakeholders as per requirement.

(c) The industry has indicated an investment of ₹ 4.5 lakh crore to realize the vision of Digital India programme over a period of time. Under "Pillar 8: IT for Jobs" of Digital India programme, the Government of India is implementing schemes that aim to —

- train 1 crore students from smaller towns and villages for IT sector jobs over 5 years.
- set up BPOs in every north-eastern State to facilitate ICT enabled growth in these States under NEBPS Scheme.
- setup BPOs (48300 seats) in tier-2 and tier-3 districts spreading all India (except NE States as these States have been covered in NEBPS).
- train 3 lakh service delivery agents as part of skill development to run viable businesses delivering IT services.
- train 5 lakh rural workforce by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to cater to their own needs.

Wi-Fi facilities in cities of Rajasthan

†2291. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan formulated by Government to achieve the target of Digital India;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to provide internet facility, through Wi-Fi to the people of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Kota, Bikaner, and Bharatpur, which are major cities of Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Government of India is implementing the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments and is being coordinated by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY).

Digital India aims to provide the much needed thrust to nine pillars of growth areas that is (i) Broadband Highways, (ii) Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, (iii) Public Internet Access Programme, (iv) e-Governance - Reforming Government through Technology, (v) e-Kranti- Electronic delivery of services, (vi) Information for All, (vii) Electronics Manufacturing - Target NET ZERO Imports, (viii) IT for Jobs and (ix) Early Harvest Programmes. Various projects/schemes are being implemented under these nine pillars covering the entire country.

For the successful and smooth implementation of projects/schemes under Digital India programme, the Government of India has issued guidelines and laid down standards. The Government is providing technical and handholding support, undertaking capacity building and R&D activities. The existing/ongoing e-Governance initiatives are being suitably revamped to align them with the principles of Digital India. The scope enhancement, process reengineering, use of integrated and interoperable systems and deployment of emerging technologies like cloud and mobile are being undertaken to enhance the delivery of Government services to citizens. The States have been given flexibility to identify for inclusion additional State-specific projects, which are relevant for their socio-economic needs.

The roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders like Central Ministries/

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Departments, State Governments and private companies etc. have been defined. The projects/schemes under the Digital India are being monitored by the Committee on Digital India headed by the Prime Minister, Digital India Advisory Group chaired by the Minister of Communications and IT, an Apex Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary and the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)/Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure (CNE).

(b) and (c) Sites/locations for rollout of Wi-Fi Hotspots coverage are selected by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) on the basis of commercial viability and technical feasibility. Provisioning of Wi-Fi services at selected locations of Jaipur and Ajmer is under consideration.

Fibre cable connectivity at Panchayat level in Bihar

2292. DR. C.P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Government's major project of fibre connectivity at Panchayat levels in Bihar;

(b) the probable use of this connectivity which Government is contemplating at initial level;

(c) whether there is any special provision of training, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is preparing a skilled manpower pool for its better utilization?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) now renamed BharatNet was planned, in 2011, to connect all the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks, providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. Service providers like Telecom Service Providers, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable TV operators, content providers can launch various services in rural areas including applications for e-health, e-education, e-governance etc. As on 06.12.2015, under NOFN project in Bihar 5,461 kilometers pipe has been laid, 4,603 kilometers optical fibre cable has been laid connecting 1,675 GPs and in two districts namely Shivhar and Kishanganj all GPs are connected with optical fibre cable.

(c) and (d) Government has fixed a target to impart skill training to 1,65,000 people by telecom sector Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for FY 2015-16.

**Deterioration of services provided by Sarita Vihar
Telephone exchange, MTNL, Delhi**

2293. 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 this Exchange are not to the satisfaction of consumers;

(c) the number of complaints received during the current year and the average time taken in attending to those complaints;

(d) whether it is a fact that fake clearance of complaints is made by the 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) No, Sir. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has reported that its Sarita Vihar exchange is providing satisfactory services and there has been improvement in service of Sarita Vihar Telephone Exchange in last few months.

However, there are certain operational challenges such as theft of cables and frequent cable damages by various agencies like Delhi Jal Board (DJB), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). Moreover, old distribution cables are at 8 to 12 feet deep below the ground in narrow lane which makes repair and maintenance very challenging in Sarita Vihar exchange area.

(c) Details of number of complaints received by MTNL during the current year and the average time taken in attending to those complaints are given below:

Landline		Broadband	
Complaints	Average time taken	Complaints	Average time taken
9832	10.47 working hrs.	7439	11.12 working hrs.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Non-working of MTNL telephone/broadband lines

‡2294. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone/broadband lines of MTNL have not been working for the last five years in Jai Vihar, Najafgarh, Phase-1, New Delhi and despite repeated written complaints/request letters to the authorities several times for making these lines operational, the said lines are still not in working order, the details thereof; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by MTNL to make the said lines operative and by when these lines would be operational, along with the action being taken against the concerned lineman/officer, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has reported that its services are partially affected in Jai Vihar in Najafgarh Phase-I area due to development work being carried out by agencies such as Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Public Works Department (PWD), etc. since last two years. MTNL has further reported that complete restoration will be possible after completion of ongoing development work by said agencies. As an alternative measure, MTNL, Delhi is installing Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAMs) for providing broadband services to affected areas.

Default fee for recurring deposit accounts in post offices

2295. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people who are holding Recurring Deposit Accounts in the post offices have to pay a default fee if they don't deposit the installment amount before 15th of the month;

(b) the rules under which these penalties are being recovered;

(c) in which account of the Government, the default fees are being deposited; and

(d) how much default fee has been recovered so far during the last three years, the details thereof?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir, Default fee is charged if a depositor fails to pay monthly installment within prescribed period. As per Rule 6 of sub rule (3) of Post Office Recurring Deposit Rules 1981, the first monthly deposit shall be made at the time of opening the account and the amount of such deposit shall be the denomination of the account. Each subsequent monthly deposit shall be made up to 15th day of the month in respect of account opened between 1st day and 15th day of a calendar month and up to end of the calendar month in respect of accounts opened between 16th day and last day of the month and shall be equal to the first deposit.

(b) The default fee is charged as per Rule 7 of Post Office Recurring Deposit Rules, 1981 under Government Savings Bank Act 1873 amended from time to time.

(c) Default fee is credited to Government Account Head 8008.04.800.03.0000.

(d) The Account Head mentioned in (c) above is a common head for other fee also and separate information for default fee is not maintained.

Illegal installation of mobile towers

†2296. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of illegal installation of mobile towers by mobile companies, without seeking permission, have come to the notice of Government in many areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the mobile towers, installed illegally, are being removed and action is being taken against the companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, certain cases have been received in Department of Telecommunications (DoT) whereby complaints have been registered by the general public in which it is alleged that the mobile towers have been installed illegally and are causing harmful health effects due to EMF radiation exposure.

(c) and (d) As per the existing policy for installation of towers, Wireless Planning & Coordination (WPC) wing of DoT issues siting clearance for installation of mobile towers for each and every site from the point of view of interference with other wireless

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links. However, siting clearances of DoT are issued without prejudice to other applicable by-laws, rules and regulations of local bodies such as Municipal Corporation, Gram Panchayat etc. Accordingly, before installation of tower, the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have to obtain necessary clearances from concerned local authorities/State Government bodies also. Various local bodies/State Governments have formulated their own policy regarding grant of such permissions for installation of mobile towers. Hence enforcement of by-laws, rules and regulations related to installation of mobile towers lies in the domain of concerned State Government. DoT does not maintain the information about grant of such permissions by State Government bodies/Local Authorities. Thus, the complainants are suitably advised by Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells to approach concerned local bodies/authorities as the matter pertains to State Government.

In case of complaints regarding illegal installation of mobile towers wherein it is alleged that the mobile tower is causing harmful health effects, the respective TERM Cell carries out EMF radiation measurement to check the compliance to prescribed EMF radiation norms of DoT. TERM Cells impose a financial penalty of ₹ 10 lakhs on defaulting TSPs for non-compliant BTSs found during testing as per the prescribed DoT guidelines. Further, if the BTS/shared BTS site is not made compliant to the EMF radiation norms within one month (30 days), the same is shut down in addition to levy of financial penalty as mentioned above.

Decline in call drop cases

2297. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's intervention has led to a decline in frequent call drops faced by the mobile phone users;

(b) whether it is also a fact that private telecom operators have installed over 22,000 new cell sites between July and October, 2015; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the number of dysfunctional sites has come down to 13,823 across the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir, Proactive intervention by Government has led to a decline in frequent call drops faced by the mobile phone users. However situation requires more improvement.

(b) Private telecom operators have installed, 7528 Nos of additional 2G sites and 14,751 Nos. of additional 3G Sites (Total 22,279 new cell sites) between July and October, 2015.

(c) As per report of 2nd Week of November' 2015, compiled with details provided by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), out of total no of 27598 bad cells identified by the TSPs across the country, performance of 13775 cells have been improved during the period. Details given in Statement.

Statement

(A) Details of new sites deployed, as provided by the Private Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) across the country

Name of The TSPs	New 2G/3G Site deployed for capacity & coverage enhancement		No. of weeks reported
	2G	3G	
Bharti Airtel	2171	5973	July to October 2015
Idea	3019	3436	12 weeks
Vodafone	1157	3356	July to October 2015
Aircel	802	1280	Sept to October 2015
Tata	169	648	12 Weeks
Reliance	116	58	13 weeks
Videocon	24	-	10 weeks
QTL	64	-	12 weeks
SSTL	6	-	12 weeks
TOTAL	7528	14751	

(B) As per the details/ reports provided by the TSPs in respect of 2nd Week of November'2015 report, Out of total no. of 27598 bad cells identified by the given TSPs across the country, performance of 13775 cells has been improved during the period.

Name of TSP	Total number of Cells	Total bad Cells	Cells improved	Cells pending
Bharti Airtel	437750	5129	2650	2479
Idea	361769	5104	2009	3095
Vodafone	377731	6684	3338	3346
Aircel	141091	7651	4392	3259
Tata GSM	128483	1328	705	623
Tata CDMA	33989	248	100	148
Tata 3G	36220	109	41	68
RCOM CDMA	60147	17	9	8
RCOM GSM	88278	286	162	124
RTL GSM	49723	208	92	116
Telenor	71164	554	146	408
Videocon	15321	106	65	41
QTL	7412	35	9	26
SSTL	24198	139	57	82
TOTAL	1833276	27598	13775	13823

Use of social media by BSNL, MTNL and India Post

2298. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued notices to BSNL, MTNL and India Post over quality of service on the basis of complaints received;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked BSNL and other concerns to use social media; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL has started giving training to its officers to handle complaints on social media, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No Sir.

(b) Government is conscious of importance of social media and its use to reach to public. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and India Post are using social media for receiving complaints and suggestions from customers/subscribers. Several complaints received in social media are also being addressed. BSNL, MTNL and India Post have also their own web-portals wherein information are regularly uploaded for generating a broader awareness about their role and activities among the public.

(c) No Sir.

Connecting panchayats through optical fibre

†2299. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the name of States and the number of their Panchayats which have been connected with optical fibre in the country, the details thereof;

(b) the amount spent so far, on this scheme and the total estimated expenditure in this regard; and

(c) the changes brought about in this scheme after formation of NDA Government and the benefits to be accrued to the panchayats by them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) State-wise number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) which have been connected with optical fibre in the country under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Against an indicative cost of about ₹ 20,100 crore of NOFN project, an amount of ₹ 3054.43 crore has been released, as on 31.10.2015, by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL).

(c) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was planned, in 2011, to connect all the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibres of PSUs *viz.* BSNL, RailTel and Power Grid and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks, for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. As on 06.12.2015, OFC laying in 32, 272 Gram Panchayats have been completed and 76,624 kilometer fibre laid as against 59 GPs and 250 kilometer fibre laid as on 31.05.2014.

To review NOFN implementation strategy and approach, Government constituted a committee on 14th January 2015. The Committee held discussions with the implementing Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) to understand the challenges and problems faced by them in implementation. There were three broad issues: NOFN technology and architecture; implementation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

strategy; and broadband service delivery using NOFN. The Committee submitted its report on 31st March, 2015. The changes suggested by the Committee have not been incorporated in the scheme as yet.

Statement

State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 06.12.2015

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of GPs where OFC laid
1	2	3
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	32
2.	Himachal Pradesh	14
3.	Punjab	1605
4.	Haryana	2375
5.	Rajasthan	2764
6.	Chandigarh	12
7.	Uttarakhand	508
8.	UP (West)	1466
9.	UP (East)	3907
10.	Bihar	1675
11.	West Bengal	565
12.	Sikkim	0
13.	Assam	450
14.	Jharkhand	544
15.	Odisha	1173
16.	Andaman and Nicobar	0
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
18.	Nagaland	103
19.	Manipur	24
20.	Meghalaya	44

1	2	3
21.	Tripura	356
22.	Mizoram	0
23.	Madhya Pradesh	3454
24.	Chhattishgarh	1029
25.	Gujarat	1250
26.	Maharashtra	2616
27.	Daman and Diu	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
29.	Karnataka	4033
30.	Andhra Pradesh	0
31.	Telangana	1046
32.	Tamil Nadu	0
33.	Kerala	1129
34.	Puducherry	98
35.	Lakshadweep	0
36.	Goa*	-
TOTAL		32272

*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.

Initiative to dispel myth about radio waves

2300. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) will soon embark on an initiative to dispel the myth that radio waves cause cancer; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that TRAI will be working with Government and telecom operators to educate users on this issue, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of

India (TRAI) in coordination with Government and Telecom Industry has initiated a program to create awareness amongst stakeholders and to address concerns related to electromagnetic field (EMF Radiation) from mobile phone towers. The program includes dissemination of authentic information available in public domain like from World Health Organization (WHO) reports, scientific studies and Court judgments on the issue. TRAI is organizing public interactions in various parts of the country. TRAI has already conducted two such outreach programmes, first in Bhopal on 17th November-2015 and second in Bangalore on 23rd November, 2015. Officers from TERM Cells of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) also participated in the interactions with the stakeholders and informed them about the various actions they are taking to ensure adherence to the DoT norms/standards relating to mobile towers by the operators.

TRAI has also released a leaflet containing facts* about EMF radiations from mobile towers for information of public, a copy of the same is given in the Statement (*See below*).

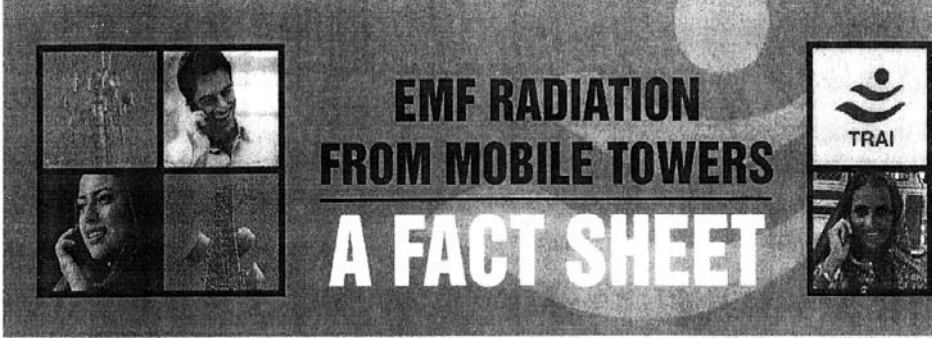
It is pertinent to mention here that WHO has referred to approximately 25,000 studies, conducted around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded: “current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields”. Since the effects on human beings are to be studied over a long period of time, further studies are going on around the world. The main conclusion from the WHO reviews is that EMF exposures below the limits recommended in the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) international guidelines do not appear to have any known consequence on health. In India norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) are already 10 times more stringent than the safe limits prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO.

Several High Courts viz Hon’ble High Courts of Punjab & Haryana, Madras, Kerala, Gujarat, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Allahabad have dismissed petitions, where the mobile tower installations were challenged on grounds of health effects of EMF radiations.


In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed stricter precautionary norms of EMF radiation from mobile towers, the extensive audit of self-certificates being submitted by telecom service providers and base transceiver station (BTS) sites is carried out by Telecom Enforcement Resource & Monitoring (TERM) field units of DoT. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell. All new BTS sites start radiating commercially only after self certificate has been submitted to relevant TERM Cells. In case, any BTS site is found to violate the prescribed EMF norms, actions are taken to put a penalty of ₹ 10 lakh per BTS per incidence including closing of BTS site, if the violation persists.

*Rajev to attached state meat.

Statement



Message from the Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)



The radiation which they are essentially talking about, this is not radiation, this is essentially radio waves. It is very weak electromagnetic waves which are essentially unable to cause any disruption in any other form of life. So therefore to call these radiations will not be correct. They are at the best radio waves or a very weak kind of emission of the waves.

- R. S. Sharma - IAS, Chairman TRAI

What do mobile towers emit?

When we communicate through electronic devices, such as in mobile communications, the voice is translated into electronic signals, which are transmitted through the antennae as radio waves, also loosely referred to as Electro-Magnetic Field Radiation. These are very low in intensity radiations and they do not have any adverse health effects.

“ MOBILE TELEPHONE: A KEY ENABLER FOR DIGITAL INDIA










There are one billion plus mobile phones in our country, which means almost every person of this country uses mobile phone in one way or the other. Out of 300 million Internet users in India, around 200 million go to the Internet through the mobile. Therefore, it is one of the very important instruments of realizing the vision of Digital India. ”

- R. S. Sharma - IAS, Chairman TRAI

Are all Radiations the same?

Radiations are of two types, ionizing and non-ionizing. Ionizing waves are high energy waves such as those used for diagnostics and radio therapy like in CT scan, X-rays, etc., have the ability to break chemical bonds in the human body. They have the potential to cause harm to humans, yet they are safe because of their controlled exposure.

Non-ionizing waves, such as the radio waves emitted by cell phones and mobile tower antennae, are low energy radio waves that do not carry enough energy to break any chemical bond within the human body. Thus, they can potentially harm humans. Yet, they are used safely for various purposes in secure and controlled environment.

NON-IONISING					IONISING			
								
RADIO	TELEVISION	CELL TOWER	FRIDGE	SATELLITE	SUNLIGHT	ULTRAVIOLET	X-RAYS	GAMMA RAYS

NO HARM RADIATION

For high quality mobile phone services, mobile towers are essential. More mobile towers mean higher download speeds, greater voice clarity and lesser call drops.

"There is no evidence that the tower will affect the health of the people."

- The Hon'ble Kerala High Court in the W.P. (C) No. 24569 of 2012 dated 9, July 2013.

"...we deem it necessary to mention that the concerned authorities should, by way of communication through T.V., Radio etc. bring it to the notice of the people at large that there is no reason for them to fear the erection of the Base Transceiver Station, known as the WIFI Mobile Tower."

- The Hon'ble Gujarat High Court in SCA No. 5548 of 2014, dated 09 September 2014.

"There is no cause of alarm with regard to possible ill-effects on human health by electromagnetic field emission from cellphone towers and cellphones because the safety limits adopted in India take into account all biological effects of radiation."

- An expert committee constituted in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, Lucknow Bench - January 2014.

"We in view of the overwhelming material are of the considered view that as of now there is no cause of alarm with regard to the possible ill-effect on human health by electromagnetic Field (EMF radiation) from mobile phone towers and mobile phones because the limits adopted in India cannot have any biological effect on human."

- The Hon'ble Himachal Pradesh High Court in the CWP No. 8283 of 2012 dated 30 November 2015

World Health Organisation says...

World Health Organisation (WHO) has concluded that '...current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields, including children.' WHO recommends adoption of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines and states that these guidelines '...offer protection against all identified hazards of RF energy with large safety margins.'

Thousands of studies on radiation have been done by various organizations and independent agencies. After considering all of them WHO (World Health Organization) has come to the conclusion that there is negligible chance of adverse health impact due to mobile tower radiation on the lives of the people.

World Health Organisation which is the main international organisation on global health issues and standards, after a detailed study has reported in its fact sheet No. 304 (on EMF and Public Health) that considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that weak RF signals from the base stations and wireless networks caused adverse health effects.

In case of any doubt contact TERM Cell

Telecom companies conduct a thorough check of their networks and self-certify each and every base station in a tower for compliance with EMF radiation norms. Upon satisfaction that the EMF exposure is well below the specified standards, they provide self-certification to the DoT's (Department of Telecommunications) TERM cell. The TERM cell (Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring) of DoT — regulate, oversee and manage each and every tower/base station/antenna in India for radiation compliance. It has offices in various locations in India. For more information: www.dot.gov.in/term/term-security

For any further queries please contact TERM Cell, 5th Floor MTNL TE Building, Nehru Place, New Delhi 110019, ddgterm-dot@nic.in, 011-26469191.

To know more, visit

DoT website: <http://www.dot.gov.in/access-services/journey-emf>

GSMA website: <http://www.gsma.com/publicpolicy/mobile-and-health>

World Health Organization [WHO] website: <http://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/facts/fs296/en/>

ITU Website: <http://www.itu.int/en/pages/default.aspx>

TRAI website: <http://www.trai.gov.in>

Issued in Public Interest by:



Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(IS/ISO 9001:2008 Certified Organisation)



National optical fibre network policy

2301. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to formulate a National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) Policy, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government plans to adopt uniform Right of Way (RoW) measures for greater involvement of States in the policy;

(c) whether Government plans to release more spectrum for successful rollout of wireless broadband, ensuring seamless execution of the NOFN policy; and

(d) whether Government plans to connect Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI), making it an effective Internet Exchange Point (IXP), if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was planned, in 2011, to connect all the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks, for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012 under Indian Companies Act, 1956.

NOFN Project was envisaged as a Centre-State joint effort. State Governments are expected to contribute by way of not levying any Right of Way (RoW) charges. This requires suitable Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed by Central Government, State Governments and Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL). Tripartite MoU has been signed with all the States and Union Territories except Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep.

(c) Spectrum available in various frequency bands for telecommunication services including wireless broadband, put for auction conducted from time to time, has increased the availability of spectrum with telecom service providers. Based on the reference made by Government, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a Consultation paper dated 26.11.2015 on valuation and reserve price of spectrum in

700 Megahertz (MHz), 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz and 2500 MHz band for the next round of auction of spectrum.

(d) Government has setup National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) nodes at various locations in the country for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to connect. At present, 43 ISPs at 7 locations (Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Ahmedabad) are already connected with NIXI. With increasing data traffic, it is expected more number of ISPs will get connected at these NIXI nodes.

Discontinuation of stamps

2302. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stamps on Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons for such discontinuance; and

(c) the details of proposed new series of stamps that Government is planning to start along with the details of denominations in which it wishes to start above series?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The theme of definitive postage stamp series is changed from time to time by the Department. Stamps on Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi formed part of the 10 definitive series “Builders of Modern India” brought out in 2009, which was continuing till 2015 when it was changed to “Makers of India” and “Yoga” on the advice of Philatelic Advisory Committee in 2015.

(c) The details of the 11th series of definitive postage stamps under the theme “Makers of India” and “Yoga” along with their denominations are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the 11th series of postage stamps

Sl. No.	Personality	Denomination
(A) Theme: Makers of India		
1	2	3
1.	Mahatma Gandhi	25 P
2.	Dr. B. R. Ambedkar	500 P

1	2	3
3.	Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel	500 P
4.	Deen Dayal Upadhyay	500 P
5.	Jay Prakash Narayan	500 P
6.	Bal Gangadhar Tilak	100 P
7.	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose	500 P
8.	Rajendra Prasad	500 P
9.	Jawaharlal Nehru	500 P
10.	Maulana Azad	500 P
11.	Shyama Prasad Mukherjee	500 P
12.	Mother Teresa	2000 P
13.	Srinivasa Ramanujan	400 P
14.	Bhagat Singh	500 P
15.	Rabindranath Tagore	5000 P
16.	Shivaji	1000 P
17.	Ram Manohar Lohia	500 P
18.	Vivekananda	500 P
19.	Subramania Bharati	50 P
20.	Pandit Ravishankar	300 P
21.	Bhimsen Joshi	300 P
22.	M. S. Subbulakshmi	300 P
23.	Bismillah Khan	300 P
24.	Maharana Pratap	1000 P
25.	Lal Bahadur Shastri	500 P
26.	Gopinath Bordoloi	500 P
27.	Thiruvalluvar	500 P
(B) Theme: Yoga		
28.	Yoga	25 P

Landline and mobile connections of BSNL in Kerala

2303. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of landline and mobile connections of BSNL in Kerala circle at present;

(b) whether there is further demand for fresh connections of both, if so, the requirement thereof annually;

(c) whether continuous severed connections are due to unsatisfactory services;

(d) whether delay in replacement of old machines and accessories and overuse of the capacity of existing ones are some of the reasons for poor quality of BSNL service in Kerala; and

(e) if so, whether Government will take immediate measures to get this circle new machines and accessories?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Details of number of landline and mobile connections of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Kerala circle at present is given below:

Landline connections	Mobile connections
23,70,733	69,17,185

(b) BSNL has reported that demand for fresh connections of landline and mobile services during current financial year from April to November, 2015 stood at 67,251 and more than 10 lakh respectively.

(c) and (d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

Increase in mobile connectivity

†2304. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of mobile connections is increasing while the number of landline connections is decreasing continuously in the country;

(b) whether the problem of call drop is increasing due to rise in number of mobile connections or it is due to other reasons; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to deal with the problem of call drop, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, It is a fact that the number of mobile connections (wireless) is increasing while the number of landline connections (wire line) is decreasing.

(b) As per Mobile service providers the common reasons attributed to call drops are equipment faults, frequent load shedding in some circles, difficulty in site acquisition for new sites, removal/shutting of existing mobile towers due to radiation concerns by various authorities/RWA, spectrum crunch in certain circles and restrictions near international border. In addition to these, poor Radio Frequency (RF) Network optimization, non upgradation of Network maintenance tools to international standards and inadequate investment in Network capacity expansion by Mobile service providers also leads to call drop problem.

(c) TRAI is closely monitoring the performance of service providers against the benchmarks for the various Quality of Service parameters laid down by TRAI through regulations issued from time to time. In this regard, the service providers have to submit compliance report on monthly/quarterly basis. Wherever the Quality of Service benchmarks are not met the explanation of the service providers is called for and after considering the response of the service provider financial disincentive are imposed. TRAI has now made the financial disincentives more stringent in cases of continuous non-compliance with the benchmark for mobile service. TRAI issued the 9th Amendment to the Telecom Consumers Protection Regulations on 16th October 2015, mandating compensation to the consumers by the mobile service providers for call drops with effect from 01.01.2016. As per these regulations, every originating service provider providing Cellular Mobile Telecom Service shall, for each call drop within its network,

- (i) Credit the account of the calling consumer by one rupee: Provided that such credit in the account of the calling consumer shall be limited to three dropped call in a day;
- (ii) Provide the calling consumer, through SMS/USSD message, within four hours of the occurrence of call drop, the details of amount credited in his account and

- (iii) In case of post-paid consumers, provide the details of the credit in the next bill.

In addition to above, elaborate testing of mobile service operators' Network is being done by Department of Telecommunication (DoT). Fortnightly review is being done at the highest level in DoT. Signs of improvements are already there and Operators are required to take further initiatives for addressing call drop issue.

**Telephone/mobile connectivity to scheduled caste category
households in rural areas**

2305. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a considerable population of Scheduled Castes in rural India do not have any telephone/mobile connection;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for last five years, State-wise; and
- (c) the various steps taken by Government to ensure a telephone/mobile connection to Scheduled Caste households in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Telecom service providers do not maintain community-wise subscribers data.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no specific scheme to provide telephone/mobile connections to Scheduled Caste households in rural areas. However, Government of India is committed to ensure mobile connectivity in every part of the country including rural, tribal and remote areas. Government of India has, therefore, implemented/planned various schemes with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to provide wireline/wireless/broadband services to people in the rural and remote areas. The ongoing projects that will cover the mobile connectivity to rural, tribal and remote areas are given in the Statement.

Statement

Ongoing projects of Department of Telecommunication

- (i) **Bharat Net / National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN):** Bharat/NOFN Net was planned, in 2011, to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) (and of any desirous private operator) and laying incremental

fibre wherever necessary for providing broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats. As on 30.11.2015, 1,03,643 km. of duct and 74,994 km. of optical fibre cable covering 32,049 Gram Panchayats have been laid.

- (ii) **Mobile Services in LWE Affected Areas:** Government has approved the project on 20.08.2014 to provide mobile services in 2199 locations [1836 new sites and 363 sites already installed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)] in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The estimated project implementation cost is ₹ 3567.58 crore, to be funded from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). BSNL has been nominated to execute the project. As on 30.11.2015, 1134 towers out of 2199 towers are on air.
- (iii) **Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region:** Government has approved a proposal on 10.09.2014 to implement a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region at the estimated cost of ₹5336.18 crores. The Project envisages provision of mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages, installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.
- (iv) **Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands:** Telecom Commission has given 'in principle' approval on 07.11.2014 for Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands with a total estimated investment of ₹ 221.05 crores.

Rise in call drop cases in 2G and 3G services

2306. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that call drops in April-June 2015 were more than two times than previous quarter of the same year in case of 2G services, according to latest report of TRAI released recently;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that call drop rate rose by 16.13 per cent in case of 3G services;
- (c) if so, the action taken by TRAI against the service providers and compensation paid to consumers in this regard; and
- (d) the policy put in place for call drops by Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down the Quality of Service standards for cellular mobile telephone service through regulations issued, from time to time. For assessing the performance of service providers on call drop, both for 2G and 3G services, TRAI has laid down two parameters viz. “call drop rate/Circuit Switch Voice Drop Rate (benchmark $\leq 2\%$)” and “worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop/Circuit Switched Voice drop rate (benchmark $\leq 3\%$)”. As per the performance monitoring reports submitted by service providers for the quarter ending March and June 2015 the details of non-compliance in the parameter call drop rate for 2G and 3G Services is as follows:

Parameters	Benchmark	No. of CMTS Licensees not Meeting the Benchmarks			
		Quarter Ending, March, 2015		Quarter Ending, June, 2015	
		Out of 184 (Nos.)	Out of 184 (%)	Out of 183 (Nos.)	Out of 183 (%)
2G Services					
Call Drop Rate	$\leq 2\%$	3	1.63%	3	1.64%
Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH drop (call drop) rate	$\leq 3\%$	23	12.50%	45	24.59%
3G Services					
Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate: (% age)	$\leq 2\%$	0	0	3	3.23%
Worst affected cells having more than 3% and Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate	$\leq 3\%$	15	15.96%	15	16.13%

From the above table, it is seen that there is no significant increase in the number of service providers not meeting the benchmark “call drop rate/Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate” in the quarter ending June 2015, as compared to previous quarter. The number of service providers not meeting the benchmark for the parameter “Worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop (call drop) rate” for 2G services increased from 23 out of 184 or 12.50% in Quarter ending March, 2015 to 45 out of 183 or 24.59% in the Quarter ending June, 2015. In respect of 3G services, the number of service providers not meeting the benchmark for the parameter “Worst affected cells having more than 3% Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate” in both Quarters ending March and June 2015 remained at 15, which is 15.96% and 16.13% respectively of the total number of service providers.

(c) and (d) Along with above steps TRAI also undertakes audit and assessment of Quality of Service through independent agencies. In view of the growing concerns on call drops and other network issues, Drive Tests were conducted by Independent Agencies in Mumbai and Delhi, in June/July 2015. Following these drive tests, several meetings were held in TRAI with the Top level officers of mobile companies to finalize action points for improving network conditions including measures for reducing call drops. In these meetings, the officers of mobile companies assured TRAI of improvement in network conditions. The drive tests were repeated in these cities in September to assess the improvement in network conditions. These drive tests reports show improvements in network conditions of some of the service providers. Also drive tests were held in Kolkata, Pune, Surat and Bhubaneswar in September, 2015 to assess the network performance in these cities so that service providers could be pursued to improve the performance.

TRAI issued the 9th Amendment to the Telecom Consumers Protection Regulations on 16th October, 2015, mandating compensation to the consumers by the mobile service providers for call drops with effect from 1.1.2016. As per these regulations, every originating service provider providing Cellular Mobile Telephone Service shall, for each call drop within its network,

- (i) Credit the account of the calling consumer by one rupee: Provided that such credit in the account of the calling consumer shall be limited to three dropped calls in a day;
- (ii) provide the calling consumer, through SMS/USSD message, within four hours of the occurrence of call drop, the details of amount credited in his account; and

(iii) In case of post-paid consumers, provide the details of the credit in the next bill.

Unavailability of new phone equipments for WLL in Kerala

2307. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL is facing unavailability of new phone equipments for WLL fixed line in Kerala circle; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has informed that there is a shortage/unavailability of new phone equipment for Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) fixed line *i.e.* Integrated Fixed Wireless Terminal (IWFT) in Kerala Circle. Decision regarding procurement of new terminals will be taken by BSNL based on commercial viability and availability of suppliers.

Budget for Digital India programme

†2308. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive action plan for budget and resources for the Digital India programme initiated in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that BSNL is losing its credibility among the public owing to its poor service; and

(c) whether BSNL towers are very less in number not only in villages but also in towns, if so, the plan formulated to rectify it, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is implementing the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Digital India is an umbrella programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments and is being coordinated by DeitY.

Digital India aims to provide the much needed thrust to nine pillars of growth areas that is (i) Broadband Highways, (ii) Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) Public Internet Access Programme, (iv) e-Governance - Reforming Government through Technology, (v) e-Kranti- Electronic delivery of services, (vi) Information for All, (vii) Electronics Manufacturing - Target NET ZERO Imports, (viii) IT for Jobs and (ix) Early Harvest Programmes.

Various projects/schemes are being implemented under these nine pillars covering the entire country. Each project has its own budgetary requirement and accordingly projects plan have been charted out by the implementing Department.

In addition to this, the projects/schemes under the Digital India are being monitored by the Committee on Digital India headed by the Prime Minister, Digital India Advisory Group chaired by the Minister of Communication and IT, an Apex Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary and the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) / Committee on Non Plan Expenditure (CNE).

(b) No, Sir. Landline, Broadband and mobile services provided by BSNL are working satisfactorily in its Licensed services areas and are meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by the TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India). BSNL has reversed the trend of operating loss and earned operating profit of ₹ 672.00 crores in FY 2014-15. BSNL income from services has increased by 4.16% in FY 2014-15 as compared to the previous financial year. This stands at ₹ 27,242 crores which is the highest in the last 5 years.

(c) No, Sir. BSNL is having optimum number of towers and as on 31.10.2015 and 78535 2G BTS and 28058 3G BTS are working in its Network. BSNL is continuously working for expanding coverage of its mobile network throughout the country in phased manner depending upon the techno commercial viability of the areas.

Next round of spectrum auctions

2309. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has set in motion the process for next round of spectrum auctions in the country by issuing a consultation paper for fixing the reserve price of 2G, 3G and 4G airwaves, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that TRAI has sought comments and counter comments by end of this year, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released the Consultation Paper dated 26 November, 2015 on Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in 700, 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands.

(b) The TRAI has invited written comments on the Consultation Paper from the stakeholders by 21 December, 2015 and counter comments by 28 December, 2015.

Call drop rate

2310. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to TRAI parameters, the call drop rate should not be more than 2 per cent and for the worst affected areas, it should not be more than 3 per cent, and most of the operators were not achieving this benchmark, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the operators which were worst performers include BSNL as well, if so, the steps taken by BSNL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service standards for cellular mobile telephone service through regulations issued, from time to time. For assessing the performance of service providers on call drop, both for 2G and 3G services, TRAI has laid down two parameters *viz.* “call drop rate /Circuit Switch Voice drop rate (benchmark $\leq 2\%$)” and “worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel(TCH) drop/Circuit Switched Voice drop rate (benchmark $\leq 3\%$).”

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending September, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services 2G, non-compliance with the benchmarks is mostly observed in respect of the parameters (1) “Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH drop (call drop) rate” in 17 service areas of M/S Aircel, 5 service areas of BSNL, 15 service areas each of M/S Tata Teleservices GSM and CDMA and 4 service area of M/S Vodafone.

In respect of the parameter “Call Drop Rate (Benchmark $\leq 2\%$) all the service providers are meeting the benchmark, except BSNL in three service areas and M/s Aircel in one service area.

In order to provide better network connectivity and further reduce call drop, BSNL has operationalized additional 3.2 million lines in its Mobile Network.

Post office savings schemes

2311. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether post office savings schemes are popular despite the launch of various schemes by banks and the Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to provide new technology to the post offices at par with banks?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir. As on 31.3.2014, there were 30.86 crores Accounts of all post office savings schemes which have grown to 33.03 crores as on 31.3.2015. Government had launched resale of Kisan Vikas Patras (KVPs) on 18.11.2014 and as on 30.11.2015, Post Offices have sold 1.71 crore KVPs with investment of ₹15329.12 crores. Similarly, Government had launched Sukanya Samriddhi Accounts on 22.01.2015 and as on 30.11.2015, Post Offices have opened 76.31 Lakh accounts with investment of ₹ 2862.06 crores.

(b) Like Banks, Department of Posts has also implemented Core Banking Solution (CBS) in post offices, installed Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and issued ATM cum Debit cards to Savings Bank customers.

Action against persons sending fake e-mails/SMSes

†2312. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of complaints received by Government regarding fake e-mails/SMSes containing varied inducements like winning lotteries, prizes, selection for any scheme etc. have increased, if so, the State-wise details of complaints received in this regard in the current year;

(b) whether Government is contemplating to formulate any strict law/make amendments in laws against the people accused of offering such fake inducements; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when this would be enforced?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The cyberspace is virtual, borderless and anonymous. Anyone can open account in any name including fake name from any part of the world to commit cyber frauds. There has been an increase in usage of fake e-mail and SMSs to trick the users to steal their identity credentials and to commit crimes like phishing, lottery scams, ATM/Credit Card frauds, internet banking frauds, and other banking frauds.

As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) a total number of 433 security incidents pertaining to phishing were handled in the year 2015 (upto October 2015).

As per Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), a total no. of 3 cases have been registered relating to frauds committed by e-mail and SMS in the year 2015 (upto October 2015).

During year 2015 (up to 30.09.2015), one such complaint has been received by Department of Telecom through Telecom Enforcement and Resource Monitoring (TERM), Tamil Nadu, regarding receiving of SMS on lottery scam.

Also, as per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 428 cases were registered under section 66D of IT Act 2000 (offences relating to cheating by impersonation by using computer resources). State/UT wise cases registered, cases charge sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge sheeted and persons convicted during 2014 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Information Technology Act, 2000, provides legal framework to address various types of prevalent cyber crimes including phishing. Presently, there is no proposal with the Government to amend the Information Technology Act 2000. However, an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri T.K. Vishwanathan, former Secretary, Law (Retd.) has been set up by Ministry of Home Affairs to study and examine the existing domestic cyber laws and International Cyber legislations and recommend a road map with measures and amendments to the present laws for consideration of the Government. Also, the Reserve bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines to all banks regarding remittance towards participation in lottery, money circulation schemes, other fictitious offers of cheap funds etc in October 2011.

Statement

State/UT wise cases registered (CR), cases charge sheeted (CS), cases convicted (CV), persons arrested (PAR), persons charge sheeted (PCS) and persons convicted (PCV) under section 66D (offences related to cheating by personation by using computer resources) and section 74 (offences related to publication of electronic signature/certificate for fraudulent or unlawful purposes) of the Information Technology Act under cyber crimes during 2014

		Under Section 66D (offences related to cheating by personation by using computer resources)					
Code	States/UTs	CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49	2	0	40	2	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	1	0	1	1	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	5	0	0	1	0	0
8.	Haryana	4	3	0	7	7	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	50	0	0	4	0	0
13.	Kerala	28	6	1	11	7	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	36	36	0	36	36	0
15.	Maharashtra	33	3	0	9	3	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	14	2	0	2	2	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18. Mizoram		3	0	0	0	0	0
19. Nagaland		0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Odisha		1	0	0	0	0	0
21. Punjab		6	1	0	5	1	0
22. Rajasthan		31	1	0	1	1	0
23. Sikkim		0	0	0	0	0	0
24. Tamil Nadu		31	2	0	4	2	0
25. Telangana		21	1	1	3	1	1
26. Tripura		0	0	0	0	0	0
27. Uttar Pradesh		64	7	0	24	10	0
28. Uttarakhand		0	0	0	0	0	0
29. West Bengal		30	8	0	24	8	0
TOTAL STATES(S)		415	73	2	172	81	2
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		2	0	0	1	0	0
31. Chandigarh		6	2	0	2	2	0
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Daman and Diu		0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Delhi UT		5	1	0	1	1	0
35. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0
36. Puducherry		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT(s)		13	3	0	4	3	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		428	76	2	176	84	2

Source: Crime in India

Disposal of cases/persons by police/courts may include cases/persons of previous years also.

Build-Own-Operate-Transfer Model for Bharat Net

2313. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom regulator, TRAI, has suggested Build-Own-Operate Transfer (BOOT) model in addition to the three models proposed by the Telecom Department for implementing Bharat Net, which envisages broadband connectivity for 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats under the Digital India initiative, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the project Bharat Net plans to create a digital network by 2017 for providing affordable broadband connectivity of 2 Mbps to 20 Mbps to all rural households and institutions, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Consultation Paper on 17th November, 2015 to explore execution model based on Build-Own-Operate and Transfer (BOOT). The objective of this Consultation Paper is to discuss strategies to find best model of implementation of Bharat Net.

(b) Bharat Net intends to realise the vision of Digital India, by providing a communication highway in the form of Broadband infrastructure from the District level to the Gram Panchayats (GPs). The objective of the project is to provide on demand, affordable broadband connectivity of 2 Mbps to 20 Mbps for all households and higher capacity upto 100 Mbps on demand to all institutions in rural areas, through creation of a highly scalable network accessible on a non-discriminatory basis.

The Committee constituted to review the strategy and approach towards speedy implementation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), in its report submitted on 31st March, 2015, has suggested a revised timeline for completion of the project by December 2017 which is under consideration of the Government and a decision will be taken soon in the matter.

Services of BSNL

†2314. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nowadays, the consumers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are fed up with its services; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government for redressal of their problems?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is following quality of service parameters prescribed by TRAI and most of them are being met. During the current financial year (upto October, 2015) overall 28.7 lakh subscribers have been added in the network of BSNL.

BSNL is making all efforts to provide the best and hassle free environment for the customers availing its services. BSNL is taking the following customer centric measures for better customer satisfaction:

- BSNL has replaced its billing/ Commercial Systems for landline services by Call Detail Record (CDR) based Convergent Billing and all the 334 SSAs have been migrated to CDR system.
- BSNL has centralized monitoring and automated Fault Repair Service (FRS) system through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS).
- BSNL has computerized Public Grievance Redressal Management system (PGRMS).
- BSNL is strictly emphasizing the staff to maintain cordial relations with the customers.
- All the quality of service parameters are being monitored on day to day basis.
- BSNL has focused on customer care services by installing exclusive call centres for GSM services and Wireline and Broadband services.
- Centralized Value Added Service (VAS) provisioning system cum Consent Gateway (CVPS cum CG) platform has been provided in all 4 zones to avoid complaints of forced activations of VAS.
- Unlimited free night calling from land line to any Network in the country between 2100 Hrs to 0700 Hrs has been introduced by BSNL.
- BSNL is the only operator in India which is offering free incoming calls to its customers while roaming on PAN India basis.
- BSNL is offering reduce call rate during first three months to new customers. The reduced call rates are only ₹ 0.50 per minute and 0.8 paisa per second for all type of outgoing calls for per minute plan and per second plan respectively.
- BSNL is offering data Special Tariff Voucher (STV) which is most competitive in the industry and catering to all segments.

- BSNL has taken up various projects to improve transmission network (backhaul capacities) such as Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS), Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM), Synchronous Transport Module- Customer Premises Equipment (STM-CPE), Optical Transport Network (OTN), etc. for high speed data usage.
- Wireline network faults mainly occur due to damage of underground cable network during road/highway expansion/widening and other civil works. BSNL has advised its field units to have close co-ordination with the Local Municipal Bodies, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Railways, etc. so that damage to cables may be avoided.

Difficulty in surrendering of telephone connections of private operators

2315. SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that it is difficult to surrender telephone connections of private operators, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the policy of TRAI for surrendering of mobile/landline telephones?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down the Quality of Service (QoS) standards for cellular mobile telephone service through regulations issued, from time to time. For assessing the performance of service providers on surrender of mobile/landline telephones, TRAI has laid down parameter *viz.* “%age requests for Termination / Closure of service complied within 7 days (benchmark 100% within 7 days)”.

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending September, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services, all the service providers are meeting this parameter except M/s Idea in 7 service areas and M/s Aircel in 2 service areas.

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending June, 2015 for Basic Services, the service providers are meeting this parameter except M/s Tata in 2 service areas.

As per the service providers, the common reasons attributed to delay in closure

of service are system failures due to inventory mismatch, closure of customer's premises after apply for closure of service.

As regards other conditions relating to Closure/termination of service, "the standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations, 2009" dated 20th March, 2009 provide in the Explanatory Memorandum that "This period would cover any effort to be made by the service provider for retention of the customer and for recovery of customer premises equipment (CPE), in case such CPE is the property of the service provider. The service provider shall cease to charge rental or any other charges beyond the period of 7 days of request for closure made by the customer. Further, bills shall be raised only after adjustment of the security deposit and the closure/termination of service shall not be made conditional upon payment of dues. Also the closure/termination of service shall not be made conditional upon payment of dues/bills/settlement of dispute. In all cases of request of closure/termination, the request is to be complied with within 7 days of such request from the customer." Further, as per the direction dated 29th August 2006, regarding Issue of Docket Number for customer complaints and termination of service, the request for termination/closure can be made through Fax or through e-mail or through Telephone call, SMS and fax.

Realisation of arrears from companies

2316. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications has to realise arrears from many companies;

(b) if so, the company-wise details of the amount of arrears, as on date; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to realise the arrears?

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

(b) The details of companies are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The total amount under litigation is ₹ 32614.45 crores out of total arrears of ₹ 49988.44 crores. The cases are being defended vigorously in TDSAT, various high courts and in Hon' ble Supreme Court of India. The demands are issued as per the terms and conditions of the License agreements to realise the revenue in time.

Statement

*Provisionally admitted question for the Rajya Sabha unstarred question No. 2316
to be answered on 18.12.2015*

Arrears against Companies.

(₹ in Crores)

Sl. No.	Operator	L. Fee arrears	Spectrum Charges arrears	EMR Penalty arrears	CAF Penalty arrears	MNP testing fees arrears	EMR testing fee arrears	Total arrears from Companies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Aircel Ltd./ Dishnet Wireless Ltd.	914.8	1919.03	378.75	410.75		0.49	3623.82
2.	Allianz Ltd.		0.05					0.05
3.	M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd/ Bharti Hexacom Ltd.	1826.16	4770.48	1371.08	98.93		0.2	8066.85
4.	BSNL	4451.04	4830.28	1487.79	424.45	0.1	0.25	11193.91
5.	BPL Mobile Comm. Ltd. (Loop Comm. Ltd.)	108.9	670.52					779.42
6.	Loop Telecom Ltd.		3.97	34.85		0.35		39.17
7.	Etisalat DB Ltd.	29.44	7.85	80.5	0.02			117.81
8.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	1703.49	2097.27	784.64	61.81		0.42	4647.63
9.	MTNL	590.11	2859.07	24.3	2.05			3475.53
10.	Reliance Communications Ltd.	1506.76	1520.62	979.91	354.39	0.01	0.31	4362

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11. Reliance Telecom Ltd.	111.27	380.67						491.94
12. Spice Communications Ltd.	27.92	359.84			3.71			391.47
13. SSTL	115.05	50.55	131.74	38.73				336.07
14. S.Tel Ltd.	14.11	6.94	16.15	10.67	0.03			47.90
15. Unitech Ltd.	36.39	66.16	344.5	0.55				447.6
16. Videocon Ltd.	82.38	34.3	167.4	0.05				284.13
17. Vodafone Ltd.	2,619.07	4157.78	819.5	97.04			0.34	7693.73
18. Tata Teleservices Ltd.	943.11	1041.36	670.83	154.57			0.75	2810.62
19. Tata Teleservices Ltd. (TTML)	52.10							52.1
20. Tata Communications Ltd.	297.64							297.64
21. Telewing Ltd.	0.00	2.05						2.05
22. Tata Internet Ltd.	4.84							4.84
23. QTVL/HFCL	16.04	18.89	36.81	0.28				72.02
24. Southern online Biotechnologies Ltd.	4.38							4.38
25. Institute for Development and Research in Banking	4.04							4.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
26.	Chemical and Mattallurgical Ltd.	2.32						2.32
27.	delDSL Internet Pvt. Ltd.	3.64						3.64
28.	Ortel Communications Ltd.	23.85						23.85
29.	Software Technology park of India	20.30						20.3
30.	HCL Comnet System and services Ltd.	133.02						133.02
31.	Rail Tail Corporations Ltd.	46.99						46.99
32.	Verizone Communications Ltd.	4.77						4.77
33.	Gujarat Telelink Ltd.	145.47						145.47
34.	Infinium Ltd.	15.87						15.87
35.	RK infratel Ltd.	4.00						4
36.	Devas Multimedia Ltd.	15.08						15.08
37.	IKF Technologies Ltd.	17.80						17.8
38.	Data Infosys Ltd.	14.33						14.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
39. Kal Cables Pvt Ltd.		39.59						39.59
40. Zylog System Ltd.	2.24							2.24
41. Sify Tecknology Ltd.		126.08						126.08
42. Sify Communications Ltd.		98.99						98.99
43. Others Misc.		27.38						27.38
TOTAL	16,200.76	24,797.68	7,328.75	1,658.00	0.49	2.76		49988.44

Digitization of ration cards

2317. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether digitization of ration cards is in progress across the country to plug PDS leakage;

(b) if so, how many States have achieved or going to achieve 100 per cent target in this regard; and

(c) whether this would also help in the better implementation of the National Food Security Act and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Under the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17), the Government has approved a plan scheme on ‘End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations’ which comprises of activities, namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms. Digitization of ration card data is expected to address challenges such as inclusion/exclusion errors, bogus/ineligible ration cards, etc. States/UTs are to issue ration cards for digitized data. As

per information available, 29 States/UTs have completed the digitization of all ration cards as upto 30.11.2015

(c) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) *inter alia* stipulates that the list of the identified eligible households identified for receiving foodgrains at subsidized prices under the Act is placed in the public domain by the State Governments and displayed prominently. This will ensure transparency and help remove exclusion/inclusion errors.

Creation of storage capacity

2318. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the deficit in procurement of foodgrains in the country and the expected time period by which the same will be filled;

(b) the details of existing capacity for storage of foodgrains along with the details of creation of additional capacity in the last five years, State-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the details of Schemes and Programmes run by the Ministry to encourage private players for creation of storage capacity in the country along with details of actual creation of storage capacity under them during last three years, Statewise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no deficit in procurement of foodgrains in the country. The average offtake under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) during the last three years has been 551.43 LMT. The procurement in the last three years has been more than the average offtake under National Food Security Act (NFSA)/TPDS and OWS.

(b) As on 01.11.2015, capacity of 806.46 Lakh MT is available with FCI and State agencies for storage of central pool stocks of foodgrains. Out of this, 366.87 LMT is available with FCI and 439.59 LMT with State agencies. State-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Additional storage capacity is created by FCI under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme (through private investors, CWC and SWCs/State agencies) and under Plan Scheme (using Plan Funds).

The year-wise capacity created under PEG Scheme in the last Five years is:

Year	Capacity added (in Lakh MT)
2011-12	28.17
2012-13	40.66
2013-14	49.88
2014-15	8.30
2015-16	4.08 (up to 30.11.2015)
TOTAL	131.09

State-wise and district-wise details are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

The year-wise capacity created under Plan Scheme in the last 5 years is:

Year	Capacity added (in MT)
2011-12	11255
2012-13	2910
2013-14	22500
2014-15	43480
2015-16	19170 (upto 31.10.2015)
TOTAL	99315

State-wise and district-wise details are given in Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) As mentioned above, Private players are being encouraged for creation of storage capacity under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme.

For details refer to the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I*Storage Capacity with FCI and State Government Agencies as on 31.10.2015*

(Figures in LMT)													
Zone	Sl. No.	States	Total Storage Capacity with FCI (Owned/Hired)								Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains	Grand Total	
			Covered		CAP			Total		State Agencies			
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired	Owned	Cap	Covered	CAP	Covered	cap	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	2.61	1.00	0.00	6.27	1.00	3.45	-	9.72	- 1.00	
	2.	Jharkhand	0.67	1.57	0.05	0.00	2.24	0.05	-	-	2.24	0.05	
	3.	Odisha	3.12	2.44	0.00	0.00	5.56	-	6.16	-	11.72	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	4.	West Bengal	8.50	1.15	0.51	0.00	9.65	0.51	6.53	-	16.18	0.51
N.E.	5.	Assam	2.70	1.02	0.00	0.00	3.72	-	2.27	5.99	-	
	6.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.22	-	0.11	0.33	-	
	7.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.28	-	-	0.28	-	
	8.	Mizoram	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.42	-	0.67	-	
	9.	Tripura	0.29	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.36	0.48	-	0.84	-	
	10.	Manipur	0.28	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.32	-	-	0.32		
	11.	Nagaland	0.20	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.07	-	0.40	-	
North	12.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.31	0.00	3.36	0.31	-	-	3.36	0.31
	13.	Haryana	7.68	42.84	3.33	0.00	50.52	3.33	30.99	30.53	81.51	33.86
	14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.49	-	-	-	0.49	-
	15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	1.28	0.10	0.00	2.31	0.10	-	-	2.31	0.10
	16.	Punjab	22.24	83.23	7.31	0.09	105.47	7.40	42.42	100.44	147.89	107.84
	17.	Rajasthan	7.06	11.43	1.85	0.00	18.49	1.85	2.39	3.04	20.88	4.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	18.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	28.77	5.19	0.00	43.72	5.19	14.12	-	57.84	5.19
	19.	Uttarakhand	0.66	0.98	0.21	0.00	1.64	0.21	1.86	-	3.50	0.21
South	20.	Andhra Pradesh	7.36	7.30	1.60	0.00	14.66	1.60	12.68	-	27.34	1.60
	21.	Telangana	5.37	3.79	1.02	0.00	9.16	1.02	13.02	-	22.18	1.02
	22.	Kerala	5.29	0.05	0.21	0.00	5.34	0.21	0.97	-	6.31	0.21
	23.	Karnataka	3.81	3.34	1.36	0.00	7.15	1.36	20.36	0.41	27.51	1.77
	24.	Tamil Nadu	6.24	4.80	0.31	0.00	11.04	0.31	5.71	-	16.75	0.31
West	25.	Gujarat	5.00	2.06	0.27	0.00	7.06	0.27	2.06	-	9.12	0.27
	26.	Maharashtra	8.85	10.45	1.02	0.00	19.30	1.02		-		
	27.	Goa	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	-	11.14	-	30.64	1.02
	28.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.05	0.36	0.00	3.42	0.36	93.11	19.44	96.53	19.80
	29.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	3.11	0.01	0.00	8.23	0.01	15.41	-	23.64	0.01
	TOTAL		127.72	213.04	26.02	0.09	340.76	26.11	285.73	153.86	626.49	179.97
				340.76		26.11		366.87		439.59		806.46

Statement-II*District-wise details of Capacities created under PEG scheme as on 30.11.2015*

(Fig. in MT)

Sl. No.	Revenue District	Centre	Capacity completed but some minor ancillary works are pending	Capacity completed	Total Completed
1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab					
1.	Amritsar	Beas		32,300	32,300
		Chheratta		1,20,725	1,20,725
		Chheratta	-	5,000	5,000
		Chheratta		32,850	32,850
		Jandiala		82,500	82,500
		Taran Taran	-	1,11,400	1,11,400
2.	Barnala	Barnala		30,000	30,000
		Barnala	-	62,500	62,500
3.	Bathinda	Bhatinda	-	54,900	54,900
		Bhatinda		35,000	35,000
		Goniana		43,000	43,000
		Maur Mandi		57,500	57,500
		Raman		1,00,700	1,00,700
		Rampurphool		1,27,530	1,27,530
4.	F.G. Sahib	Mandi Gobindgarh		5,000	5,000
		Mandi Gobindgarh		6,200	6,200
		Sirhind	-	53,700	53,700

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Faridkot	Jaitu	-	39,500	39,500
		Kotkapura		69,334	69,334
		Faridkot		71,700	71,700
		Faridkot		10,800	10,800
		Gidderbha		82,500	82,500
6.	Ferozepur	Abohar		1,97,800	1,97,800
		Fazilka		1,43,800	1,43,800
		Firozpur		55,700	55,700
		Firozpur		50,000	50,000
		Guruharsahai		46,700	46,700
		Makhu		79,100	79,100
		Talwandi Bhai		32,300	32,300
7.	Gurdaspur	Gurdaspur		10,000	10,000
		Gurdaspur		3,900	3,900
		Dhariwal		21,500	21,500
8.	Jalandhar	Nakodar		13,850	13,850
		Nakodar	-	22,050	22,050
		Nawasahar		12,800	12,800
		Nawasahar		23,100	23,100
		Nurmahal		16,550	16,550
		Nurmahal	-	15,750	15,750
		Phillaur		46,700	46,700
		Shahkot		35,900	35,900
9.	Kapurthala	Kapurthala	-	33,480	33,480

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Kapurthala	-	51,307	51,307
		Phagwara		14,600	14,600
		S. P. Lodhi		14,300	14,300
10.	Ludhiana	Jagraon		35,000	35,000
		Mullanpur		32,600	32,600
		Mullanpur		17,700	17,700
11.	Mansa	Bareta		50,000	50,000
		Mansa	-	48,300	48,300
		Mansa		1,100	1,100
		Budhlada		1,33,000	1,33,000
12.	Moga	Ajitwal		74,000	74,000
		Moga		1,85,520	1,85,520
		Moga		15,850	15,850
13.	Muktsar	Malout		1,97,500	1,97,500
		Muktsar	-	2,22,900	2,22,900
14.	Nawanshehar	Banga	-	10,200	10,200
15.	Patiala	Nabha		1,20,800	1,20,800
		Patiala		2,20,000	2,20,000
16.	Ropar	Kurali		5,000	5,000
		Ropar		5,000	5,000
		Morinda		10,000	10,000
17.	Sangrur	Jakhal		1,43,840	1,43,840
		Malerkotla		57,650	57,650
		Dhuri		67,939	67,939

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Ahmedgarh		20,500	20,500
		Ahmedgarh		10,000	10,000
		Ahmedgarh		1,800	1,800
		Bhuchhu		75,500	75,500
		Lehragaga		46,700	46,700
		Patti	-	2,44,500	2,44,500
		Sangrur		8,350	8,350
		Sangrur		16,500	16,500
		Sunam	-	1,02,200	1,02,200
		Sunam		12,750	12,750
		Tapa		46,700	46,700
		SUB TOTAL		44,15,225	44,15,225
Uttar Pradesh					-
1.	Allahabad	Allahabad		4,000	4,000
2.	Auria	Auria			-
3.	Azamgarh	Azamgarh		75,000	75,000
4.	Badaun	Badaun		49,080	49,080
5.	Balia	Balia		15,000	15,000
6.	Balrampur	Balrampur		15,000	15,000
7.	Balrampur	Balrampur		5,000	5,000
8.	Banda	Banda		20,000	20,000
9.	Barabanki	Barabanki	-	6,680	6,680
10.	Bareilly	Bareilly		95,000	95,000
11.	Behraich	Behraich		80,000	80,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	C.S. M. Nagar	C.S. M. Nagar		31,000	31,000
13.	Chitrakoot	Chitrakoot		8,000	8,000
14.	Farrukhabad	Farrukhabad		5,000	5,000
		Farukhabad		10,000	10,000
15.	G. B. Nagar	G. B. Nagar		10,000	10,000
16.	Gazipur	Gazipur	-	10,000	10,000
17.	Gonda	Gonda		35,000	35,000
18.	Hardoi	Hardoi		7,500	7,500
		Hardoi		15,000	15,000
		Hardoi		2,200	2,200
19.	Jhansi	Jhansi		15,000	15,000
20.	Kausambi	Kausambi		10,000	10,000
21.	Kushinagar	Kushinagar	-	90,000	90,000
22.	Lakhimpur Kheri	Lakhimpur Kheri		75,000	75,000
23.	Lalitpur	Lalitpur		15,000	15,000
24.	Maharajganj	Maharajganj		50,000	50,000
25.	Mahoba	Mahoba	-	15,000	15,000
26.	Mau	Mau		20,000	20,000
27.	Mirzapur	Mirzapur	-	40,000	40,000
28.	Pilibhit	Pilibhit		90,000	90,000
29.	Pratapgarh	Pratapgarh		5,000	5,000
30.	Rai Bareilly	Rai Bareilly		2,000	2,000
31.	S K Nagar	S K Nagar		5,000	5,000
32.	Shahjahanpur	Shahjahanpur		86,000	86,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Shahjahanpur		8,000	8,000
33.	Shrawasti	Shrawasti		10,000	10,000
34.	Siddharth Nagar	Siddharth Nagar		55,000	55,000
35.	Sitapur	Sitapur		60,000	60,000
36.	Sultanpur	Sultanpur		10,000	10,000
37.	Sultanpur (Jaferganj)	Sultanpur (Jaferganj)		2,000	2,000
38.	Firozabad	Firozabad		10,000	10,000
39.	Etah	Etah		10,000	10,000
40.	Bulandshahar	Bulandshahar		10,000	10,000
41.	Banda	Banda		5,000	5,000
42.	Etawah	Etawah		10,000	10,000
43.	Farrukhabad	Farrukhabad		5,000	5,000
44.	Sitapur	Sitapur		10,000	10,000
45.	Hardoi	Hardoi		11,667	11,667
		SUB TOTAL	-	12,33,127	12,33,127
Haryana					
1.	Ambala	Ambala	-	55,000	55,000
2.	Bhiwani	Bhiwani	-	27,500	27,500
3.	Faridabad	Palwal		17,392	17,392
		Palwal	-	1,15,000	1,15,000
4.	Fatehabad	Tohana	-	5,000	5,000
		Tohana	-	5,000	5,000
		Tohana (Fatehabad)	-	10,000	10,000
		Tohana		1,04,630	1,04,630

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Bhattu	-	67,100	67,100
		Bhattu		1,21,030	1,21,030
		Bhattu	-	61,670	61,670
		Jakhal	-	10,000	10,000
		Jakhal	-	50,960	50,960
5.	Hisar	Adampur		70,000	70,000
		Barwala		33,936	33,936
		Barwala		1,76,064	1,76,064
		Hansi		29,418	29,418
		Hansi		90,000	90,000
		Hissar		35,000	35,000
5 A.	Jind	Jind		20,000	20,000
		Jind	-	90,000	90,000
		Narwana		1,02,700	1,02,700
		Safidon		1,14,440	1,14,440
		Uchana		5,000	5,000
		Uchana		1,12,270	1,12,270
6.	Kaithal	Kaithal	-	1,00,000	1,00,000
		Dhand		1,36,970	1,36,970
7.	Karnal	Karnal	-	1,06,275	1,06,275
		Karnal	-	23,725	23,725
		Taraori	-	19,600	19,600
		Taraori	-	54,560	54,560
8.	Panipat	Panipat		1,15,040	1,15,040

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Panipat		11,250	11,250
9.	Rohtak	Rohtak	-	1,11,700	1,11,700
		Rohtak		33,350	33,350
10.	Sonepat	Sonepat	-	39,200	39,200
		Sonepat	-	50,740	50,740
		Gohana		80,151	80,151
11.	Sirsa	Dabwali	-	2,10,000	2,10,000
		Ellenabad	-	30,000	30,000
		Ellenabad	-	1,64,450	1,64,450
		Kalanwali	-	90,000	90,000
		Kalanwali	-	48,870	48,870
		Sirsa	-	45,575	45,575
		Sirsa (Panniwala)	-	1,18,740	1,18,740
		Sirsa	-	1,68,653	1,68,653
12.	Kurukshetra	Kurukshetra (Pipali)	-	7,500	7,500
		Kurukshetra	-	52,500	52,500
		Shahbad		70,000	70,000
13.	Yamuna Nagar	Jagdhari		6,670	6,670
		Jagadhari	-	32,000	32,000
		SUB TOTAL	-	34,56,629	34,56,629
Rajasthan					
1.	Banswara	Banswara		10,000	10,000
		Banswara		5,000	5,000
2.	Barmer	Barmer		5,000	5,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Barmer	-	15,000	15,000
3.	Bhilwara	Bhilwara	-	25,000	25,000
4.	Churu	Churu		18,000	18,000
5.	Dungarpur	Dungarpur		40,000	40,000
6.	Jalore	Jalore		5,000	5,000
7.	Jhalawar	Jhalawar		5,000	5,000
		Jhalawar	-	7,500	7,500
8.	Karoli	Karoli		10,000	10,000
9.	Pali	Pali		5,000	5,000
10.	Pratapgarh	Pratapgarh	-	17,500	17,500
11.	Rajsamand	Rajsamand	40,000		40,000
12.	Sirohi	Sirohi	12,000		12,000
		SUB TOTAL	52,000	1,68,000	2,20,000

Himachal Pradesh

1.	Kangara	Dehra		2,500	2,500
		Ranital	-	5,000	5,000
2.	Mandi	Sarkaghat	5,000		5,000
3.	Sirmaur	Nahan		11,670	11,670
		SUB TOTAL	5,000	19,170	24,170

West Bengal

1.	East Midnapur	Tamluk		20,000	20,000
		Egra		10,000	10,000
2.	West Midnapur	Kharagpur		3,600	3,600
		C.K. Road	-	26,500	26,500

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Murshidabad	Behrampore		11,600	11,600
		Sargachi		2,400	2,400
4.	Howrah	Ulberia		10,270	10,270
5.	Jalpaiguri	Raninagar		15,000	15,000
6.	Malda	Malda	-	7,400	7,400
7.	Burdwan	Memari		5,000	5,000
		Guskara		5,000	5,000
		Monteshwar		5,000	5,000
		Ketugram		5,000	5,000
		Bhatar		5,000	5,000
8.	Birbhum	Bolepur		5,000	5,000
		Sainthia		5,000	5,000
9.	24-PGS (North)	Basirhat		5,000	5,000
		SUB TOTAL	-	1,46,770	1,46,770
Bihar					
1.	Bhojpur	Arrah	-	5,000	5,000
2.	Begusarai	Begusarai		15,000	15,000
3.		Begusarai	-	5,000	5,000
4.	Patna	Bihta	-	5,000	5,000
5.	Saran	Chhapra		10,000	10,000
6.	Khagiriya	Khagiriya	-	10,000	10,000
		Khagiriya	10,000	-	10,000
7.	E. Champaran	Motihari		5,000	5,000
		Motihari		20,000	20,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Samastipur	Samastipur		10,000	10,000
9.	Rohtas	Sasaram	-	5,000	5,000
10.	Bhagalpur	Munger		10,000	10,000
11.	W. Champaran	Bettiah		20,000	20,000
12.	Kaimur	Mohaniya		15,000	15,000
		SUB TOTAL	10,000	1,35,000	1,45,000

Odisha

1.	Bhadarak	Bhadarak		10,000	10,000
2.	Bolangir	Bolangir		20,000	20,000
3.	Boudh	Boudh		5,000	5,000
		Charichak		5,000	5,000
4.	Puri	Brahmagiri		5,000	5,000
		Puri-Nimapara		5,000	5,000
6.	Deogarh	Deogarh		5,000	5,000
7.	Kendrapada	Derabish		5,000	5,000
		Kendrapara-Marsaghai		10,000	10,000
8.	Jajpur	Dhanmandal		7,500	7,500
		Panikoli		5,000	5,000
9.	Dhenkhal	Dhenkhal		5,000	5,000
10.	Ganjam	Ganjam Aska	-	10,000	10,000
11.	Jagatsinghpur	Jagatsinghpur		7,000	7,000
12.	Kalahandi	Kalahandi-Junagarh		12,000	12,000
		Kalahandi-Koksara		13,000	13,000
13.	Bargarh	Kendupali		7,500	7,500

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Kendupali		40,000	40,000
		Kendupali		2,500	2,500
14.	Khurda	Khurda-Jatni		15,000	15,000
15.	Malkanagiri	Malkanagiri		5,000	5,000
16.	Mayurbhanj	Mayurbhanj-Raranjia		5,000	5,000
		Rairangpur		5,000	5,000
17.	Nayagarh	Nayagarh		10,000	10,000
18.	Nowrangpur	Nowrangpur		10,000	10,000
19.	Nuapada	Nuapada-Dumerpani		5,000	5,000
		Nuapada-Rajkhariar		5,000	5,000
20.	Sambalpur	Sambalpur-A. Katapalli		10,000	10,000
		Sambalpur-Kalamati		10,000	10,000
21.	Subaranapur	Subaranapur Sonpur		10,000	10,000
		Subaranapur Sonpur		10,000	10,000
		SUB TOTAL	-	2,79,500	2,79,500

Chhattisgarh

1.	Janjgir	Akaltara		18,740	18,740
		Baradwar		9,640	9,640
		Champa		10,000	10,000
		Janjgir		18,740	18,740
		Sakti		9,640	9,640
		Akaltara		10,000	10,000
		Janjgir		10,000	10,000
		Faguram		10,000	10,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Sarguja	Ambikapur		5,000	5,000
		Bishrampur		5,000	5,000
		Surajpur		10,000	10,000
3.	Mahasamund	Bagbahara		9,440	9,440
		Basna		10,000	10,000
		Mahasamund		15,000	15,000
		Pithora		5,000	5,000
		Saraipali		10,000	10,000
		Mahasamund		20,000	20,000
		Bagbahara		20,000	20,000
		Basna		8,350	8,350
		Pithora		5,000	5,000
4.	Kanker	Bhanupratappur		5,000	5,000
		Kanker		5,000	5,000
		Charama		5,000	5,000
		Kanker		13,360	13,360
		Charama		6,680	6,680
5.	Balodabazar	Bhatapara		5,000	5,000
6.	Bilaspur	Bilaspur	0	13,000	13,000
		Bilha		5,000	5,000
7.	Jagdalpur	Jagdalpur		11,120	11,120
		Kondagaon		5,000	5,000
8.	Raigh	Kharsia		14,070	14,070
		Loharsingh		14,270	14,270

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Raigarh		12,000	12,000
		Raigarh		10,000	10,000
		Kharsia		10,000	10,000
9.	Dhamtari	Dhamtari		20,000	20,000
		Kurud		13,360	13,360
10.	Balod	Balod (Durg)		20,000	20,000
11.	Raipur	Abhanpur (Raipur)		10,000	10,000
12.	Durg	Bhilai Karanja		13,300	13,300
13.	Mungeli	Mungeli		5,000	5,000
14.	Bastar	Keshloor		7,800	7,800
15.	Kondagaon	Keshkal		5,000	5,000
16.	Jashpur	Patthalgaon		6,680	6,680
17.	Korba	Korba		5,000	5,000
18.	Koria	Baikunthpur		5,000	5,000
		Manendragarh		5,000	5,000
19.	Kawardha	Kawardha		5,000	5,000
		SUB TOTAL	-	4,75,190	4,75,190

Madhya Pradesh

					-
1.	Alirajpur	Alirajpur		10,000	10,000
2.	Ashok Nagar	Ashok Nagar		16,000	16,000
3.	Badwani	Badwani	20,000		20,000
4.	Balaghat	Balaghat		8,900	8,900
	Balaghat	Balaghat		5,000	5,000
5.	Betul	Betul		20,000	20,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Betul		11,000	11,000
6.	Bhind	Bhind		10,000	10,000
7.	Rajgarh	Biora		25,000	25,000
		Biora		13,000	13,000
8.	Chhindwara	Chhindwara		14,600	14,600
		Chhindwara		27,000	27,000
		Chhindwara		10,000	10,000
9.	Gwalior	Dabra		25,000	25,000
10.	Damoh	Damoh		31,000	31,000
11.	Raisen	Devatia (Raisen)	22,500	0	22,500
	Dhar	Dhamnod		20,000	20,000
12.		Dhar		18,760	18,760
13.	Dindori	Dindori		10,000	10,000
14.	Vidisha	Ganjbasoda		15,600	15,600
15.	Hosangabad	Hathnapur		10,300	10,300
16.	Indore	Indore		25,000	25,000
17.	Katni	Katni		5,000	5,000
		Katni		20,600	20,600
18.	Khandwa	Khandwa		13,000	13,000
19.	Khargone	Khargone		21,000	21,000
20.	Harda	Kheda	70,000	0	70,000
21.	Ratlam	Mahidpur		11,000	11,000
22.	Satna	Maihar (Satna)		17,000	17,000
23.	Mandla	Mandla		5,000	5,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Jhabua	Meghnagar		7,500	7,500
25.	Morena	Morena		10,000	10,000
26.	Betul	Multai		5,000	5,000
27.	Narsinghpur	Narsinghpur		6,400	6,400
28.	Sehore	Nasarullaganj		11,000	11,000
29.	Neemuch	Neemuch		9,000	9,000
30.	Tikamgarh	Niwari		14,000	14,000
31.	Mandla	Niwas		25,000	25,000
32.	Raisen	Obedullaganj		20,000	20,000
33.	Panna	Panna		12,000	12,000
34.	Dhar	Pitampur (Dhar)		10,000	10,000
35.	Hosangabad	Powerkheda		53,300	53,300
36.	Raisen	Raisen		5,000	5,000
		Raisen		10,000	10,000
37.	Rajgarh	Rajgarh	20,000	-	20,000
38.	Rewa	Rewa		25,000	25,000
39.	Hosangabad	Samnapur	35,000	-	35,000
40.	Khargone	Sanawad		15,000	15,000
41.	Sehore	Sehore		20,000	20,000
42.	Seoni	Seoni		13,750	13,750
		Seoni		22,980	22,980
		Seoni		10,000	10,000
		Seoni		8,000	8,000
43.	Shahdol	Shahdol		20,000	20,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
44.	Shajapur	Maksi (Shajapur)		10,000	10,000
		Shajapur		10,000	10,000
45.	Sheopur	Sheopur Kalan		20,000	20,000
		Sheopur	9,500	-	9,500
46.	Shivpuri	Shivpuri		5,000	5,000
		Shivpuri		36,000	36,000
47.	Harda	Sultanpur		50,000	50,000
48.	Damoh	Tendukheda		5,000	5,000
49.	Tikamgarh	Tikamgarh		20,000	20,000
50.	Ujjain	Ujjain		20,000	20,000
		Ujjain (Maksi)		10,000	10,000
51.	Umaria	Umaria		18,000	18,000
		SUB TOTAL	1,77,000	9,55,690	11,32,690

Maharashtra

1.	Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar		22,960	22,960
2.	Akola	Akola		17,400	17,400
3.	Aurangabad	Aurangabad		20,000	20,000
		Aurangabad		25,000	25,000
4.	Amravati	Badnera		25,000	25,000
5.	Pune	Baramati		6,000	6,000
		Baramati		10,000	10,000
6.	Chandrapur	Brahmpuri		11,000	11,000
		Chandrapur		29,105	29,105
7.	Buldhana	Khamgaon		35,000	35,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Solapur	Chincholi		11,200	11,200
9.	Dhule	Dhule		10,000	10,000
		Dondaicha		13,860	13,860
10.	Gondia	Gondia		15,000	15,000
11	Jalgaon	Jalgaon		25,200	25,200
		Jalgaon		13,000	13,000
12.	Jalna	Jalna		30,000	30,000
13.	Buldhana	Khamgaon		6,000	6,000
14.	Sindhu Durg	Kudal		7,000	7,000
15.	Solapur	Kurudwadi		18,000	18,000
16.	Latur	Latur		8,870	8,870
		Latur		10,000	10,000
17.	Satara	Lonand		8,232	8,232
18.	Osmanabad	Osmanabad		40,000	40,000
19.	Parbhani	Parbhani		30,000	30,000
20.	Beed	Parli vaijnath		17,500	17,500
21.	Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri		23,340	23,340
22.	Satara	Satara		20,860	20,860
23.	Washim	Washim		30,000	30,000
24.	Yeotmal	Yeotmal		10,000	10,000
		Yeotmal		15,000	15,000
SUB TOTAL				5,64,527	5,64,527
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	East Godavari	Biccavolu		30,000	30,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Dwarapudi		5,000	5,000
2.	Vizianagaram	Bobbili		6,000	6,000
3.	Prakasam	Chirala		5,800	5,800
4.	West Godavari	Palakole		5,000	5,000
5.	Srikakulam	Amadalavalasa		20,000	20,000
		Tekkali		16,000	16,000
		SUB TOTAL		87,800	87,800

Telengana

1.	Nizamabad	Bodhan		20,000	20,000
2.	Mahbubnagar	Gadwal		10,000	10,000
3.	Warangal	Jangoan		10,000	10,000
		Nekkonda		50,000	50,000
4.	Nalgonda	Mellachervu	31,000		31,000
		Nagireddipalli		50,000	50,000
5.	Nizamabad	Nizamabad		60,000	60,000
6.	Karimnagar	Sultanabad		38,000	38,000
		SUB TOTAL	31,000	2,38,000	2,69,000

Karnataka

					-
1.	Chamrajnagar	Chamrajnagar		10,000	10,000
2.	Chitradurga	Chitradurga		27,000	27,000
3.	Gadag	Gadag		18,520	18,520
4.	Gulberga	Gulberga		32,000	32,000
5.	Davengere	Harihara		6,500	6,500
6.	Hassan	Hassan		9,000	9,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haveri	Haveri		15,000	15,000
8.	Kopal	Kopal		20,000	20,000
9.	Mandya	Mandya		3,000	3,000
10.	Mysore	Mysore		13,000	13,000
		Mysore		7,000	7,000
11.	Raichur	Raichur		5,750	5,750
		Raichur		23,000	23,000
12.	Yadagir	Yadagir		15,000	15,000
		SUB TOTAL		2,04,770	2,04,770
Tamil Nadu					-
1.	Ariyalur	Ariyalur		10,000	10,000
2.	Virudhunagar	Aruppukottai		5,000	5,000
3.	Villupuram	Chinnasalem		15,000	15,000
		Villupuram	20,000	0	20,000
4.	Cuddalore	Cuddalore		15,000	15,000
5.	Krishnagiri	Hosur		15,000	15,000
6.	Sivagangai	Karaikudi		15,000	15,000
7.	Tuticorin	Kovilpatti		5,000	5,000
8.	Kancheepuram	Maduranthagam		15,000	15,000
9.		Maduranthagam		5,000	5,000
10.	Namakkal	Namakkal		15,000	15,000
11.	Thiruvanamalai	Thiruvanamalai		20,000	20,000
12.	Virudhnagar	Virudhnagar		5,000	5,000
		SUB TOTAL	20,000	1,40,000	1,60,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jharkhand					-
1.	Chatra	Chatra		5,000	5,000
2.	E. Singbhum	E. Singhum-Chakulia		15,000	15,000
3.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh		15,000	15,000
4.	Jamtara	Jamtara		5,000	5,000
5.	Latehar	Latehar		5,000	5,000
6.	Ramgarh	Ramgarh		5,000	5,000
		Ramgarh		10,000	10,000
7.	Saraikela	Saraikela		5,000	5,000
8.	Ranchi	Ranchi		15,000	15,000
9.	Koderma	Koderma		15,000	15,000
10.	Deoghar	Madhupur		5,000	5,000
11.	Dhanbad	Dhanbad		13,000	13,000
SUB TOTAL				1,13,000	1,13,000
Jammu and Kashmir					-
1.	Badgam	Badgam		15,000	15,000
2.	Jammu	Jammu		10,000	10,000
3.	Leh	Leh		8,340	8,340
4.	Samba	Vijaypur/Samba		25,000	25,000
5.	Baramula	Baramula		20,000	20,000
6.	Doda	Khilani (Doda)		5,000	5,000
7.	Rajouri	Rajouri		8,340	8,340
8.	Kishtwar	Kishtwar		5,000	5,000
9.	Srinagar	Srinagar		17,500	17,500

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Udhampur	Udhampur		5,000	5,000
11.	Kathua	Kathua		8,000	8,000
		SUB TOTAL		1,27,180	1,27,180
Kerala					-
1.	Pathanamthitta	Kunnamthanam		5,000	5,000
		SUB TOTAL		5,000	5,000
Gujarat					-
1.	Ananad	Vadod		4,800	4,800
2.	Junagarh	Junagarh		25,000	25,000
3.	Kheda	Nadiad		5,000	5,000
4.	Tapi	Vyara		15,000	15,000
				49,800	49,800
		GRAND TOTAL	2,95,000	1,28,14,378	1,31,09,378

Statement-III

Details of the storage capacity created under Twelfth Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	States	District	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assam	Lakhimpur			2500	
		Bongaigaon			2000	
		Hojai			2500	
		Kamrup (Total approved Capacity 50000 MT)			25000	9170
		Sonitpur (Total approved Capacity 25000 MT)			5000	10000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri East Kameng Dibang Valley (Dibang Valley)		2500	1670	640
3.	Manipur	Senapati Imphal East district	1660 1250			
4.	Meghalaya	West Garo Hills			2500	
5.	Mizoram					
6.	Nagaland	Dimapur			1670	
7.	Sikkim					
8.	Tripura					
9.	Odisha	Mayurbhanj		10000		
10.	Kerala	Idukki Wayanad		5000 5000		
TOTAL			2910	22500	43480	19170

Measures to check inflation

2319. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the rate of inflation for the last three months as per the Consumer Price Index;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to check inflation in order to bring down food prices; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to co-ordinate with Governments of various States to solve the aforesaid problem?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The rate of inflation based on the Consumer Price

Index (General) compiled by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) was 4.41 per cent in September 2015, 5.00 per cent in October 2015 and 5.41 per cent in November 2015 respectively.

(b) and (c) The details of steps taken to control the prices of essential food items are given in the Statement (*See* below). Most of these measures are implemented in coordination with the State/UT Governments.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to check price rise and to improve the availability of essential food items:

General Measures:

- I. National Consultation Meeting of the Minister of States/UTs in-charge of Consumer Affairs and Food held on 7th July, 2015, at New Delhi resolved to take steps to keep prices of essential commodities, especially pulses and onions under control.
- II. Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
- III. Regular review meeting on price and availability situation is being held at the highest level including at the level of Finance Minister, Committee of Secretaries, Inter-Ministerial Committee, Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee and other Departmental level review meetings.
- IV. Higher MSP has been announced so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
- V. A new Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.

Specific Measures:

Onion

- VI. Export of onion is restricted through Minimum Export Price (MEP) and import is allowed at zero duty.
- VII. Retail sale of onion was undertaken from the stock held by SFAC and NAFED.

- VIII. Imported 2000 MT of onion from Egypt and China through MMTC. As no demand from states were received, the onion has been disposed off through tenders in the open market.
- IX. The stock limits in respect of onion has been extended by one more year *i.e.* up to 2nd July, 2016 under the Essential Commodities Act.

Pulses

- X. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
- XI. Zero import duty on pulses has been extended till 30.9.2016.
- XII. Stock limits on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
- XIII. Government of India imported 5000 MT of tur from Malawi/Mozambique and allocated it to States with a subsidy of ₹ 10 per kg. for retail sale to consumers, to improve availability and to help moderate prices.
- XIV. MSP (including bonus) raised for kharif pulses by ₹ 275 per qtl. for tur and urad, and ₹ 250 per qtl. for moong. MSP also raised for rabi pulses by ₹ 325 per qtl. for gram and masoor.

Edible Oils

- XV. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oil in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs. is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
- XVI. MSP increased in the range of ₹ 30 per qtl. to ₹ 250 per qtl. for various rabi and kharif oilseeds.

Remunerative price for sugarcane growers

2320. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION 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, particularly for Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government has received requests/representations from Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra for hiking the FRP for sugarcane during the current sugar season, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government has issued any advisories/directives to the States for ensuring remunerative price to sugarcane growers and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Central Government 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 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 risk and profits. The FRP so fixed is based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and after consultations with State Governments and other stakeholders. FRP of sugarcane, linked to recovery rate, is uniform throughout the country and not fixed State-wise.

(b) Representations from Bhartiya Kisan Union and Indian Farmer Organisation of Uttar Pradesh seeking fixation of FRP of sugarcane for the sugar season 2015-16 respectively at ₹ 350 per quintal and ₹ 300 per quintal have been received. There is no proposal to revise the FRP of sugarcane for the sugar season 2015-16 which has already been fixed at ₹ 230 per quintal at basic recovery rate of 9.5% with a premium of ₹ 2.42 per quintal for every incremental increase of 0.1% in the recovery rate.

(c) There are standing provisions in the form of Clause 3(2) of the Sugarcane (Control) order, 1966 according to which the FRP is a benchmark guaranteed price of sugarcane determined by the Central Government below which no sugar mill can purchase sugarcane from cane growers.

Non-lifting of paddy by rice millers

†2321. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rice millers of Chhattisgarh, by way of not lifting the procured paddy, are acting arbitrarily and exerting pressure due to which paddy is not being lifted;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the non-subsidised LPG connections connected to DBTL have been found to be fake and whether this matter will be probed in detail; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide five Kg. gas cylinders to the BPL card holders?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. Paddy procurement and lifting of paddy for custom milling is underway in Chhattisgarh. In KMS 2015-16, 18.64 LMT of paddy has already been procured in Chhattisgarh till 11.12.2015, of which 6.81 LMT of paddy has been lifted by millers for custom milling.

(b) No, Sir. Non subsidized LPG connection is not connected to Direct Benefits Transfer for LPG (DBTL) and subsidy amount is not payable for such connections.

(c) As per the extant guidelines, Five Kg. connections are available to BPL card holders in case they prefer Five Kg. connection instead of 14.2 Kg.

Wastage of foodgrains

2322. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of proper storage facilities, large quantity of foodgrains get damaged every year and become unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains damaged during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the corrective steps being taken by Government to ensure that foodgrains are preserved properly?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) There is no report of damage to foodgrains due to shortage of storage facilities. Adequate storage capacity is available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies for storage of central pool stocks. As on 01.11.2015, storage capacity of 806.46 lakh ton (covered 626.49 lakh ton and CAP 179.97 lakh ton) is available with FCI and State agencies against central pool stock of 411.98 lakh ton.

Procured foodgrains are stored in scientific manner in covered godowns and in CAP (Cover & Plinth) storage. Scientific codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are followed during storage. In spite of all precautions, some quantity of foodgrains may

get damaged/become non-issuable during storage due to various reasons such as storage pest's attack, leakages in godowns, exposure to rains, floods etc.

State-wise details of the foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in FCI during last three years and current year are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) To ensure proper preservation of foodgrains covered storage capacity is being augmented for which construction of godowns has been undertaken in PPP mode in 20 States under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme through private sector as well as CWC, SWCs. Besides, Government is also using Plan funds for constructing godowns by FCI in the North Eastern States and a few select States (Odisha, Kerala, Goa and Himachal Pradesh).

Steps taken for proper preservation of central pool foodgrains to avoid damage are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Statement-I

State-wise quantity of central pool foodgrains accrued as damage/non-issuable in storage with FCI during last three years and current year

(Figure in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Upto 01.11.2015)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	997.3	3909.408	703.65	3.91
2.	Jharkhand	3.43	622.092	2.67	0
3.	Odisha	1	1084.79	7108.817	25.944
4.	West Bengal	45	12539.85	120.49	6.11
5.	Assam	51.54	180.738	96.622	119.905
6.	North Eastern Frontier	195	1827.768	95.416	202.044
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	3.3	0	0
8.	Nagaland and Manipur	0	32.258	38	10.6

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Delhi	39.86	34.328	2.591	14.575
10.	Haryana	148.04	0	0	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	6120	0
12.	Punjab	123	72.631	44.593	0
13.	Rajasthan	120.83	13.019	2.761	0
14.	Uttar Pradesh	18.3	1109.572	322.034	80.818
15.	Uttarakhand	221	90.021	7.531	0
16.	Andhra Pradesh	24.72	475.509	2262.124	2142.444
17.	Kerala	0	355	397.685	115.546
18.	Karnataka	141.76	45.636	747.825	4.867
19.	Tamil Nadu	749.66	293.786	376.986	18.7
20.	Gujarat	195	443.958	195.246	11.655
21.	Maharashtra	61	1234.1	103.981	30.443
22.	Madhya Pradesh	3.02	76.942	80.183	0
23.	Chhattisgarh	8.98	250.749	18.021	7.109
TOTAL		3148.44	24695.455	18847.226	2794.67

Statement-II

The following precautionary and remedial steps are mandated to be followed by F.C.I. and State Government agencies for proper preservation of central pool stocks of foodgrains:

- (i) All godowns are to be constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are to be stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are to be used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored

grain insect pests are to be provided in all the godowns.

- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are to be carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are to be used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are to be used as dunnage material. Stacks are to be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is to be followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

Implementation of Shanta Kumar Committee Report

2323. DR. K. KESHA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of work of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been digitised pursuant to the recommendations of the Shanta Kumar Committee;
- (b) the progress made on the other recommendations of the Committee; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has rejected any of the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) FCI has invited tenders for Depot Online Project. It will be done in phases. Depot Online Project will be done in 10 depots in current year and all other depots of FCI in the next year. Depot on line project would be implemented in hired Depot in third phase.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken suitable decisions for implementation of acceptable recommendations of the High Level Committee (HLC) on restructuring of Food Corporation of India (FCI). The details of these decisions of the Government on the recommendations of HLC are given in the Statement (*See below*). The recommendations rejected by the Ministry are already mentioned in the same Statement.

Statement*The decision taken by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Shanta Kumar Committee*

Sl. No.	Recommendations	Decisions taken	Progress
1	2	3	4
1.	HLC recommends 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.	All States excluding Punjab and Haryana are Decentralized Procuring (DCP) States where Food Corporation of India (FCI) is not involved in procurement. FCI has decided to stop procurement in Punjab and Haryana, only on getting request from the concerned State Governments. The State Government of Haryana has already given consent for not to involve FCI in procurement of wheat for RMS 2015-16, consequently, FCI has not taken part in procurement of wheat there. Similarly, FCI has decided not to take part in procurement of paddy in KMS 2015-16 in Haryana as per consent of the State Government. FCI has	FCI is participating in paddy procurement in Punjab & Haryana during KMS 2015-16 on the request of State Governments.

1	2	3	4
		<p>taken part in procurement of wheat in RMS 2015-16 as per the request of State Government of Punjab.</p> <p>FCI is of the view that transfer of stock of rice from one State to another is to be done by FCI, therefore, if they do not check the quality of rice themselves, it will create problem. If FCI would not accept the rice later on, due to poor quality of rice procured by State Governments, then it would create problems to the State Governments also. Therefore, the existing system has been decided to be continued.</p>	
2.	FCI will accept only the surplus (after deducting the needs of the states under NFSA) from these State Governments (not millers) to be moved to deficit States.		
3.	FCI should move on to help those States where farmers suffer from distress sales at prices much below MSP, and which are dominated by small holdings, like	<p>FCI provides only guidance and outside support in procurement work in case of DCP States. In Non-DCP States, FCI has decided to help in the following manner-Procurement plan to be prepared in consultation with the</p> <p>1. Perspective Action Plan for enhancement of procurement of paddy/ rice has been received from State Government of Uttar Pradesh.</p>	

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam etc. This is the belt from where second green revolution is expected, and where FCI needs to be pro-active, mobilizing State and other agencies to provide benefits of MSP and procurement to larger number of farmers, especially small and marginal ones.</p> | <p>State Governments, FCI, as far as possible, to open its procurement centers in larger numbers. Where FCI and State Government Agencies are notable to open procurement centers, procurement would be done through private agencies. Training would be imparted to State Governments on quality and storage for doing arrangements like States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh etc. from time to time. For creating infrastructure in these States, development of Agricultural Mandies, arrangements of storage, arrangements of machines equipments etc. could be done with the support of Ministry of Agriculture.</p> | <p>Acceptance letter issued to private agency for procurement in Ballia, Mau, Ghajipur and Chandauli revenue districts of U.P.</p> |
| <p>4. DFPD/ FCI at the Centre should enter into an agreement with states before every procurement season regarding costing norms and basic rules for procurement.</p> | <p>There is already agreement with DCP States. FCI has prepared a draft agreement for Non-DCP States for holding consultation with State Governments.</p> | <p>2. Acceptance letter issued to private agency for procurement in Ballia, Mau, Ghajipur and Chandauli revenue districts of U.P.</p> |
| | <p>3. Re-tender for engagement of private players for procurement of paddy done by GM, West Bengal, Assam and U.P. (for two clusters).</p> | <p>3. Re-tender for engagement of private players for procurement of paddy done by GM, West Bengal, Assam and U.P. (for two clusters).</p> |
| | <p>4. DFPD/ FCI at the Centre should enter into an agreement with states before every procurement season regarding costing norms and basic rules for procurement.</p> | <p>4. Acceptance letter to private player issued for procurement of paddy under MSP scheme for KMS 2015-16 in the Kolhan and Chottanagpur cluster of Jharkhand region.</p> |

1	2	3	4
5.	Centre should make it clear to States that in case of any bonus being given by them on top of MSP, centre will not accept grains under the central pool beyond the quantity needed by the state for its own PDS/ OWS.	Decision has already been taken by the Government <i>vide</i> orders dated 12.06.2014 on this issue.	
6.	The statutory levies including commissions, which vary from less than 2 per cent in Gujarat and West Bengal to 14.5 percent in Punjab, need to be brought down uniformly to 3 per cent, or at most 4 per cent of MSP, and this should be included in MSP itself (States losing revenue due to this rationalization of levies can be compensated through a diversification package for the next 3-5 years).	State Governments have not agreed for uniform Taxation. It is not justified to include taxes, commissions etc. in MSP.	
7.	Quality checks in procurement have to	FCI is strengthening its quality control	A roadmap for modernization of laboratories

be adhered to, and anything below the specified quality will not be acceptable under central pool. Quality checks can be done either by FCI and/or any third party accredited agency in a transparent manner with the help of mechanized processes of quality checking.

infrastructure and modernize its laboratories. FCI is making arrangements for quality checks by External agencies, as per need. FCI is contacting premier institutions of the country for mechanized quality checking.

was placed before the BOD and 82 NABL accredited laboratories and 05 premier research institutes namely Division of Agricultural Chemicals, IARI, New Delhi; Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore; Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Faridabad; National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad; and National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad have been consulted. The Board of Directors, FCI has approved the Model Tender Form (MTF) for engagement of service provider for quality assurance and checking during receipt, preservation/ maintenance, dispatches and issues of foodgrains as per Gol specifications in identified FCI godowns. The tenders have been floated by Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

1	2	3	4
			FCI Headquarters held a meeting for Demonstrations on Technical Solutions for Computerized Analysis of rice available with various parties
8.	HLC also recommends that levy on rice millers be done away with. HLC notes and commends that some steps have been taken recently by DFPD in this direction, but they should be institutionalized for their logical conclusion.	Levy has been withdrawn with effect from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16.	
9.	Negotiable warehouse receipt system (NWRs) should be taken up on priority and scaled up quickly. Under this system, farmers can deposit their produce to the registered warehouses, and get say 80 per cent advance from banks against their produce valued at	At present farmers of the country are totally dependent on Government procurement and they do not have adequate knowledge and arrangements to bring their produce directly in the market. However, steps would be taken in this direction with the help of WDRA and Finance Ministry.	

MSP. They can sell later when they feel prices are good for them. This will bring back the private sector, reduce massively the costs of storage to the Government, and be more compatible with a market economy. GoI, through FCI and Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) can encourage building of these warehouses with better technology, and keep an on-line track of grain stocks with them on daily/ weekly basis. In due course, GoI can explore whether this system can be used to compensate the farmers in case of market prices falling below MSP without physically handling large quantities of grain.

10. GoI needs to revisit its MSP policy. Department has agreed for procurement of 1. Purchase of 44.33 Qtl. of Urad has been done by Markfed on behalf of FCI in
- Currently, MSPs are announced for 23

1	2	3	4
	<p>commodities, but effectively price support operates primarily in wheat and rice and that too in selected states. This creates highly skewed incentive structures in favour of wheat and rice. While country is short of pulses and oilseeds (edible oils), their prices often go below MSP without any effective price support. Further, trade policy works independently of MSP policy, and many a times, imports of pulses come at prices much below their MSP. This hampers diversification. HLC recommends that pulses and oilseeds deserve priority and Gol must provide better price support operations for them, and dovetail their MSP policy with trade policy so that their landed costs are not below their MSP. On trade policy front,</p>	<p>pulses and oilseeds through FCI on the pattern of NAFED under the Price Support Scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. This will not create burden on food subsidy and FCI will create separate fund for this procurement with the assistance of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Department of Commerce has been requested for making changes in the trade policy in such a manner that prices of imported pulses and oilseeds would not be lower than MSP. Import duty has been imposed as per the recommendations of High Level Committee for import of rice.</p>	<p>Maharashtra and 6.50 Qtl. of Tur has been purchased by Markfed in Telangana on behalf of FCI as on 10.12.2015.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The procurement is being done at mandies at market price discovered through auction as prices are ruling above MSP. FCI is operating in Maharashtra, Telangana and A.P. Fund for procurement has been provided by DAC&FW under Price Stabilization Fund. Procurement period for Kharif pulses is from 15.10.2015 to 15.02.2016 and for Rabi pulses is from 15.03.2016 to 15.07.2016. Deptt. Of AC&FW has issued procurement Guidelines under PSF

operations.

HLC also notes that while India is the largest exporter of rice in the world, it has currently an import duty of 70 per cent. This is not a good idea for using trade policy for providing stability. HLC recommends bringing down this duty to 5-10 per cent and decanalizing rice imports. This would help India to bring rice in its north-eastern hills through Myanmar route in a cost effective manner and save resources of FCI. Similarly, wheat imports can also be kept open at appropriate duty levels to augment stability of food system.

11. HLC recommends that FCI should outsource its stocking operations to various agencies such as Central Warehousing Corporation, State FCI would outsource of management of newly constructed godowns under Plan Schemes. Godowns of CWC/ SWC will be hired as per existing arrangement and where Model Tender Form (MTF) for inviting tenders for preservation, maintenance and security services at FCI godowns constructed in North East and other States under Plan scheme,

1	2	3	4
	<p>Warehousing Corporation, Private Sector under Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) scheme, and even State Governments that are building silos through private sector on state lands (as in Madhya Pradesh). It should be done on competitive bidding basis, inviting various stakeholders and creating competition to bring down costs of storage.</p>	<p>such godowns are not available; private godowns will be hired on the basis of competitive bidding.</p>	<p>approved by the Board of Directors, has been circulated to the EDs (Zone) and GMs (Region). Tenders were invited in 4 North-Eastern Regions as under: (i) NEF (Shillong) for 8 depots namely Nandan-Nagar, Chandrapur, Khumarghat, Jowai, Bairabi, Aizwal, Lunglei and Lanvngtlai. (ii) Assam for 3 depots namely Changsari, Labazar and Jogighopa. (iii) Arunachal Pradesh for 8 depots namely Jamiri-Bomdila, Ziro, Seppa, Tawang, Anini, Khupa, Yingkiong and Tezu. (iv) Nagaland for 3 depots namely Mon, Mokochung and Tuensang. Tenders were opened in respect of Assam and Nagaland on 05.11.2015. No bids have been received. In respect of NEF (Shillong), tenders were opened on 16.11.2015. Only one bid has been received and the tender is likely to be scrapped. In respect of Arunachal Pradesh ,</p>

tenders were opened on 03.11.2015. All the bids have technically failed. Tenders are being re floated in these States. Instructions to hire CWC/SWC godowns as per existing procedures and to hire godowns through tendering process wherever there is shortfall have been issued.

FCI will undertake construction of approx.

43.5 lakh tons capacity of silos in next five years. FCI depots having railway sidings, will be upgraded to Silos first. Where FCI or State Agencies do not have their own land, Silos would be built on Private land. FCI has already engaged a Consultant for this work.

12. India needs more bulk handling facilities than it currently has. Many of FCI's old conventional storages that have existed for long number of years can be converted to silos with the help of private sector and other stocking agencies. Better mechanization is needed in all silos as well as conventional storages. While there is need to work out specific quantity and what places it needs to be through a more detailed

1. Project Consultant, M/s Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd. has conducted Project Feasibility Study for 11 locations viz. Changsari, Kilaraipur, Baramati (Pune), Buxar, Katihar, Sahnewal, Kotkapura, Patiala, Whitefield, Bellary and Narela where FCI/State Agencies have their own land.

2. Subsequently, FCI has floated tender on 23.04.2015 for construction of silos for storage of wheat at 6 feasible locations viz. Changsari,

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	<p>study, HLC's overall assessment is that given the overall production in the country, and drought prone nature of many regions, a silo capacity of about 10 MMT (together for wheat and rice) should be created in the next 3-5 years.</p>		<p>Katihar, Sahnewal, Kotkapura, Whitefield, and Narela. The tender opened on 02.06.2015; 21 bids have been received and have been evaluated. Project specific documents in respect of 6 locations viz. Katihar, Narela, Changsari, Kotkapura, Sahnewal and Whitefield has already been sent to Ministry for onward submission to PPP cell of DEA for grant of In-principle approval for VGF support. Meeting of Empowered Institution (EI) in respect of Kotkapura, Whitefield and Katihar has been held on 03.11.2015 for granting In-principle approval of VGF.</p> <p>4. Further for Kilaraipur in Punjab, tenders have been floated by Punjab Govt. agency & LOA is expected to be issued by soon. The silo at Kilaraipur is being constructed on</p>

behalf of FCI & guarantee is also provided by FCI. State Government of Madhya Pradesh is constructing silos on PPP mode with VGF funding (Niti aayog model) on land belonging to State Government. Work is already under progress for 5 lakh MTs at ten locations. These silos have been proposed without railway siding. In Punjab, State Agencies - PUNGRAIN and PSWC are in process of floating tenders for construction of silos for capacity of 11.75 lakh MTs which are primarily mandi silos and silos to be built on land belonging to State Agencies under PPP mode with VGF funding. However, VGF has been proposed to be given by Punjab Government. These Silos are without railway sidings.

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13.	<p>Covered and plinth (CAP) storage should be gradually phased out with no grain stocks remaining in CAP for more than 3 months. Silo bag technology and conventional storages where ever possible should replace CAP.</p>	<p>FCI will de-hire its currently hired CAP capacity of 1.94 lakh MT within 1 month. There are 8.90 LMT FCI owned CAP capacity. CAP Complexes having 5000 MT or above capacity will be taken up for conversion into silos. In addition, grains kept in CAP will be evacuated within 6-8 months.</p>	<p>The hired CAP capacity of 1.94 LMT has been de-hired.</p> <p>All the CAP capacities hired during RMS 2015-16 have been de-hired. CAP capacity of 12,348 MT has been hired on Actual Utilization Basis (AUB) in the UT of Chandigarh in October-November 2015 for storing the paddy procured locally.</p> <p>Preliminary feasibility of other 82 locations has been assessed and it has been found feasible to construct Silos at 2 locations for 1.0 LMT. Details are as follows: Dhamora (U.P.) - 50,000 MT, and Borivilli (Maharashtra) - 50,000 MT.</p> <p>Instructions have been issued to all the field offices by FCI Hqrs. vide letter dated</p>

24.04.2015 to liquidate stocks in CAP capacities in consuming regions. It has also been decided that stocks stored in CAP in procuring regions should also be liquidated within 6-8 months.

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| <p>14. Movement of grains needs to be gradually containerized which will help reduce transit losses, and have faster turn-around-time by having more mechanized facilities at railway sidings.</p> | <p>As Railways do not have facilities of containerized movement at present, it is not feasible to implement it as of now.</p> | <p>Existing storage capacity in NE is 5.28 LMT. A capacity of 63,380 MT is being added under Plan Scheme. A capacity of 2.56 LMT is being augmented in NE through PEG Scheme. Silo</p> |
| <p>15. Each State, especially the deficit ones in difficult terrain (like hilly areas of North-East, Jammu and Kashmir etc.), must have storage of grains for at least three</p> | <p>The construction work of godowns is going on in the States of North-East region under Plan Schemes. By the end of September, storage capacity of two months consumption</p> | <p>Existing storage capacity in NE is 5.28 LMT. A capacity of 63,380 MT is being added under Plan Scheme. A capacity of 2.56 LMT is being augmented in NE through PEG Scheme. Silo</p> |
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	months of their consumption requirement.	<p>requirement of grains, will be available in the States of North-East region. On construction of additional 5 LMT storage capacity, it would be feasible to store foodgrains for 3 months consumption requirement in NE. Efforts will be made to increase storage capacity in J&K to store foodgrains for 3 months requirement against existing two-month capability.</p>	<p>at Changsari (Assam) for a capacity of 50,000 MT has been planned. The monthly allocation of food grains for NE is 2.88 LMT. Thus, FCI will have sufficient storage capacity in NE to store foodgrains for 3-4 months allocation. Total covered storage capacity with FCI in J&K is 2.31 LMT (Owned 1.03 LMT and Hired - 1.28 LMT) which is sufficient to store 3 months' requirement. Monthly allocation for J&K is 0.76 LMT.</p>
16.	<p>FCI engages large number of workers (loaders) to get the job of loading/unloading done smoothly and in time. Currently there are roughly 16,000 departmental workers, about 26,000 workers that operate under Direct Payment System (DPS), some under no work no pay, and about one lakh contract</p>	<p>FCI has already requested the Ministry of Labour and Employment to de-notify the depots. Only contractual labour will be engaged in the depots after their de-notification. If, Ministry of Labour and Employment agrees, contractual labour would be engaged in all its depots and the cadres of Departmental Labour will be declared as</p>	<p>Central Advisory Contract Labour Board (CACLB) made deliberations on issue of de-notifications of 218 depots/partial exemption to FCI in its meeting held in Mumbai on 27.08.2015. Board Level Committee made deliberation on labour reforms and recommended 7 point package, which was approved by the BOD. However, negotiations</p>

workers. A departmental worker (loader) costs FCI about ₹ 79,500/ per month (Apri-Nov 2014 data) <i>vis-a-vis</i> DPS worker at ₹ 26,000/per month and contract labour costs about ₹ 10,000/ per month. Some of the departmental labour (more than 300) have received wages (including arrears) even more than ₹ 4 lakhs/per month in August 2014. This happens because of the incentive system in notified depots, and widely used proxy labour. This is a major aberration and must be fixed, either by de-notifying these depots, or handing them over to States or private sector on service contracts, and by fixing a maximum limit on the incentives per person that will not allow him to work	dying cadres. The restructuring of labour force of FCI would be done by taking the labour unions in confidence. Capping of incentive being given to the regular workers of FCI is not advisable as it would lead to delay in unloading at the railheads. Regular strict vigil would be kept to provide better facilities to contractual labour prescribed under various labour laws.	held with Labour Unions on lines approved by the BOD did not yield any result. BOD FCI again made deliberation on 14.10.2015 and resolved that FCI should continue to hold dialogue with Labour Bodies. Nodal officers at each FCI District office level have been appointed to ensure compliance of various statutory provisions under Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act <i>i.e</i> EPF, ESI, minimum wages, and to provide better welfare facilities to labourers by the contractor at workplace like canteen/restrooms, urinal, drinking water, washing facilities, first aid facilities.
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	<p>for more than say 1.25 times the work agreed with him. These depots should be put on priority for mechanization so that reliance on departmental labour reduces. If need be, FCI should be allowed to hire people under DPS/ NWNP system. HLC recommends that the condition of contract labour, which works the hardest and are the largest in number, should be improved by giving them better facilities.</p>		
17.	<p>One of the key challenges for FCI has been to carry buffer stocks way in excess of buffer stocking norms. During the last five years, on an average, buffer stocks with FCI have been more than double the buffer stocking norms costing the nation thousands of crores of rupees</p>	<p>A decision has already been taken in this regard under which FCI would sell surplus wheat and rice in the open market in smooth manner.</p>	

loss without any worthwhile purpose being served. The underlying reasons for this situation are many, starting with export bans to open ended procurement with distortions (through bonuses and high statutory levies), but the key factor is that there is no pro-active liquidation policy. DFPD/ FCI have to work in tandem to liquidate stocks in OMSS or in export markets, whenever stocks go beyond the buffer stock norms. The current system is extremely *ad-hoc*, slow and costs the nation heavily. A transparent liquidation policy is the need of hour, which should automatically kick-in when FCI is faced with surplus stocks than buffer norms. Greater flexibility to FCI with business orientation to operate

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	in OMSS and export markets is needed.		
18.	HLC recommends total end to end computerization of the entire food management system, starting from procurement from farmers, to stocking, movement and finally distribution through TPDS. It can be done on real time basis, and some States have done a commendable job on computerizing the procurement operations. But its dovetailing with movement and distribution in TPDS has been a weak link, and that is where much of the diversions take place.	FCI has invited tenders for Depot Online Project. It will be done in phases. Depot Online Project will be done in 10 Depots in current year and all other Depots of FCI in the next year. Depot Online Project would be implemented in hired Depot in third phase.	M/s RICOH India Ltd. has been appointed as the System Integrator for the Implementation of Depot Online System through an open tender process.
19.	Improve storage management practices by,- Outsourcing the management of storage and handling- Focusing on bulk rather than bagged- Even to the extent	A Cabinet Note has been prepared by this Department for seeking relaxation for essential packing of wheat in jute bag. Other aspects have been mostly covered elsewhere.	

bagged storage has to continue, better quality material like HDPE rather than jute should be used- The possibility of having 'ears' to a bag to eliminate hook-based handling should be considered- The possibility of palletisation and usage of forklifts should be explored-Reduce the number of stages of handling at procurement end - Rationalize the mandis for procurement- Ensure bulk storage capacity at such mandis- Rail connectivity to be provided at such mandis Bulk rail movement from mandis to distribution end Reduce the number of stages of handling at distribution end- District-wise storage towards NFSA, OWS and Strategic Reserve- Ensure bulk storage capacity at such locations- Rail connectivity to be provided at such locations-

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	<p>Packaging facility to be provided at such locations- Direct movement from district-wise storage to the retail outlets/schemes consumers.</p>		
20.	<p>Since the whole system of food management operates within the ambit of providing food security at a national as well as at household level, it must be realized that farmers need due incentives to raise productivity and overall food production in the country. Most of the OECD countries as well as large emerging economies do support their farmers. India also gives large subsidy on fertilizers (more than ₹ 72,000 crores in budget of FY 2015 plus pending bills of about ₹ 30,000-35,000 crores). Urea prices are administered at a very low</p>	<p>Department of Fertilizers is actively considering this matter.</p>	

level compared to prices of DAP and MOP, creating highly imbalanced use of N, P and K. HLC recommends that farmers be given direct cash subsidy (of about ₹ 7000/ha.) and fertilizer sector can then be deregulated. This would help plug diversion of urea to non-agricultural uses as well as to neighbouring countries, and help raise the efficiency of fertilizer use. It may be noted that this type of direct cash subsidy to farmers will go a long way to help those who take loans from money lenders at exorbitant interest rates to buy fertilizers or other inputs, thus relieving some distress in the agrarian sector.

21. HLC also recommends to have a relook

There is no proposal to make amendments in

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	<p>at the current coverage of 67 per cent of population; priority households getting only 5 kgs/person as allocation; and central issue prices being frozen for three years at ₹ 3/2/1/kg for rice/wheat/coarse cereals respectively. HLC's examination of these, issue reveals that 67 per cent coverage of population is on much higher side, and should be brought down to around 40 per cent, which will comfortably cover BPL families and some even above that; 5kg grain per person to priority households is actually making BPL households worse off, who used to get 7kg/person under the TPDS. So, HLC recommends that they be given 7kg/person. On central issue prices, HLC recommends while Antyodaya households can be given grains at ₹ 3/</p>	the NFSA, 2013.	

2/1/ kg for the time being, but pricing for priority households must be linked to MSP, say 50 per cent of MSP. Else, HLC feels that this NFSA will put undue financial burden on the exchequer, and investments in agriculture and food space may suffer. HLC would recommend greater investments in agriculture in stabilizing production and building efficient value chains to help the poor as well as farmers.

22. Leakages in PDS range from 40 to 50 per cent, and in some states go as high as 60 to 70 per cent, Gol should defer implementation of NFSA in States that have not done end to end computerization; have not put the list of beneficiaries online for anyone to verify, Government has made all States and Union Territories aware about NFSA and asked to implement it, so that leakage in the PDS can be reduced.
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	and have not set up vigilance committees to check pilferage from PDS.		
23.	HLC recommends that targeted beneficiaries under NFSA or TPDS are given 6 months ration immediately after the procurement season ends. This will save the consumers from various hassles of monthly arrivals at FPS and also save on the storage costs of agencies. Consumers can be given well designed bins at highly subsidized rates to keep the rations safely in their homes.	Ministry has already issued instructions for release of foodgrains upto 6 months requirement at a time.	
24	HLC recommends gradual introduction of cash transfers in PDS, starting with large cities with more than 1 million population; extending it to grain surplus States, and then giving option to deficit States to opt for cash or physical grain	This Department has decided to implement this with an appropriate strategy to maintain a balance between the cash transfer of subsidy and availability of foodgrains in the market. It will be implemented in the States/UTs, which agree for and get ready for it.	

distribution. This will be much more cost effective way to help the poor, without much distortion in the production basket, and in line with best international practices. HLC's calculations reveal that it can save the exchequer more than ₹ 30,000 crores annually, and still giving better deal to consumers. Cash transfers can be indexed with overall price level to protect the amount of real income transfers, given in the name of lady of the house, and routed through Prime Minister's Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) and dovetailing Aadhaar and Unique Identification (UID) number. This will empower the consumers, plug high leakages in PDS, save resources, and it can be rolled out over the next 2-3 years.

Sharp rise in price of mustard oil

2324. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of mustard oil has registered a sharp rise recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to bring down the price and ensure availability of edible oils in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The prices of mustard oil did go up recently on account of fall in production because of adverse weather conditions.

(c) The following specific measures were taken to improve the domestic availability of edible oils :

I. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil. Export of other edible oil in branded consumer packs of up to 5kg is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.

II. States/UTs have been empowered to impose stock holding limits for edible oils under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

III. States were also advised to take strict action against Hoarding/Black Marketing.

IV. A National Mission on Oilseeds and Palm oil (NMOOP) is being implemented since 2014-15 where assistance is being provided to farmers for various components/ interventions in order to increase oilseed production.

V. To incentivize its production of oilseeds, its MSP have been raised.

Assistance under CRF/SDRF and NDRF

2325. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider for enhancing input assistance extended under Calamity Relief Fund (CRFV/State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF)/National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) to calamity affected farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government and if not, the reasons therefor in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Home Affairs has revised items and norms of assistance under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)/State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) on 8th April, 2015, by which crop loss of 33% becomes eligible for Agriculture and Horticulture Input Subsidy as opposed to 50% crop loss as minimum threshold earlier. The assistance for agriculture/horticulture crop loss has been enhanced from ₹ 4500/- per ha. to 6800/- for rainfed areas, ₹ 9000/- per ha. to 13500/- per ha. for irrigated areas and ₹ 12000/- to ₹ 18,000/- per ha. for all type of perennial crops. Besides others, input subsidy for fish seed farm has also been enhanced from ₹ 6000/- per hectare to ₹ 8200/- per hectare.

Distribution of expensive essential commodities under PDS

2326. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to control the increasing high prices of essential foodstuffs, especially pulses and vegetables, including checking hoarding, increasing procurement and encouraging greater production;

(b) whether Government will distribute these expensive essential commodities to economically weaker sections through the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(c) if so, the details of foodstuffs distributed through PDS, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) Government's plan to further bring these high prices under control?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) For requisite information refer to Statement appended to answer to USQ 2319, Part (b) and (c)

(b) and (c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is essentially supplemental in nature and is not intended to make available the entire requirement of any of the commodities distributed to a household or a section of the society.

At present under the PDS, while commodities like wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene are being allocated to the States/UTs for distribution, some States/UTs are also distributing through their PDS outlets additional items of mass consumption such as pulses, edible oils, iodized salt, spices, etc.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to tackle price fluctuations include appropriate policy measures for improving availability and ensuring stability in prices of essential commodities such as facilitating import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restrictions on export, fixation of Minimum Export Price (MEP) for onions, regulation of price volatility through assistance under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) Scheme, prescribing stock holding limits under Essential Commodities Act, allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) etc.

Measures to curb price rise of pulses

2327. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that barring Chana Dal, retail prices of all pulses are above ₹100 per Kg. across the country;
- (b) if so, month-wise movement in prices of pulses during April-October 2015;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to curb price rise of pulses; and
- (d) how far have these moves helped in reducing prices of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The requisite details of All-India Monthly Average Retail Prices of the major varieties of pulses are as below:-

Major Pulses	All-India Monthly Average Retail Prices (₹/kg)						
	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15
Chana dal	51.31	56.54	59.4	60	61.09	63.78	68.05
Tur dal	85.23	91.89	95.33	98.42	105.13	119.95	143.78
Urad dal	82.99	91.33	97.34	98.86	100.88	107.54	129.42
Moong dal	100.41	102.29	101.29	99.11	98.36	99.71	107.2
Masoor dal	74.18	77.84	80.78	82.32	84.75	88.48	90.27

Source: State/UT Civil Supplies Deptts.

(c) and (d) The steps taken to check prices of pulses include extension of zero import duty on pulses, continuation of export ban on pulses except for Kabuli Chana

and 10,000 of Organic Pulses and Lentil per annum, extension of stock limit on pulses, strict action against hoarding and black-marketing, import of pulses through Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), creation of buffer stocks of pulses, etc. These measures have contributed to the fall in the retail prices of major pulses over the month as shown below:-

Major Pulses	All-India Daily Average Retail Prices (in ₹/kg)		
	14.12.15 Latest price	14.11.15 Last month	% Variation Over month
Moong dal	107.69	109.27	-1.45
Urad dal	140.91	145.84	-3.38
Arhar dal	149.68	154.51	-3.13
Masoor dal	88.11	89.5	-1.55
Chana dal	69.37	69.65	-0.4

Source:- State/UT Civil Supplies Deptts.

Rise in prices of essential food items

2328. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- whether prices of many essential food items have increased hugely in recent times;
- whether it is due to scarcity or hoarding;
- the reasons for price rise; and
- why public distribution system is not utilized to curb price rise and to ensure availability of essential articles at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) During the current year, prices of most of the essential food items were under control except for pulses and vegetables like onion and tomato.

The rise in prices of these items are due to several factors such as adverse weather conditions, rise in transportation costs, hoarding and blackmarketing and supply constraints.

(d) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is essentially supplemental in nature and is not intended to make available the entire requirement of any of the commodities distributed to a household or a section of the society.

At present under the PDS, while commodities like wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene are being allocated to the States/UTs for distribution, some States/UTs are also distributing through their PDS outlets additional items of mass consumption such as pulses, edible oils, iodized salt, spices, etc.

Mechanism for fixing MRP

2329. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mechanism to fix the MRP of various products in a rational way;

(b) if so, by when Government proposes to set up such a mechanism; and

(c) the reasons behind leaving such a vital policy decision on the will of the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes Sir, there is no mechanism to fix the MRP of various products in rational way by manufacturer and importer, however under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 certain mandatory declarations are required like name and address of manufacturer/packer/importer, name of the commodity, net quantity, month and year of manufacturing, retail sale price in the form of Maximum Retail Price (MRP) ₹.... Inclusive of all taxes, consumer care details. Rules protect the consumers by ensuring that commodities in packaged form cannot be sold at a price higher than MRP.

(b) and (c) On the direction of Kerala High Court, the Government had constituted an Expert Committee in August, 2007 under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. Govinda Rao, the then Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy to examine the feasibility of declaring a normative price on a pre-packaged commodity, as applicable for the entire country, adequately reflecting the cost incurred by the producer in reaching the package to the end consumer. The committee unanimously found that it is neither feasible nor desirable to declare a normative price for various customer goods. The committee also observed that the consumer's interest will be well served by the Government taking a pro-active role in creating and deepening the markets and

empowering the institution such as the Competition Commission to monitor the market conditions to promote healthy competition.

The Committee also examined the question of whether there should be declaration of any other price in addition to MRP. The majority view in the committee was that it would be impossible to enforce accurate declaration of MRP by requiring the manufacturer to declare the First point Price in addition to MRP. The Committee recommended that the solution to prevent exploitation of consumer lies in activating competition in the markets. The committee also noted that for goods covered under Rule 4 of the Central Excise Act, there is an automatic disincentive to inflate the MRP because higher MRP would attract higher taxes.

The Government has accepted these recommendations of the Committee.

Direct subsidy to sugarcane growers

2330. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to give subsidy directly to the sugarcane growers in the 2015-16 crop season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total subsidy outgo on this account for the season;
- (c) whether sugar export subsidy was given to millers in the previous two seasons to help them clear cane dues to the farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the cane dues were cleared by this subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Central Government has notified a scheme on 2.12.2015 to extend production subsidy @ ₹ 4.50 per quintal to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane and facilitate timely payment of cane price dues of farmers for sugar season 2015-16. However, the production subsidy is payable provided mills achieve targets notified in respect of exports and ethanol blending. Funds released under the scheme shall be directly credited into farmers' accounts. The total subsidy outgo for estimated crushing of 255 million MT of cane during sugar season 2015-16 is likely to be about ₹ 1147 crores.

(c) and (d) The Government has provided incentive for marketing and promotion services of raw sugar production targeted for export during sugar season 2013-14 at an average incentive rate of about ₹ 3100 per MT. The incentive scheme was continued for sugar season 2014-15 at uniform incentive rate of ₹ 4000 per MT. Incentive amounting to ₹ 280 crore has been disbursed under the scheme and as per provisions of the scheme it has been used for payment of cane price dues of farmers.

Production of sugar

2331. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether crushing operations of current sugar season 2015-16 have started;
- (b) if so, how many mills in various States have started operating and what is the production of sugar in terms of million tonnes;
- (c) the quantum of sugar exported so far in the sugar season and that expected in the next six months; and
- (d) the action taken by Government to facilitate smooth crushing operations so that the crisis that happened last year is averted?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. About 400 sugar mills in various States have started crushing operations and produced about 3 million tonnes of sugar during the current sugar season of 2015-16 upto 10th December, 2015.

(c) During current sugar season 2015-16 as on 10th December, 2015, about 2.15 lakh tonnes of sugar has been despatched for export. The export of sugar depends upon domestic surpluses, global demand, prevailing domestic and international prices, etc. Exporters are free to export sugar as per their commercial prudence. As such, it is not possible to indicate the quantity to be exported during next six months.

(d) During the current sugar season, sugar mills are commencing their cane crushing operations smoothly and no adverse issues have been reported in this regard. As such, action on part of Government does not arise.

Import of pulses to check their prices

2332. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to import more pulses to check their prices in near future, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the domestic production of pulses during the last three years; and

(c) whether domestic production of pulses has come down in the current year, if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) In order to augment domestic availability and moderate prices of pulses, Government decided to import pulses through Metals and Mineral Trading Corporation (MMTC) under the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme of the Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare. Tenders were called and based on the bids received 5000 MT of Tur were imported from Malawi.

(b) The requisite details are as below:-

Year	(in million MT)		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Production	18.34	19.25	17.20

Source:- DAC&FW

(c) As per the 1st Advance Estimates for 2015-16 released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), pulses production for Kharif season during the current year is estimated to be 5.56 million tonnes against 5.63 million tonnes in 2014-15 *i.e.* fall of 0.07 million tonnes.

Requirement and supply of foodgrains

†2333. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the commodity-wise requirement of foodgrains and pulses, and the measures taken for their supply during the year 2015-16 in the country and the status of the consumer retail prices along with the measures taken for their distribution, and price control?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): The requisite information based on the Report of the Working Group on Foodgrains during Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Item	Demand (Million MTs) for 2015-16
1	Rice	91.37
2	Wheat	85.72
3	Pulses	23.62

As per the Consumer Price Index (CPI) brought out by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), the details are as follows:

Indices	% change over the year (Nov. 2015 over Nov.2014)
Consumer Price Index (CPI) (General)	5.41
Consumer Food Price Index (CPFI)	6.07
Cereals and Products	1.70
Pulses and Products	46.08

Source: MOSPI.

The details of steps taken to improve the availability and contain the prices of essential food items are refer to the Statement. appended to the answer to USQ 2319, Part (b) and (c).

Delivery of poor quality foodgrains under PDS

2334. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there have been complaints regarding poor quality of foodgrains being delivered under PDS, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has taken/plans to take any measures to ensure delivery of high quality foodgrains under PDS?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the

designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for intra-state allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

Three complaints about supply of poor quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System have been received in the Department during 2015-16 upto 1st December, 2015. Details of the complaints and action taken by the Government are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Government has taken following steps to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains under the PDS:

- Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to Food Safety Standards are issued under PDS.
- Ample opportunities are provided to the State Government to check the quality of foodgrains prior lifting the foodgrains stocks from FCI godowns.
- Samples of foodgrains are collected and sealed from the stocks of foodgrains to be issued under the PDS jointly by FCI and State Governments/UT Administrations.
- An officer not below the rank of Inspector is deputed from State Government to take the delivery of foodgrain stocks from FCI godowns.
- Regular inspection to check the quality of foodgrains is carried out by the officers of State Government.
- It is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain the required quality specifications.
- The State Government, where the decentralized procurement is in operation, should ensure that the quality of foodgrains issued under PDS and other welfare schemes should meet the desired standards under the FSSAI.

Wherever incidences of distribution of poor quality of foodgrains to consumers are brought to the notice, immediate action is taken against the officials found responsible.

Statement

Details of the complaint received and action taken regarding supply of poor quality of foodgrains under PDS during 2015-16 upto 01st December, 2015

State	Complaint	Action Taken by the Government
NCT, Delhi	A complaint was received from Indraprastha Welfare Association, New Delhi regarding Supply of poor quality of foodgrain in Moti Nagar, area of Delhi	The complaint was got investigated by deputing an officer of the Ministry. The complaint was not found to be true based on the samples collected from Fair Price Shops and FCI godown.
Maharashtra	A Complaint received from Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Maharashtra regarding supply of luster loss wheat from FCI base depot, Jalgoan and MSWC, Nanded	Instructions were issued to all State Governments to accept the luster loss wheat procured during RMS 2015-16 under the relaxed specifications as luster lost wheat is as nutritious as sound wheat only shining is less and the quality of wheat is intact and good.
Jammu and Kashmir	A Complaint was received from Director, Consumer Affair and Public Distribution. Government of Jammu and Kashmir regarding Supply of below standard quality wheat under wheat relaxation scheme	-do-

Strengthening marketing arrangements for pulses

2335. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) has any procurement mechanism for pulses, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government for strengthening marketing arrangements for pulses to encourage farmers to shift more acreage towards pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As decided by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Food Corporation of India (FCI) is procuring pulses at market price under Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) operation during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16 for maintaining their buffer stock. The DAC&FW has released ₹ 50 Crores for such procurement. It has also been decided that if market prices of pulses fall below the Minimum Support Price (MSP), FCI shall procure pulses at MSP from the farmers under the Price Support Scheme of the DAC&FW.

(b) Government has decided to engage FCI as an additional Central Nodal Agency for procurement of pulses in the country along with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), which will help farmers to have ample opportunity of deriving the best price for their produce.

Monitoring of price-rise

2336. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees that the food miles, that is the distance covered from field to stomach, is large and day-by-day expanding which is thereby increasing the prices of vegetables and fruits;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken or to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up any regulatory/monitoring agency to monitor and regulate the demand and supply of vegetables and fruits to keep their prices under control, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which such monitoring agency is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Increase in prices of essential commodities including vegetables and fruits is due to several factors like reduced production due

to adverse weather conditions, rise in transportation costs, supply constraints and artificial shortages due to hoarding and black marketing.

For steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise of essential food items are refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ 2319, Part (b) and (c).

(c) and (d) No Madam. No such proposal is under consideration.

Shortage of edible oils

2337. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether current high market price of edible oils, particularly mustard oil, is due to its shortage; and

(b) whether this shortage is manipulated, if so, the corrective measures taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The less and untimely rain has affected production of mustard seed thereby low production of mustard oil which caused rise in its market price.

(b) No, Sir.

Non-supply of ration on time

†2338. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people living below poverty line do not get monthly ration of food on time, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for their not getting food ration on time; and

(c) whether Government has any plans to open new shops if people get their food ration late due to shortage of Public Distribution System shops and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them timely delivery of the foodgrains to the ration card holders, issuance of licences to the Fair Price Shops (FPSs), supervision over and monitoring of FPS functioning, etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

Under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) effective from 05.07.2013 the foodgrains entitlements under TPDS have been made a legal right. The Act also has provisions for reforms in the TPDS to be undertaken progressively by the Central/State Government in consonance with the roles envisaged in the Act, which *inter-alia* include doorstep delivery of foodgrains, application of ICT tools, leveraging Aadhaar for unique identification, full transparency of records, preference to public institutions or public bodies etc. in FPS licensing etc. Further, under the Act, it shall be the duty of the State Government to make door step delivery of allocated foodgrains through their authorized agencies at the door step of each FPS and ensure actual delivery or supply of the foodgrains to the entitled persons as per the prescribed prices. NFSA also requires the State Government to appoint District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO) and the State Food Commission (SFC) for expeditious and effective redressal of grievances of the aggrieved persons including in matters relating to distribution of entitled foodgrains under TPDS.

The TPDS (Control) Order, 2015 dated 20.03.2015 notified in consonance with the NFSA, also requires the State Government to ensure that the number of ration card holders attached to an FPS are reasonable, the FPS is so located that the consumer or ration card holder does not have to face difficulty to reach the FPS and that proper coverage is ensured in hilly, desert, tribal and such other areas difficult to access. The opening of new FPSs is the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government and they do so based on the local requirements.

Strict enforcement of anti-hoarding laws

2339. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to ensure that anti-hoarding laws are strictly enforced to thwart any attempt to malign the Government; and

(b) the number of officials punished/chargesheeted for slackness in the discharge of their duties in this regard during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) *Vide* Order dated 9.6.1978, the States have been delegated powers to enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The State Governments/UTs have been enabled to impose stock limits on pulses and have been advised to undertake effective measures to enforce stock limits and conduct anti hoarding operations under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The States conduct anti-hoarding operations. The number of officials punished/chargesheeted for slackness in the discharge of their duties in this regard is not maintained centrally.

Production of sugar

2340. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the world's largest consumer of sugar and the biggest producer of it after Brazil;

(b) if so, whether various State Governments are trying to out-do each other in providing incentives to their sugarcane growers;

(c) if so, whether India has been producing more sugar than it needs for the past five years, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is working on a multi-year plan to boost sugar export to deal with local over supply, if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) State Government of several States namely: Telangana, Punjab, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have been extending incentive in the form of financial assistance and/or purchase tax exemption to the cane growers in their respective States.

(c) Yes, Sir. The production of sugar in the country for the last five sugar seasons has exceeded domestic consumption. The details of production and domestic consumption of sugar in the country during the last five sugar seasons are as under:-

Sugar Season (October-September)	Production of Sugar (in lakh tonnes)	Domestic Demand of Sugar (in lakh tonnes)
2010-11	243.50	208.00
2011-12	263.43	227.25
2012-13	251.83	230.00
2013-14	245.54	243.00
2014-15	284.63	256.00

(d) To evacuate surplus sugar stocks from the country, the Government has fixed sugar mill-wise minimum indicative export quotas for the current sugar season 2015-16.

Implementation of Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee scheme

2341. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee scheme is in force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features of the scheme;
- (c) whether construction of godowns is being done under this scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including the target set and achieved under this, State-wise, during each of the last three years and this year?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. New godowns are being constructed under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme in 20 States. However, out of 152 lakh MT capacity sanctioned, 130 lakh MT has already been completed. The scheme is almost matured for completion/closure.

The salient features of this scheme are as under:-

- This scheme is implemented through private investors as well as Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) Vother State agencies in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

- Investment and construction is done by the PPP partner. As return for investment FCI guarantees hiring of the godown constructed by a private party for 10 years. The guarantee period for CWC/SWCs is 9 years.
- The location and capacity for godowns are identified as per storage requirements by State Level Committees and finally approved by the High Level Committee (HLC) headed by Chairman and Managing Director, FCI.
- Minimum capacity for a godown is 5,000 MT in plain areas and 1,670 MT in hilly areas. Godowns of 5,000 MT and above capacity should be preferably within 8 KMs. of full rake capacity railway goods shed/procuring mandi. Godowns of 25,000 MT and above capacity should be preferably with Railway sidings. All godowns should be near National/State highways.
- The godown must be constructed as per the specifications stipulated by FCI. In addition to construction, the partner may also provide services like security and preservation if required by FCI.
- The period of construction normally allowed in one year for godowns without railway siding and two years for godowns with railway siding. Delay in construction upto one year may be allowed with similar reduction in the guarantee period and in case of delay beyond one year the agreement may be cancelled.
- Selection of the private party is done through open advertisement and two stage tendering process. The private party may be an individual or partnership firm or a company or trust, having ownership of land in the location where godown is to be constructed.
- A person holding land under Registered Lease for a minimum period of 13 years with permission to construct godown can also apply.

A party, who does not own land, but intends to acquire the same within 120 days from the date of acceptance letter, can apply by furnishing an additional amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and a Supplementary Bank Guarantee @ ₹ 100.00 per MT.

(c) and (d) Construction work for 16,23,040 MT is under progress. State-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The details of target set and achieved under PEG scheme during last three years and current year (as on 31.10.2015) are as under:

Year	Target (in LMT)	Achievement
2012-13	45.00	40.66
2013-14	50.00	49.88
2014-15	27.00	8.30
2015-16	3.00	3.40

State-wise details of capacity completed during last three years and current year are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of capacity under construction under PEG scheme

Sl. No.	State	Capacity under construction (in MT)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25000
2.	Bihar	265000
3.	Chhattisgarh	67040
4.	Haryana	16680
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	101000
6.	Jharkhand	30000
7.	Karnataka	36670
8.	Madhya Pradesh	422370
9.	Odisha	35000
10.	Punjab	128270
11.	Rajasthan	15000
12.	Tamil Nadu	75000
13.	Uttar Pradesh	338000
14.	West Bengal	43010
15.	Assam	25000
	TOTAL	1623040

Statement-II

*State-wise and year-wise details of the storage capacity
created under PEG scheme*

(Figures in LMT)

Sl. No.	State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00
2.	Bihar	0.12	0.58	0.50	0.15
3.	Chhattisgarh	1.73	1.78	0.24	0.25
4.	Gujarat	0.05	0.45	0.00	0.00
5.	Haryana	8.77	15.48	4.20	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.025	0.22	0.00	0.00
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.30	0.53	0.26	0.00
8.	Jharkhand	0.10	0.70	0.20	0.13
9.	Karnataka	0.69	0.67	0.14	0.00
10.	Kerala	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1.59	8.84	0.00	1.10
12.	Maharashtra	1.33	2.40	0.00	0.00
13.	Odisha	0.72	0.45	0.00	0.30
14.	Punjab	18.28	8.44	1.08	0.76
15.	Rajasthan	1.43	0.57	0.00	0.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	0.20	0.75	0.00	0.05
17.	Telangana	0.53	1.41	0.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4.53	6.06	1.46	0.00
19.	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	West Bengal	0.21	0.39	0.22	0.66
TOTAL		40.66	49.88	8.30	3.40

Leakages and corruption in PDS

2342. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the leakages and corruption in the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) whether Government plans to change or modify the system using technology;
- (c) if so, the details of the same, including cost and time-line; and
- (d) if not, how Government plans to ensure distribution of foodgrains to all citizens?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) There have been complaints about irregularities in implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including corruption, etc. in certain regions/States in the country and this has also been brought out in various evaluation studies.

(b) to (d) This Department has taken various measures for modernising and improving the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including implementation of a Plan Scheme on 'End-to-end computerisation of TPDS operations' across the country under the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) at a total cost of ₹ 884.07 crore, out of which Government of India's share is ₹ 489.37 crore and I States/UTs share is ₹ 394.70 crore. The cost sharing between centre and States would be on 90:10 basis for North-Eastern States, whereas for other States/UTs, cost will be shared on 50:50 basis. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the technical partner of the scheme. Financial assistance of ₹ 287.08 crore has already been released to 28 States/UTs, NIC etc. till 30.11.2015.

The Component-I of the Plan Scheme provides for undertaking various Information Communications Technology (ICT) based activities, such as, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanism. Under this scheme, as per reports received, as on 31.10.2015, ration card data digitization has been done in 29 States/UTs, ration card data is available on Web Portal in 27 States/UTs, Online allocation is being done in 16 States/UTs, supply-chain management in 8 States/UTs, Transparency Portal set up in 27 States/UTs, online Grievance Redressal Mechanism in 26 and toll free helpline number has been set up in 32 States/UTs. As part of

beneficiary data digitization, States/UTs have been requested to seed the Aadhaar numbers wherever available so as to weed out the ineligible/ bogus / duplicate beneficiaries. As part of FPS automation at FPS, use of Aadhaar will ensure proper identification of beneficiaries and distribution of foodgrains only to the intended beneficiaries thereby reducing leakages/diversions, etc. As regards financial assistance, Government has approved FPS dealers' margins under NFSA which also includes reimbursement of ₹ 17/qlt. for their expenditure towards purchase and operations of the PoS/Mobile Tablet device at the FPS for automation. So far, more than 56,000 FPSs are automated across the country and this count is likely to be increased to 75,000 FPSs by March, 2016.

SC and ST category employees in the department

†2343. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total sanctioned strength of employees group-wise, *i.e.* from Group A' to Group ' D' , in the Department of Food and Public Distribution;

(b) the number of posts sanctioned for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes out of total sanctioned posts according to reservation policy of Government; and

(c) the reasons for not having sanctioned strength of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees in the Department according to reservation policy of Government?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The details of total sanctioned strength of employees group-wise, *i.e.* from Group ' A' to Group ' D' in the Department of Food and Public Distribution is as under:

Group	Sanctioned Strength (as on 10.11.2015)
A	74
B	258
C	233
D	Nil
TOTAL	565

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) At the time of creation of any post, it is not created category-wise. As per the Government's reservation policy, 15% posts to SC and 7.5% posts to ST category are earmarked.

The reservation policy for various posts is followed by the respective Cadre Controlling Authorities. The information in respect of posts of Group 'C' for which the Department of Food & Public Distribution is cadre controlling authority is as follows:

Group	Post reserved for	
	SC	ST
A	-	-
B	-	-
C	20	10
TOTAL	20	10

(c) Does not arise in view of reply at part (b) above.

Rise in prices of pulses

2344. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the measures Government has taken/ considered taking to keep the prices of pulses stable in view of the fact that the prices of pulses spike every third year; and

(b) the number of cases of hoarding of pulses filed in each State during last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The steps taken to check prices of pulses include extension of zero import duty on pulses, continuation of export ban on pulses except for Kabuli Chana and 10,000 MT of Organic pulses and Lentils per annum, extension of stock limit on pulses, strict action against hoarding and black-marketing, import of pulses through Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), and creation of buffer stocks of pulses.

(b) The requisite details in respect of pulses is available for current year (17.10.2015 to 14.12.2015) and is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). For the last three years

(2012-14), the State-wise break-up of total raids conducted and action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

(A). Enforcement data under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for pulses during current year (from 17.10.2015 to 14.12.2015)

Sl. No.	State	Raids conducted, quantity seized & quantity disposed (MT)			
		Raids	Qty. seized	Qty. disposed	Balance
1.	Chhattisgarh	112	5447.93	3747.24	1700.69
2.	Haryana	1652	14.60	0.20	14.40
3.	Karnataka*	1351	25545.82	4822.68	20724.00
4.	Madhya Pradesh	969	3373.60	2020.01	1115.60
5.	Maharashtra	5250	86709.39	79478.91	7230.48
6.	Telangana	1924	3316.84	5.12	3311.72
7.	Rajasthan	840	2653.11	704.11	1949.00
8.	Jharkhand	140	282.02	Nil	282.02
9.	Odisha	180	1410.26	1403.86	6.40
10.	Andhra Pradesh	1300	1361.52	352.50	1009.02
11.	Gujarat	203	53.01	Nil	53.01
12.	Himachal Pradesh	500	3.42	Nil	3.42
13.	NCT Delhi	01	81.29	8.13	73.16
14.	Bihar	299	360.41	Nil	360.41
TOTAL		14721	130613.22	92542.76	37833.33

Source: State Governments.

* The High Court of Karnataka on 23.11.2015 declared the Department of Food & Civil Supplies' seizure of pulses stored by traders as "illegal" and ordered the release of pulses, edible oils and oilseeds from them.

Consolidated statement of action taken under the Essential Commodity Act, 1955 during the last three years, 2012-2014

(Relating to offences of violation of stock control orders including pulses)

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8.	Gujarat	21868	17707	11089	67	95	41	36	52	25	-	-	-
9.	Haryana	18	113	99	7	1	46	3	0	13	2	2	1
10.	Himachal Pradesh	35739	32278	27220	4	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12.	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13.	Karnataka	784	468	525	69	172	225	0	0	0	0	0	1
14.	Kerala	26285	39649	24855	2	0	17	0	0	3	0	0	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	21607	13929	3255	17	71	35	36	20	89	1	1	3
16.	Maharashtra	1455	1014	973	2267	1618	7173	2045	1280	250	8	2	0
17.	Manipur	18	6	NIL	16	16	NIL	6	-	NIL	2	-	NIL
18.	Meghalaya	604	1059	373	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
19.	Mizoram	223	194	145	0	0	0	NIL	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL

20.	Nagaland	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
21.	Odisha	43420	27740	10102	2	80	-	147	58	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Punjab	120	450	1763	1	5	3	1	9	NIL	1	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Rajasthan	279	243	NR	28	19	NR	212	50	NR	132	13	NR	NR	NR	NR
24.	Sikkim	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
25.	Tamil Nadu	10499	9196	9176	4467	5609	3949	2891	3402	1980	92	162	2068	2068	2068	2068
26.	Tripura	392	671	447	2	NIL	10	1	NIL	10	NIL	NIL	NR	NR	NR	NR
27.	Uttarakhand	1477	1683	NR	4	4	1	7	9	1	-	-	1	1	1	1
28.	Uttar Pradesh	25524	36234	25879	273	332	202	984	1075	738	6	8	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	489	339	729	232	99	173	0	0	28	129	8	-	-	-	-
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	211	NIL	NIL	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
31.	Chandigarh	9	3	NR	22	7	NR	-	-	NR	-	-	-	-	-	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	2	3	13	0	0	5	NIL	0	NIL	NIL	NIL
33.	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	0	NR	NB	0	NR	NB	NIL	NR	NB	NIL	NR	NB
35.	Puducherry	770	520	848	161	49	14	-	8	24	0	0	0
36.	Telangana	8718	13701	7136	NR	NR	55	NR	NR	0	NR	NR	0
TOTAL		219092	220413	131868	7782	8413	12017	6403	6009	3185	375	273	2074

Source: Reports received from State Governments/UTs.

NR: *Not Reported.

NB : *No Black-marketing.

Direct transfer of food subsidy

2345. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch a scheme for direct transfer of food subsidy provided under the Public Distribution System into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries, if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue therefrom;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued to the States in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said subsidy would be indexed against inflation, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the relative merits and demerits of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for foodgrains is being implemented on pilot basis in UTs of Chandigarh and Puducherry *w.e.f.* September, 2015 under the 'Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015', which was notified on 21-08-2015, under the National Food Security Act, 2013. The Rules stipulate that the DBT scheme shall be implemented in identified areas for which there is a written consent of the State Government for implementation of the Scheme. Section (5) of the Rules stipulate that the amount of food subsidy payable to beneficiaries shall be computed by multiplying entitled quantity of foodgrains with difference between 1.25 times applicable Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the Central Issue Price (CIP) or as may be revised from time to time by the Central Government. Under DBT, cash transfers occur in the bank accounts of the beneficiaries directly, thereby ruling out possibility of leakages. It also leads to savings in operational expenditure involved in procurement of foodgrains, its storage and distribution through Fair Price Shops. However, though the DBT gives a choice to beneficiaries to buy foodgrains from anywhere in the open market, it is not possible to ascertain actual utilization of cash. Besides, State Government also need to ensure round the year availability of foodgrains with easier access to beneficiaries at a reasonable price.

Implementation of NFSA

2346. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of States have not yet implemented the National Food Security Act (NFSA);

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

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to ensure the implementation of the Act across the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) 23 States/Union Territories (UTs) are presently implementing the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) and foodgrains under the Act are being allocated to them based on the preparedness and identification of beneficiaries reported by them. Besides, proposals of Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh for allocation of foodgrains under NFSA *w.e.f.* the month of January, 2016 have been approved. Remaining 11 States/UTs *viz.*, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu have not implemented the Act as they have not completed the preparatory measures required for distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries under the Act.

Implementation of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. Various meetings/ conferences have also been held with the States/UTs to review status of implementation of the Act. This year, four such meetings - on 7 July, 1 September, 19 November (with North-Eastern States) and 23 November, 2015 - have been held with the States/UTs. During such meetings/ conferences, the points raised by States/UTs are clarified and the need for early implementation of Act and necessary strengthening of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in order to be able to successfully deliver entitlements in a rights-based approach under NFSA are emphasized.

Progress under Vision Document 2015

2347. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vision Document 2015 envisaged to triple the size of investment in the processed food sector by 2015 by getting investments to the tune of ₹ 1 lakh crore;

(b) if so, the date of release of the Vision Document and the progress made to achieve the targets since then, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Document envisages to increase the level of processing of perishables from 6 per cent to 20 per cent by 2015; and

(d) the reasons that the Ministry could not spend the amount granted to it during the Eleventh Plan and first three years of the Twelfth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to promote food processing industries, increase level of processing and exploit the potential of domestic and international market for processed food products, the “Vision 2015: Strategy & Action Plan for Food Processing Industries in India” was prepared by Rabo India Finance in April, 2005, for the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. It envisaged trebling the size of investment in the processed food sector. To achieve the targets, an investment of about ₹100,000 crore was required by the year 2015. Out of which, the share of Government was about ₹ 10,000 crore. However, no year-wise and State-wise targets were fixed.

During Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plans, the Ministry has implemented various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to promote food processing industries and increase level of processing, 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 & Development and Other Promotional Activities; (4) Scheme for Human Resource Development and (5) Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions. A centrally sponsored scheme - National Mission on Food Processing [NMFP] was also launched during Twelfth Five Year Plan for implementation by the States/ UTs. The Government has de-linked the NMFP *w.e.f.* April, 2015 from Central Government support except for UTs. The State Governments may decide to continue NMFP out of their increased resources resulting from recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.

During the 11th Five Year Plan, against the proposal for allocation of ₹ 4816.00

crore, a plan outlay of ₹ 4041.00 crore only was made for various schemes of the Ministry. However, the actual budget allocation was ₹ 1682.00 crore at RE level against which an expenditure of ₹ 1596.88 crore was incurred by the Ministry.

During the 12th Five Year Plan, against the proposal for allocation of ₹ 14604.00 crore, a plan outlay of ₹ 5990.00 crore only was approved for various schemes of the Ministry. However, the actual budget allocation at RE level was ₹ 1810.00 crore for the first three years of Twelfth Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of ₹ 1763.25 crore was incurred.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Ministry has been able to utilize about 95% of the budget allocation at RE level during the Eleventh Plan and about 97.42% of budget allocation at RE level during first three years of the Twelfth Plan. 100% utilization of funds could not be made due to non-receipt of sufficient numbers of eligible projects from North Eastern Region and delay in implementation of the infrastructure projects like Mega Food Parks, Cold Chains and Abattoirs projects for various reasons like delay in statutory clearances by State Governments, delay in environmental clearances, electricity connections, financial constraints of the municipalities, etc.

Major schemes of the Ministry in West Bengal

2348. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the major schemes of the Ministry being implemented in West Bengal;
- (b) the manner in which these schemes are monitored;
- (c) the major problems being faced in implementing these schemes; and
- (d) the manner in which these problems are being tackled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country including West Bengal, this Ministry 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 / Modernisation of Food Processing Industries

(spillover liabilities); (3) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development and Other Promotional Activities; (4) Scheme for Human Resource Development (spill over liabilities) and (5) Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

(b) The Ministry is monitoring the implementation of the Schemes through onsite visits by Programme Management Agency (PMA) appointed by the Ministry, till the projects get completed and commissioned. The progress of such projects is also reviewed by the Ministry in the review meetings held periodically. The project promoters are required to submit progress reports periodically regularly. The Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee also reviews the progress of implementation of the project as and when required.

(c) The major problems being faced in implementation of these schemes are delay in statutory clearance by State Government like change in land use, permission for sublease, environmental clearance, obtaining electricity connection, NOC from State Government and financial constraints of the municipalities.

(d) Smooth and timely implementation of the projects is being ensured by the Ministry by providing all possible support to these projects including interaction with various concerned Departments/ Agencies of the State Governments to remove the bottlenecks in implementation of projects and making suitable amendments in the scheme guidelines.

Steps to minimize post harvest losses

2349. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study to ascertain the quantum of post harvest losses incurred by the farming community in agriculture and allied sectors during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of measures taken to check post- harvest losses;

(d) the details of Mega Food Parks approved so far along with their present status;

(e) the details of quantum of grant-in-aid given to Food Parks; and

(f) whether any audit of these Food Parks has been undertaken to check diversion of grant-in-aid and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes Sir. The Government has got a study on Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Commodities in India done by ICAR - Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana. The study was commissioned in 2012 and the final report submitted on 31.03.2015.

(b) The details of the quantity and value of post-harvest losses, crop-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Most food processing units are set up by entrepreneurs in the private sector. It has been the endeavour of the Government to promote food processing industry in the country to reduce wastage of agricultural produces and minimize post harvest losses and ensure higher returns to the farmers. With the above view the Government is implementing various Central Sector Schemes, namely (i) Scheme for Development of Infrastructure for Food Processing having components of Mega Food Parks, Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure and Modernisation of Abattoirs (ii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research & Development and Other Promotional Activities.

In order to arrest post harvest losses of horticulture & non-horticulture produce and providing integrated and complete cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities from the farm gate to the consumer or from the production site to the market, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure since 2008-09. The scheme is primarily private sector driven wherein financial assistance @ 50% of the total cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for NE region and difficult areas (North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹10 crore per project is provided for setting up the cold chain infrastructure in the country. Integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure can be set up by individuals, groups of entrepreneurs, cooperative societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), NGOs, Central/State PSUs, etc. Ministry has approved 138 Cold Chain projects in the country to reduce the cold chain gap.

In addition, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

(APEDA) under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes. Various other incentives provided by the Government to promote this sector are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) Total 42 Mega Food Parks have been approved by the Government of India for setting up in the country. Out of these, 39 projects have been sanctioned under Mega Food Park Scheme in 22 different States. The status of implementation of all the 39 Mega Food Parks State-wise is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(e) The Mega Food Park Scheme envisages a capital grant @50% of the eligible project cost in general areas and @75% of eligible project cost in difficult and hilly areas *i.e.* North East Region including Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and ITDP notified areas of the States subject to a maximum of ₹ 50 crores per project.

(f) The audit of these Mega Food Park is undertaken as per laid down procedure of the Government. Further, Ministry has engaged Programme Management Agencies (PMAs) to assist in implementation/monitoring/ supervision of the Mega Food Park projects. PMAs undertake the site visits of the project and monitor physical/financial progress of Mega Food Parks time to time.

Statement-I

Estimate of the monetary value of harvest and post-harvest losses in India at production of year 2012-13 and prices of 2014

Sl. No.	Crops/Commodity	Production (million tonnes)	Price (₹ /tonne)	Over all total loss (%)	Monitory Value of the losses (₹ crore)	Sectorial total loss (₹ crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cereals						
1.	Paddy	104.40	17918	5.53	10344	20698
2.	Wheat	9.46	17309	4.93	7882	
3.	Maize	22.23	12662	4.65	1309	
4.	Bajra	8.74	12666	5.23	579	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Sorghum	5.28	18456	5.99	584	
Pulses						
6.	Pigeon pea	3.07	49028	6.36	958	3877
7.	Chick pea	8.88	32838	8.41	2453	
8.	Black gram	0.83	48159	7.07	282	
9.	Green gram	0.46	60912	6.60	184	
Oilseed						
10.	Mustard	7.82	34820	5.54	1508	8278
11.	Cotton seed	3.49	32275	3.08	347	
12.	Soyabean	14.68	36984	9.96	5405	
13.	Safflower	0.10	26260	3.24	8	
14.	Sunflower	0.58	32576	5.26	99	
15.	Groundnut	4.75	31769	6.03	911	
Fruits						
16.	Apple	1.90	68078	10.39	1341	16644
17.	Banana	27.06	18601	7.76	3903	
18.	Citrus	11.47	14011	9.69	1557	
19.	Grapes	2.52	44564	8.63	969	
20.	Guava	2.62	20628	15.88	858	
21.	Mango	17.29	45355	9.16	7186	
22.	Papaya	5.19	16023	6.70	557	
Vegetable						
23.	Sapota	1.50	18770	9.73	273	14842
24.	Cabbage	8.53	10928	9.37	874	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Cauliflower	7.79	16321	9.56	1214	
26.	Green pea	3.87	33698	7.45	971	
27.	Mushroom	0.04	119049	9.51	46	
28.	Onion	16.66	16920	8.20	2312	
29.	Potato	41.09	16649	7.32	5008	
30.	Tomato	17.85	16510	12.44	3666	
Plantation Crops and Spices						
31.	Tapioca	7.32	22436	4.58	751	9325
32.	Arecanut	0.53	182865	4.91	475	
33.	Black pepper	0.05	570547	1.18	35	
34.	Cashew	0.75	76026	4.17	239	
35.	Chilli	1.31	64411	6.51	547	
36.	Coconut	15.09	28587	4.77	2058	
37.	Coriander	0.53	80506	5.87	249	
38.	Sugarcane	338.96	2100	7.89	5614	
39.	Turmeric	0.98	24845	4.44	108	
Livestock Produce						
40.	Egg	69.70	2634	7.19	1320	18987
41.	Inland fish	5.74	125306	5.23	3766	
42.	Marine fish	3.28	125306	10.52	4315	
43.	Meat	1.30	350000	2.71	1235	
44.	Poultry meat	3.90	150000	6.74	3942	
45.	Milk	132.40	36000	0.92	4409	
GRAND TOTAL					92651	

Statement-II

Details of various other incentives provided by the Government to the cold chain sector

- Services of pre-conditioning, pre-cooling, ripening, waxing, retail packing, labeling of fruits and vegetables have been exempted from Service Tax in Budget 2015-16.
- Loans to food & agro-based processing units and Cold Chain have been classified under Agriculture activities for Priority Sector Lending (PSL) as per the revised RBI Guidelines issued on 23/04/2015.
- Under Section 35-AD of the Income tax Act 1961, deduction to the extent of 150% is allowed for expenditure incurred on investment for (i) setting up and operating a cold chain facility; and (ii) setting up and operating warehousing facility for storage of agricultural produce.
- Government has extended Project Imports' benefits to cold storage, cold room (including for farm level pre-cooling) or industrial projects for preservation, storage or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat. Consequently, all goods related to Food Processing, imported as part of the project, irrespective of their tariff classification, would be entitled to uniform assessment at concessional basic customs duty of 5%.
- Refrigeration machineries and parts used for installation of cold storage, cold room or refrigerated vehicle, for the preservation, storage, transport or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat under Tariff Head: Chapter 84 are exempted from Excise Duty.
- Construction, erection, commissioning or installation of original works pertaining to post-harvest storage infrastructure for agricultural produce including cold storages for such purposes are exempted from Service tax.
- Capital investment in the creation of modern storage capacity has been made eligible for Viability Gap Funding scheme of the Finance Ministry. Cold chain and post-harvest storage has been recognized as an infrastructure sub-sector.

Statement-III*Status of Implementation of 39 Mega Food Park Projects as on 10.12.2015*

Sl. No.	Project Name	State	Date of In-principle Approval	Date of Final Approval	Project Cost	Grant released	(₹ in Crore)	
							Status	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC), Krishna	Andhra Pradesh	31.03.2015	-	152.16	0.00	In-principle	
2.	Sriini Food Park Pvt. Ltd, Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	121.10	49.52	Operational	
3.	Godavari Mega Aqua Park Pvt. Ltd., West Godavari	Andhra Pradesh	21.09.2012	16.12.2013	122.60	05.00	Under Construction	
4.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd., Nalbari	Assam	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	80.85	40.00	Operational	
5.	Mums Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Buxar	Bihar	31.03.2015	-	136.98	0.00	In-principle	
6.	Pristine Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khagaria	Bihar	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	127.64	05.00	Under Construction	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	JVL Mega food Park Pvt. Ltd., Rohtas	Bihar	19.12.2013	10.08.2015	114.21	0.00	Under Construction
8.	Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Raipur	Chhattisgarh	06.09.2012	04.06.2014	124.50	0.00	Under Construction
9.	Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd., Kutch	Gujarat	31.03.2015	-	168.60	0.00	In-principle
10.	Gujarat Agio Infrastructure Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Surat	Gujarat	21.09.2012	22.05.2014	117.87	05.00	Under Construction
11.	Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, Sonipat	Haryana	31.03.2015	06.11.2015	177.59	0.00	Under Construction
12.	Continental Warehousing Corporation (NhavaSeva) Limited, Panipat	Haryana	30.11.2015	-	157.46	0.00	In-principle
13.	Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Una	Himachal Pradesh	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	99.70	05.00	Under Construction
14.	RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Pulwama	Jammu and Kashmir	21.09.2012	19.02.2014	79.43	0.00	Under Construction

15.	Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ranchi	Jharkhand	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	114.74	43.78	Under Construction
16.	Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Tumkur	Karnataka	03.08.2010	27.03.2011	144.33	45.00	Operational
17.	Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (KSIDC), Alappuzha	Kerala	31.03.2015	27.11.2015	129.15	0.00	Under Construction
18.	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA), Palakkad	Kerala	31.03.2015	27.11.2015	119.02	0.00	Under Construction
19.	Avantee Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. (formerly Ruchi Acroni Industries Ltd.), Dewas	Madhya Pradesh	31.03.2015	-	150.37	0.00	In-principle
20.	Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khargoan	Madhya Pradesh	10.10.2011	27.08.2012	127.70	45.00	Under Construction
21.	Jain Agro Trading Company Private Limited, Wardha	Maharashtra	31.03.2015	-	88.73	0.00	In-principle
22.	Vinay Tiwari Agro Estates & Farms Pvt. Ltd., Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	31.03.2015	-	119.08	0.00	In-principle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd., Aurangabad	Maharashtra	01.04.2011	08.03.2013	124.56	05.00	Under Construction
24.	Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Satara	Maharashtra	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	139.33	15.00	Under Construction
25.	Zoram Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Aizawl	Mizoram	19.12.2013	10.06.2015	75.20	05.00	Under Construction
26.	Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO), Khurda	Odisha	31.03.2015	06.11.2015	134.13	0.00	Under Construction
27.	MITTS Mega Food Park Ltd., Rayagada	Odisha	29.04.2011	16.04.2012	80.17	15.00	Under Construction
28.	Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Ludhiana	Punjab	31.03.2015	27.11.2015	117.61	0.00	Under Construction
29.	The Sukjhrit Starch & Chemical Limited, Kapurthala	Punjab	31.03.2015	06.11.2015	123.72	0.00	Under Construction
30.	International Mega Food Park Ltd., Fazilka	Punjab	03.08.2010	25.05.2011	130.38	45.00	Operational

31.	Greentech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ajmer	Rajasthan	21.09.2012	19.02.2014	113.57	05.00	Under Construction
32.	3F Industries Ltd., Krishnagiri	Tamil Nadu	31.03.2015	-	127.78	0.00	In-principle
33.	Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (Telangana Division), Khammam	Telangana	31.03.2015	-	154.42	0.00	In-principle
34.	Raaga Mayuri Agrovet Pvt. Ltd., Mahboobnagar	Telangana	31.03.2015	-	112.05	0.00	In-principle
35.	Smart Agro Industries Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Nizamabad	Telangana	19.12.2013	10.06.2015	108.95	0.00	Under Construction
36.	Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., West Tripura	Tripura	29.04.2011	30.11.2011	87.45	20.79	Under Construction
37.	Patanjali Food & Herbal Park Pvt. Ltd., Haridwar	Uttarakhand	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	95.08	50.00	Operational
38.	Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Udham Singh Nagar	Uttarakhand	21.09.2012	23.01.2014	99.96	15.00	Under Construction
39.	Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Ltd., Murshidabad	West Bengal	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	132.70	45.00	Under Construction

Absence of warehousing and processing facilities

2350. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has details of the total production of fruits in the country during the last five years;

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

(c) the quantum of fruits perished due to the absence of warehousing and processing facilities during the last five years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Latest information on State-wise production of fruits in the country released by National Horticulture Board (NHB) for five years ending 2013-14, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) As per the study published by the Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana in 2015, the economic value of quantitative losses of seven fruits was found to be of the order of ₹ 16,644 crore in the production year 2012-13 and average annual prices of 2014. Details are given in the Statement-II (*See* below). State-wise annual details are not available as compilation of such data is based on periodic survey taking a sample of districts chosen across the country.

Statement-I

The details of production of fruits in country for different States/ UTs for five years ending 2013-14

(‘ 000’ MT)

States/UTs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	25.9	28.7	30.5	30.7	29.7
Andhra Pradesh	11,407.0	9,417.0	9,841.1	13,939.1	10,510.6
Arunachal Pradesh	108.0	107.9	308.9	312.2	321.3
Assam	1,854.0	1,763.5	1,851.8	2,073.8	2,007.8

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bihar	3,430.3	3,911.8	3,946.4	4,249.2	4,013.6
Chandigarh	1.1	1.1	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	1,200.9	1,569.6	1,569.2	1,702.3	1,930.2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19.7	-	-	-	-
Daman and Diu	0.0	-	-	-	-
Delhi	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	-
Goa	118.4	78.6	154.7	80.9	81.2
Gujarat	6,793.4	7,245.0	7,522.4	8,413.2	8,002.0
Haryana	302.9	356.6	476.6	516.1	554.9
Himachal Pradesh	382.2	1,031.1	372.8	555.7	866.3
Jammu and Kashmir	1,534.7	2,220.5	2,329.9	1,742.1	2,073.9
Jharkhand	1,339.8	779.6	850.2	889.7	890.0
Karnataka	7,629.0	6,273.6	6,428.1	6,619.6	6,652.4
Kerala	2,558.9	2,508.3	2,429.5	2,583.9	2,889.5
Lakshadweep	1.2	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.5
Madhya Pradesh	3,024.8	3,373.5	3,391.3	5,450.0	5,696.0
Maharashtra	10,396.6	9,513.0	10,538.0	9,785.0	13,457.9
Manipur	341.9	286.3	405.9	440.6	515.7
Meghalaya	294.8	241.9	300.4	316.6	348.0
Mizoram	185.5	211.5	275.7	292.9	343.9
Nagaland	151.3	151.3	347.7	276.0	411.0
Odisha	1,708.3	2,048.3	2,154.4	2,210.4	2,148.3
Puducherry	27.9	13.6	9.2	9.3	12.6
Punjab	1,364.2	1,373.2	1,419.9	1,502.5	1,541.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rajasthan	676.5	695.1	613.9	716.8	581.8
Sikkim	18.5	25.8	22.5	24.0	24.0
Tamil Nadu	8,015.2	9,965.0	8,535.1	6,699.9	7,369.9
Telangana	-	-	-	-	4,441.0
Tripura	477.2	643.9	644.3	697.9	786.4
Uttar Pradesh	4,555.2	5,368.4	5,795.1	5,176.1	6,887.5
Uttarakhand	725.3	718.9	802.1	805.7	678.5
West Bengal	2,853.9	2,952.8	3,055.4	3,172.5	2,909.7
TOTAL	73,526	74,878	76,424	81,285	88,977

Source: National Horticulture Board (NHB).

Statement-II

The details of losses in seven fruits in the production year 2012-13 and average annual prices of 2014

Commodity	Economic value of the losses (₹ crore)
Apple	1341
Banana	3903
Citrus	1557
Grapes	969
Guava	858
Mango	7186
Papaya	557
TOTAL LOSSES	16,644

Source: Report on 'Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of major Crops and Commodities in India' by Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana.

Incentives to FPIs

2351. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides incentives for setting up of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount disbursed for the purpose during last year, State-wise, including West Bengal;
- (c) the number of new Food Parks developed in the country during last three years;
- (d) the year-wise details of exports made by the specially designed Food Parks during last three years; and
- (e) whether Government has developed mechanism to ensure the standard of processed food prepared by such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes Sir, the Government has announced a number of fiscal incentives for promotion of Food Processing Sector in the country. The Major incentives are - deductions (*i.e.* deduction in expenditure and deduction of tax from profit) for the purpose of calculation of Income Tax of entrepreneurs engaged in food processing business, non-levying of service tax on items contained in the negative list, exemption of service tax for certain services, reduction in Customs and Excise Duty for certain projects/goods related to food processing and exemption of excise duty for food processing machineries. The details of such incentives are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

In addition, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also providing financial assistance in the form of Grant-in-aid to various target groups in the Food Processing Sector for the purpose of setting up of Food Processing Industries through various Central Sector/Centrally sponsored schemes. The major schemes are given below:

- (i) Scheme for Mega Food Park (Central Sector Scheme) for creating modern infrastructure facilities (*i.e.* Primary Processing Centers, Collection Centres (CCs) and common facilities and enabling infrastructure at Central Processing Centre) for the industries in the food processing sector in the country along the value chain from farm to market.

- (ii) Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for setting up of integrated Cold Chain Infrastructure (Central Sector Scheme) for arresting post harvest losses of perishable horticulture and non-horticulture produce.
- (iii) Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries. This scheme has been implemented as part of the Committed liability of the Eleventh Plan.
- (iv) National Mission on Food Processing, a Centrally sponsored Scheme, which was implemented through States/UTs in the Twelfth Plan (*i.e.* w.e.f. 01.04.2012). However, the National Mission on Food Processing has been delinked from the Central Government support with effect from 01.04.2015 in view of increased resource allocation to States resulting from the recommendations of 14th Finance Commission and presently, the scheme is at the disposal of State/UT Governments, who may run them from their own resources.

The details of the pattern of assistance provided under the above schemes are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain any data regarding the total amount of incentives (*i.e.* fiscal incentives) disbursed for the purpose of setting up of Food Processing Industries. However, the State-wise details of grant-in-aid disbursed by the Ministry under major Schemes during the last year to various target groups in the sector for the purpose, is given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) As on date, total 5 Mega Food Parks are operational. Out of this, 4 Mega Food Parks have been operationalized during the last three years and the current year.

(d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain any data regarding exports made by specially designed Food Parks during the last three years.

(e) The Government has since notified the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Under this Act, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established with the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. FSSAI has been mandated for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Every food Business Operator in the country, including food processing companies, has to follow and comply with Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules and

Regulations made thereunder. Schedule IV of Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Business) Regulation , 2011 prescribes the sanitary and hygienic requirements to be followed by all Food Processing Industries. As per section 29 of FSS Act, 2006, the Food Authority and the State Food Safety Authorities shall monitor and verify that the relevant requirements of law are fulfilled by Food Business Operators at all stages of food business.

Statement-I

Details of fiscal incentives for promotion of food processing sector in the country

1. Income Tax:

1.1 Deduction in Expenditure: Under Section 35-AD of the Income tax Act 1961, deduction for expenditure incurred on investment is allowed if this investment is wholly and exclusively for the purpose of any specified business (Details given below). However, this deduction is allowed only for the investment made in the previous year and prior to commencement of its operations.

- **Businesses allowed 150% deduction** (provided the taxpayer has commenced its business on or after 01.04.2012)
- Setting up and operating a cold chain facility
- Setting up and operating warehousing facility for storage of agricultural produce

Business allowed 100% deduction

- Bee-keeping and production of honey and beeswax
- Setting up and operating a warehousing facility for storage of sugar
- For generating more employment, an amendment regarding eligibility threshold of minimum 100 workmen is proposed to be reduced to fifty is made in the provisions of section 80JJAA of the Income-tax act.

1.2 Deduction of Tax from profit: Under Section 80 IB(11A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, new units (*i.e.* not formed by splitting up or by way of reconstruction of an existing business) in the business of processing, preservations and packaging of fruits or vegetables, meat & meat product, poultry, marine or dairy products are permitted to claim deduction from Income tax.

This tax incentive is available as 100% tax exemption for the first 5 years of operation, and after that, at the rate of 25% of the profits being exempted from tax; 30% in case of a company. This benefit is available only for ten years provided that such business had commenced on or after 1.04.2001.

If any business relating to meat, meat products, poultry, marine products or dairy products has started after 1.4.2009, the above benefits would be available, but not to the units operating in such business before 01.04.2009.

2. Service Tax

2.1 Negative List: Under Finance Act, 1994, Service Tax is not leviable on items contained in the Negative List. These services include processes carried out at an agricultural farm including tending, pruning, cutting, harvesting, drying, cleaning, trimming, sun drying, fumigating, curing, sorting, grading, cooling or bulk packaging and such like operations which do not alter the essential characteristics of agricultural produce but make it only marketable for the primary market.

2.2 Exempted Category: Ministry of Finance *vide* notification dated 20th June, 2012 has given exemption of Service Tax for following services:-

- Construction, Erection, Commissioning or installation of original works pertaining to post-harvest storage infrastructure for agricultural produce including cold storages for such purposes.
- Mechanized Food grain handling system, machinery or equipment for units processing agricultural produce as food stuff excluding alcoholic beverages.
- Services of Loading, unloading, packing, storage or warehousing of agricultural produce.
- Services of pre-conditioning, pre-cooling, ripening, waxing, retail packing, labeling of fruits and vegetables are being exempted.
- Services by way of transportation by rail or a vessel and by a goods transport agency used for transportation of agricultural produce and *food stuff* including flours, rice, pulses, tea, coffee, jaggery, sugar, milk, milk products, salt and edible oil, excluding alcoholic beverages.

3. Customs Duty

3.1 Government has extended Project Imports' benefits to the following projects:

- Projects for the installation of mechanized food grain handling systems and pallet racking systems in ‘ Mandis’ and Warehouses for food grains and sugar;
- Cold storage, cold room (including for farm level pre-cooling) or industrial projects for preservation, storage or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat.

Consequently, all goods related to Food Processing, imported as part of the project, irrespective of their tariff classification, would be entitled to uniform assessment at concessional basic customs duty,

- Customs duty on Hazelnuts has been reduced from 30% to 10%. (Ref. Notification No 12/2013- Customs dated 1.3.2013)
- Customs Duty on De-hulled Oat grains has been reduced from 30% to 15%. (Ref. Notification No 12/2013-Customs dated 1.3.2013)

4. Central Excise Duty

4.1 Food Products: In order to promote food processing industry, the Government has given concessions in Central Excise Duty from time to time. Duty structure of some of the processed food items are as under:

- Nil Duty in Milk, Milk Products (Chapter 4), Vegetables (Chapter 7), Nuts and Fruits, fresh & Dried (Chapter 8).
- As against standard excise rate of 12%, Processed Fruits & Vegetables (Chapter 20) carries a merit rate of 2% without CENVAT or 6% with CENVAT.
- Soya Milk Drinks, Flavoured Milk of Animal origin also carries a duty of 2% without CENVAT or 6% with CENVAT.

4.2 Food Processing Machineries:

- All refrigeration machineries and Parts used for installation of cold storage, cold room or refrigerated vehicle, for the preservation, storage, transport or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat are exempted from Excise Duty.

- o Pasteuring, drying, evaporating, etc. machinery used in Dairy sector is exempted from Excise Duty.
- o Excise duty on machinery for the preparation of meat, poultry, fruits, nuts or vegetables and on presses, crushers and similar machinery used in the manufacture of wine, cider, fruit juices or similar beverages and on packing machinery is reduced from 10% to 6%.

Statement-II*Schemes-wise details of the pattern of assistance*

Sl. No.	Scheme	Grant-in-aid		
		General Areas	Difficult areas including North-east areas, Sikkim and hilly areas like J and K, H.P., Uttarakhand and ITDP areas	Maximum limit of Grant-in-aid
1	2	3	4	5
1	Mega Food Park Infrastructure backward and forward linkage	50%	75%	₹ 50 crore
2	Cold Chain	50%	75% (except ITDP areas)	₹ 10 crore
3	*Technology Up-gradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of FPIs (Cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works)	25%	33.33%	₹75 lakhs (for difficult areas) ₹ 50 lakhs (for others)

1	2	3	4	5
4.	**National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP)	25%	33.33%	₹ 50 lakh (General areas)
			50%	₹ 75 lakh for difficult and ITDP areas)
				₹ 100 lakh for North Eastern States including Sikkim

* This scheme has been implemented as part of committed liability of the 11th Plan.

** Govt. of India has de-linked CSS-NMFP from Central Government support w.e.f. 01.04.2015.

Statement-III

Details of Grant-in-aid disbursed during the last year, State-wise including West Bengal

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States	Amount disbursed during 2014-15 under the scheme			
		Mega Food Park Scheme	Cold Chain Scheme	*Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries	**National Mission of Food Processing
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	25.85	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Arunachal Pradesh		0	0	0	0
4. Assam		10.00	6.54	0.4	0
5. Bihar		0	0	0.72	0
6. Chandigarh		0	0	0.08	0
7. Chhattisgarh		0	0	6.91	2.25
8. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0	0	0	0
9. Daman and Diu		0	0	0.25	0
10. Delhi		0	0.244	0.5	0
11. Goa		0	0	1.05	0
12. Gujarat		05.00	12.05	11.75	0
13. Haryana		0	19.35	5.12	3.05
14. Himachal Pradesh		0	6.57	2.52	0.62
15. Jammu and Kashmir		0	4.8	0.48	0.60
16. Jharkhand		15.00	0	1.18	0
17. Karnataka		05.89	7.38	10.84	2.24
18. Kerala		0	0	3.55	0.38
19. Lakshadweep					
20. Madhya Pradesh		15.00	5.5	3.57	0
21. Maharashtra		0	27.66	21.01	0.54
22. Manipur		0	2.45	0	
23. Meghalaya		0	0	0.38	0.15
24. Mizoram		0	2.49		0.69
25. Nagaland		0	0		0
26. Odisha		10.00	0.566	2.59	1.83
27. Puducherry		0	0		0

1	2	3	4	5	6
28. Punjab		0	10.32	4.68	0.50
29. Rajasthan		0	2.02	12.42	11.91
30. Sikkim		0	0	0	0.20
31. Telangana		0	0	0	0
32. Tripura		0	0	0	0.50
33. Tamil Nadu		0	0	11.69	0
34. Uttar Pradesh		0	7.5	10.96	0
35. Uttarakhand		0	37.43	1.56	0
36. West Bengal		0	0.433	4.67	2.48
TOTAL		60.89	153.303	144.73	27.94

* This scheme has been implemented as part of committed liability of the 11th Plan.

** Govt. of India has de-linked CSS-NMFP from Central Government support w.e.f. 01.04.2015.

Status of food processing industry

2352. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned by the export of processed food items during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount of funds invested in different food processing industries during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the number of food processing units assisted by Government during the last three years, State-wise, including Gujarat and Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) As per the latest information released by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the value of foreign exchange earned by the exports of processed food and beverages products for three years ending 2014-15, is as under:

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Exports (US \$ Million)	20,955	21,291	20,055

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

(b) Food Processing units are set up by entrepreneurs in private sector. According to the latest information released by Annual Survey of Industries, the State/UT-wise investment in fixed capital in registered food processing industries for three years ending 2012-13, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Financial assistance for setting up food processing units is provided under the scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries. This scheme, in the beginning was a Central sector scheme, became a Centrally sponsored scheme under National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) and now is a State's scheme. Under this scheme State-wise assistance provided during last three years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given in the Statement-II and III, respectively.

Statement-I

(A). The details of investment in fixed capital (₹ in lakh) in different registered food processing industries for States/UTs during-2010-11

Sl. No.	State	Meat processing	Marine processing	Fruits and Vegetables processing	Oil and Fats processing	Dairy processing	Grain Milling	Other food products	Animal feed	Beverages products	Total Investment
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	347	-	-	-	-	-	347
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8,744	27,818	55,372	3,66,191	62,708	3,24,659	3,46,294	38,088	1,94,609	14,24,483
3.	Assam	-	-	168	363	2,812	11,135	2,10,481	-	38,124	2,63,083
4.	Bihar	-	-	1,275	7,390	3,596	14,978	47,363	2,793	28,531	1,05,926
5.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	1,600	234	32	-	-	866	2,732

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6. Chhattisgarh	350	-	-	17,098	613	35,286	2,738	446	10,895	67,426	
7. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,491	-	-	1,491	
8. Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,007	-	11,075	14,082	
9. Delhi	675	-	8,745	-	-	24,848	19,512	-	697	54,477	
10. Goa	-	2,753	174	1,655	8,019	-	38,378	-	24,958	75,967	
11. Gujarat	-	11,588	41,271	1,57,172	1,11,715	62,957	2,27,782	15,504	-	6,27,989	
12. Haryana	-	-	4,676	9,827	39,482	2,05,926	1,01,116	6,249	99,593	4,66,869	
13. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	19,122	6,719	4,963	4,951	1,19,392	39	7,334	1,62,520	
14. Jammu and Kashmir	39	-	64	819	556	2,602	2,480	-	9,030	15,590	
15. Jharkhand	-	-	999	78	969	21,725	1,507	-	1,712	26,990	
16. Karnataka	2,867	3,216	25,990	91,135	39,560	69,177	8,18,626	10,213	1,31,385	11,92,169	
17. Kerala	-	26,712	1,903	20,136	19,831	27,224	68,866	5,580	20,570	1,90,822	
18. Madhya Pradesh	13	-	9,384	2,86,176	21,630	47,097	35,992	345	63,160	4,63,797	
19. Maharashtra	14,130	43,520	91,563	2,42,999	1,30,504	91,790	10,13,354	21,161	4,89,856	21,38,877	
20. Manipur	-	-	264	-	-	206	336	-	-	806	
21. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	70	489	-	-	559	
22. Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	179	-	-	-	179	
23. Odisha	-	6,172	-	17,868	3,327	45,069	25,993	887	-	99,316	
24. Puducherry	-	-	-	2,865	-	2,002	6,928	-	9,557	21,352	
25. Punjab	17,141	-	1,19,939	41,199	42,803	1,23,276	73,392	2,395	1,03,374	5,23,519	
26. Rajasthan	-	-	9,702	49,487	28,214	27,728	25,212	933	85,299	2,26,575	
27. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	721	66	961	-	16,887	18,635	
28. Tamil Nadu	4,675	8,211	90,003	1,11,138	39,472	97,679	5,19,750	31,331	1,22,480	10,24,739	
29. Tripura	-	-	1,670	-	-	236	2,534	38	449	4,927	
30. Uttar Pradesh	62,865	-	2,565	63,851	1,16,067	87,109	13,77,359	7,169	3,09,039	20,26,024	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
31. Uttarakhand		-	-	35,483	575	4,07	76,910	1,02,970	822	19,026	2,39,857
32. West Bengal		-	6,855	18,125	1,20,305	14,613	92,671	1,87,359	5,246	66,871	5,12,045

(B). The details of investment in fixed capital (₹ in lakh) in different registered food “processing industries for States/ UTs during-2011-12

Sl. No.	States	Meat processing	Marine processing	Fruits and Vegetables processing	Oil and Fats processing	Dairy processing	Grain Milling	Other food products	Animal feed	Beverages products	Total Investment
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	301	-	-	-	-	-	301
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15,168	51,895	75,506	2,19,467	99,603	3,44,212	3,59,094	83,916	2,99,991	15,48,852
3.	Assam	-	-	542	2,878	3,858	25,769	2,25,825	2,333	37,583	2,98,788
4.	Bihar	-	-	852	20,658	9,137	25,516	1,88,022	5,433	25,694	2,75,312
5.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	85	-	427	44	-	869	1,425
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	24,103	1,110	83,838	2,773	291	15,813	1,27,928
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	410	-	-	410
8.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,505	-	9,822	13,327
9.	Delhi	705	-	2,743	-	-	12,866	23,669	-	745	40,728
10.	Goa	-	3,568	-	1,177	4,954	-	87,043	-	20,119	1,16,861
11.	Gujarat	-	12,349	25,409	2,18,718	1,54,313	99,587	2,00,464	31,454	37,747	7,80,041
12.	Haryana	-	-	3,817	16,035	59,501	2,18,474	95,316	2,046	1,36,743	5,31,932
13.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	16,379	7,292	-	5,575	1,59,759	21	9,672	1,98,698
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	5,216	1,203	2,102	3,367	31,371	892	10,380	54,531
15.	Jharkhand	-	-	838	2,462	1,108	23,520	4,384	551	1,888	34,751

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16. Karnataka	3,077	15,370	49,105	1,04,033	63,241	1,30,153	11,22,056	20,103	1,64,099	16,71,237	
17. Kerala	-	55,791	2,753	12,651	33,469	19,855	78,627	11,519	29,091	2,43,756	
18. Madhya Pradesh	-	-	14,080	2,99,215	56,114	47,224	87,687	560	50,201	5,55,081	
19. Maharashtra	18,790	29,161	93,398	1,74,214	2,78,838	1,20,744	13,02,469	19,394	3,33,416	23,70,424	
20. Manipur	-	-	271	-	-	194	-	424	-	889	
21. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	242	854	-	8,392	9,488	
22. Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	157	-	-	-	157	
23. Odisha	13	1,277	-	15,371	3,683	53,447	31,596	3,780	36,529	1,45,696	
24. Puducherry	-	-	-	2,615	1,859	2,689	7,135	-	7,044	21,342	
25. Punjab	16,820	-	91,460	34,448	48,902	1,22,810	66,695	4,045	1,04,736	4,89,916	
26. Rajasthan	-	-	6,692	65,283	38,967	31,906	36,062	1,984	1,57,584	3,38,473	
27. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	634	-	991	-	15,499	17,124	
28. Tamil Nadu	10,599	41,092	32,672	79,435	67,415	1,11,669	5,52,517	52,020	2,16,603	11,64,022	
29. Tripura	-	-	1,392	-	-	242	2,630	23	349	4,636	
30. Uttar Pradesh	67,851	-	9,179	3,46,296	1,20,428	1,15,241	14,22,217	16,534	2,92,568	23,90,314	
31. Uttarakhand	-	-	36,309	23,356	1,683	65,774	1,58,861	1,079	1,37,775	4,24,837	
32. West Bengal	-	6,050	36,981	1,69,575	6,317	88,785	2,12,960	15,866	80,375	6,16,909	

(C). The details of investment in fixed capital (₹ in lakh) in different registered food processing industries for States/ UTs during-2012-13

Sl. No.	States	Meat processing	Marine processing	Fruits and Vegetables processing	Oil & Fats processing	Dairy processing	Grain Milling	Other food products	Animal feed	Beverages products	Total Investment
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	428	-	-	-	-	-	428

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2. Andhra Pradesh	2,374	44,226	36,471	2,46,032	64,101	1,36,791	1,98,217	62,938	96,249	8,87,399	
3. Assam	-	-	3,510	3,823	3,664	25,780	2,73,636	2,667	40,215	3,53,295	
4. Bihar	-	-	4,133	37,564	8,813	28,402	1,57,091	2,755	48,330	2,87,088	
5. Chandigarh	-	-	-	186	-	-	38	-	878	1,102	
6. Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	28,940	1,329	46,257	7,969	634	13,421	98,550	
7. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,893	-	566	4,459	
8. Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,191	-	8,996	12,187	
9. Delhi	-	-	2,707	-	-	22,717	40,592	-	1,104	67,120	
10. Goa	-	4,404	-	1,717	4,097	-	93,024	-	18,076	1,21,318	
11. Gujarat	-	16,403	44,737	1,94,346	1,82,849	1,35,205	2,81,340	49,358	61,546	9,65,784	
12. Haryana	-	-	8,967	5,221	46,030	5,45,041	97,042	2,523	1,32,435	8,37,259	
13. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	31,061	26,702	3,474	14,822	1,55,646	28	9,991	2,41,724	
14. Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	3,438	727	2,498	1,294	28,309	860	9,616	46,742	
15. Jharkhand	-	-	756	1,385	1,275	28,313	3,582	629	22,842	58,782	
16. Karnataka	9,926	22,866	20,578	40,335	68,186	1,56,782	10,01,419	24,243	1,86,248	15,30,583	
17. Kerala	1,480	35,349	2,106	14,052	23,717	16,657	2,54,467	12,351	24,990	3,85,169	
18. Madhya Pradesh	-	-	20,776	1,44,606	30,184	77,836	99,314	1,601	47,515	4,21,832	
19. Maharashtra	30,705	37,420	88,399	1,93,418	2,83,797	1,96,324	14,87,605	15,320	4,24,720	27,57,708	
20. Manipur	-	-	251	-	-	300	253	414	77	1,295	
21. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	153	665	-	15,106	15,924	
22. Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	209	-	-	-	209	
23. Odisha	-	13,065	1,232	17,704	5,280	58,244	42,005	1,685	46,408	1,85,623	
24. Puducherry	-	-	-	106	2,688	18,098	6,909	-	7,053	34,854	
25. Punjab	22,004	-	77,995	39,585	57,474	1,38,643	67,132	10,771	1,06,648	5,20,252	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
26. Rajasthan	-	-	6,777	42,585	31,977	15,465	1,49,111	2,233	3,43,561	5,91,709	
27. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	598	85	885	-	32,107	33,675	
28. Tamil Nadu	8,744	38,954	42,720	1,37,875	70,740	1,24,191	7,22,479	52,900	1,70,531	13,69,134	
29. Telangana	28,368	-	10,123	59,334	23,340	1,83,410	1,25,647	18,735	1,73,578	6,22,535	
30. Tripura	-	-	1,214	-	-	2,118	2,514	59	469	6,374	
31. Uttar Pradesh	81,396	-	11,093	67,293	1,25,526	1,56,553	13,82,611	12,073	3,35,587	21,72,132	
32. Uttarakhand	-	-	35,668	4,627	2,647	63,555	1,54,595	1,021	21,383	2,83,496	
33. West Bengal	1,122	5,116	46,338	1,36,058	9,767	87,961	5,73,740	10,236	87,150	9,57,488	

Source: Annual Survey of Industries (ASI).

Statement-II

Statement indicating State-wise details of proposal sanctioned and Grant-in-aid released under Technology upgradation/Establishment/ Modernization for 11th Plan Scheme committed liabilities

Sl. No.	States	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
								(as on 03/12/2015)	
		Nos.	₹ Crore	Nos.	₹ Crore	Nos.	₹ Crore	Nos.	₹ Crore
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	225	43.45	145	29.4	144	25.85	35	6.5
2.	Assam	18	3.76	01	2.14	2	0.40	1	0.03
3.	Bihar	2	0.36	2	0.27	6	0.72	3	0.59
4.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	2	0.33	1	0.08	0	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	149	17.54	68	8.01	57	6.91	22	2.48
6.	Delhi	2	0.5	6	1.18	2	0.5	1	0.25
7.	Daman and Diu					1	0.25	1	0.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Goa	1	0.19	5	0.93	6	1.05	1	0.07
9.	Gujarat	52	8.34	80	14.31	70	11.75	53	9.63
10.	Haryana	88	11.58	34	5.66	27	5.12	27	5.7
11.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1.33	10	2.6	11	2.52	8	2.02
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	0.16	3	0.55	3	0.48	7	1.8
13.	Jharkhand	6	1.24	2	0.38	5	1.18	3	0.67
14.	Karnataka	78	12.19	68	8.4	74	10.84	46	7.35
15.	Kerala	14	2.44	43	7.4	21	3.55	17	2.42
16.	Madhya Pradesh	31	4.27	30	4.05	23	3.57	17	3.25
17.	Maharashtra	136	18.35	171	24.17	144	21.01	93	14.19
18.	Manipur	21	4.67	36	7.93	0	0.00	0	0.00
19.	Meghalaya	1	0.5	3	0.72	1	0.38	0	0.00
20.	Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
21.	Nagaland	2	0.14	1	0.8	0	0.00	0	0.00
22.	Odisha	15	2.59	5	0.73	14	2.59	6	1.13
23.	Puducherry	6	1.50	1	0.25	0	0.00	0	0.00
24.	Punjab	231	24.45	83	9.49	42	4.68	24	3.06
25.	Rajasthan	44	6.71	50	5.45	76	12.42	77	14.35
26.	Tamil Nadu	46	7.23	58	9.97	62	11.69	24	5.2
27.	Tripura	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
28.	Uttar Pradesh	38	5.97	59	10.58	64	10.96	30	5.93
29.	Uttarakhand	7	1.72	7	2.25	6	1.56	4	0.96
30.	West Bengal	6	1.39	18	3.9	27	4.67	16	3.95
TOTAL		1226	182.12	1000	161.13	889	144.73	516	91.98

Statement-III

Details of State-wise assistance provided under Technology Up-gradation/ Modernization/ Establishment of FPI component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 of 12th Five Year Plan

(₹ crore)

Sl. No.	States Name	2012-13			2013-14			2014-15		
		No. of Sanct- ioned Proj- ects	Amo- unt Sanc- tioned	Amo- unt Rele- ased	No. of Sanct- ioned Proj- ects	Amo- unt Sanc- tioned	Amo- unt Rele- ased	No. of Sanct- ioned Proj- ects	Amo- unt Sanc- tioned	Amo- unt Rele- ased
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	0.61	0.61	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6	2.38	2.38	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	1.51	1.51	3	1.00	0.81	0	0	0
4.	Assam	3	2.61	1.76	19	1.56	0.57	4	0.25	0
5.	Bihar	3	0.58	0.13	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	2	1.00	0.75	0	0	0	9	3.50	2.25
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Gujarat	51	18.56	14.09	23	8.94	3.58	1	0.50	0
13.	Haryana	9	3.87	3.72	4	1.78	1.78	0	4.14	3.05
14.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1.35	0.85	12	4.59	3.26	4	1.35	0.62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	4.54	3.68	4	1.71	0.84	8	3.10	0.60
16.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Karnataka	36	13.92	13.80	14	4.71	4.47	14	4.48	2.24
18.	Kerala	7	2.59	2.52	14	5.88	4.82	2	1.00	0.38
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	20	6.26	5.83	23	856	7.96	0	0	0
21.	Maharashtra	58	19.75	17.89	27	8.29	4.14	4	1.07	0.54
22.	Manipur	37	2.08	1.11	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	3	0.35	0.35	9	2.24	0.52	1	0.30	0.15
24.	Mizoram	2	0.35	0.35	2	0.40	0.15	7	1.16	0.69
25.	Nagaland	7	0.89	0.89	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	11	4.50	4.35	12	4.64	4.26	9	2.33	1.83
27.	Puducherry	3	1.41	1.41	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Punjab	3	1.27	0.99	5	0.89	0.56	1	0.50	0.50
29.	Rajasthan	9	3.23	2.73	39	14.17	14.17	31	11.91	11.91
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.00	0.20
31.	Tamil Nadu	5	1.75	0.87	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Telangana	3	1.00	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Tripura	1	0.75	0.75	1	0.99	0.99	1	1.00	0.50
34.	Uttar Pradesh	39	15.13	12.71	7	0.61	0	0	0	0
35.	Uttarakhand	4	1.35	0.12	1	0.75	0.75	0	0	0
36.	West Bengal	10	3.95	3.95	36	16.26	12.71	21	9.57	2.48
TOTAL		362	117.54	100.35	255	87.97	66.34	127	47.16	27.94

(Source: Data entered by State / UT Governments in NMFP MIS portal)

Note: Govt. of India has de-linked CSS-NMFP from Central Government support *w.e.f.* 01.04.2015.

Disposal of Bail applications of undertrials

2353. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bail applications of under-trial prisoners in cases not punishable with death or imprisonment for life, keep pending and are not being decided for long weeks and months;

(b) if so, the reasons attributable to this inordinate delay in their cases; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government, in consultation with judicial administration, to remedy this situation along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of new courts including special courts for women and children

2354. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measures to increase the number of courts in the country to deal with the backlog of pending cases, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up special courts to deal with cases of crimes related to women and children, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Setting up of District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State Governments. It was resolved in the meeting of the Advisory Council of the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms that the Judges' strength may be doubled. In the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it was 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 Fourteenth 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 Fourteenth Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

(b) As per the information received, a statement indicating State/UT-wise number of courts set-up/designated for cases of crimes against women and Special Courts established under the POCSO Act, 2012 for cases of crimes against children is given in the Statement.

Statement

Special Courts set-up/designated for cases of crimes against women and for cases of crimes against children under POCSO Act, 2012

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Courts for cases of	
		Crimes against women	Crimes against children under POCSO Act, 2012
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh/Telangana	24	23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	*	5
3.	Assam	3	27
4.	Bihar	*	38
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	16
6.	Chandigarh	1	*
7.	Goa	*	1
8.	Gujarat	*	33
9.	Haryana	21	21
10.	Himachal Pradesh	*	12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	*

1	2	3	4
12.	Jharkhand	11	24
13.	Karnataka	10	30
14.	Kerala	1	14
15.	Maharashtra	27	33
16.	Meghalaya	1	4
17.	Manipur	*	9
18.	Madhya Pradesh	50	50
19.	Mizoram	*	2
20.	Nagaland	*	11
21.	Odisha	30	30
22.	Punjab	20	22
23.	Rajasthan	9	33
24.	Sikkim	1	4
25.	Tamil Nadu	32	32
26.	Tripura	2	8
27.	Uttarakhand	*	13
28.	Uttar Pradesh	80	75
29.	West Bengal	48	20
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	*	1
31.	Chandigarh	*	1
32.	Daman and Diu	*	*
33.	Delhi	6	11
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	*	1
35.	Lakshadweep	*	1
36.	Puducherry	*	*
TOTAL		398	605

* Not available

Implementation of Uniform Civil Code

2355. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement Uniform Civil Code in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has initiated any discussion with the stakeholders and planners to implement Uniform Civil Code, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Article 44 of the Directive Principles of the Constitution sets implementation of Uniform Civil Code as duty of the State. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, wider consultation with stakeholders would be required for taking further steps in this regard. Presently, the matter is being examined by the Government.

Speedy disposal of cases by Lok Adalats

2356. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in recently conducted Lok Adalats, 3.51 lakh cases have been cleared;

(b) if so, whether Lok Adalats are doing a tremendous job in clearing the pendency of cases; and

(c) if so, why NALSA, State Lok Adalats and District Lok Adalats conduct Lok Adalats cannot conduct Lok Adalats once in a week so as to achieve the objective of reducing pendency of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) During the year 2015, National Legal Services authority (NALSA) through State Legal Services Authorities/High court Legal services Committees/District Legal Services Authorities/Taluk Legal Services Committees, has organized monthly National Lok Adalats on various subject matters. Recently the monthly National Lok Adalat relating to Traffic, Petty matters and Municipal matters was held on 10.10.2015. In this Lok Adalat, 11.18 lakh cases have been settled at Pre-litigation stage and 5.18 lakh cases settled at Post-litigation stage.

(b) Yes Madam, Lok Adalats are doing a tremendous job in clearing the pendency of cases. Lok Adalat is an important alternative disputes resolution mechanism available

to common people. It is a forum where the disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. The Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Under this Act, an award made by a Lok Adalat is deemed to be a decree of civil court and is final and binding on all parties and no appeal lies against thereto before any court.

(c) Lok Adalats are organized on need based approach. However, in order to reduce the pendency of cases in courts, the legal services institutions under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 organize weekly/monthly and also mega Lok Adalats during the year. In addition to this, National Lok Adalats are also organized on various subject matters during the year.

New Benches of Odisha High Court at Bhawanipatna

2357. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open Permanent Benches of High Courts in different States of the country;

(b) the proposals received from the State in this regard, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will consider to set up Permanent Bench of the High Court of Odisha at Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district within the KBK area in Odisha; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (d) In accordance with the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P.(C) No. 379 of 2000, Bench(es) of the High Court are established after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government, which has to provide infrastructure and meet the expenditure, along with the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, which is required to look after the day to day administration of the High Court and its Bench. The proposal should also have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State.

Requests for establishment of High Court Benches in different parts of the country have been received from various sources, including some State Governments. However, at present there is no proposal complete in all aspects pending for consideration by the Central Government.

The Government of Odisha has sent a proposal for establishment of two Benches of the Orissa High Court in the Western and Southern regions of Odisha. The matter was referred to the Chief Justice, Orissa High Court. However, the Chief Justice of Orissa High Court has not furnished any view in the matter. So far, no specific proposal for establishment of Permanent Bench of the High Court of Odisha at Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi district has been received by the Central Government.

Pendency of cases in various courts

†2358. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of advocates appointed by Government in various courts in Rajasthan for pleading on its behalf, indicating the names of the courts as also the names of those courts where advocates are yet to be appointed along with factual details thereof;

(b) whether a large number of cases pertaining to Central Government are pending in the courts;

(c) if so, the number of pending cases in various courts as-on-date; and

(d) whether Government is formulating any scheme for speedy disposal of these cases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fast Track Courts in Odisha

2359. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) established in Odisha;

(b) whether adequate funds have been allocated for them to remain operative;

(c) how many of them have stopped functioning and the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when Government proposes to make such FTCs operational once again?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (d) Fast Track Courts (FTCs) are set up by the State Governments in consultation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

with the respective High Courts. 72 FTCs were approved for Eleventh Finance Commission Funding in Odisha in the year 2000. As per the reports received, 41 FTCs were functional in Odisha as on 31.03.2005 and 35 FTCs were functional as on 31.03.2011. Central Grant for FTCs was provided up to 31.03.2011. A total grant of ₹ 2978.60 lakh was provided to the Government of Odisha upto 31.03.2011. As informed by the State Government, 35 FTCs were continued upto 31.03.2013 and then these FTCs were discontinued. However 30 numbers of ADJs have been designated as Special Track Courts to deal with cases relating to offences against women on Fast Track basis.

Early disposal of divorce cases

2360. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the action taken by Government for urgent and speedy disposal of divorce cases in view of the fact that it involves very lengthy process which not only creates financial burden on divorce petitioners but also adds to the burden on judicial system, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): The Family Courts Act, 1984 provides for establishment of Family Courts with a view to promote conciliation in, and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs and for matters connected therewith. Under section 3 of the said Act, it is mandatory for the State Governments to set up a Family Court for every area in the State comprising of a city or a town, whose population exceeds one million. In other areas of the States, the Family Courts may be set up, if the State Governments deems it necessary. The State Governments shall, after consultation with the High Court, specify the local limits of the area to which the jurisdiction of the Family Courts shall extend. The Family Courts function under the administrative control and superintendence of the State Government or the Union territory Administration and the High Court concerned.

Vacant posts of Judges of High Courts

2361. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sanctioned posts of High Court Judges in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) how many of them are vacant, as on 31 March, 2015; and
- (c) the number of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and women Judges in the High Courts of above States, as on 31 March, 2015?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) A Statement showing the Sanctioned Strength, Working Strength, Vacancies of judges and the number of women Judges working in the High Courts of Bombay, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan as on 31.03.2015 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

The relevant provisions of Constitution of India relating to appointment of Judges of the 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.

Statement

(Position as on 31.03.2015)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as per Sanctioned Strength	Number of women Judges working in the High Court
1.	Bombay	75	65	10	10
2.	Gujarat	52	30	22	03
3.	Madhya Pradesh	53	33	20	02
4.	Rajasthan	50	30	20	04
TOTAL		230	158	72	19

Disposal of cases of corporate disputes

2362. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the delay in litigation process and disposal of cases related to corporate disputes;

(b) if so, whether these delays have hurt the business sentiment in the country; and

(c) whether Government plans to set up special courts for corporate cases in the country, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) The issue has been deliberated upon by the Law Commission of India in its 253rd Report, a copy of which has been laid on the Table of the House on 04.12.2015.

(c) Based on the recommendation of the Law Commission of India and inputs received from various stakeholders, a Bill *viz.*, The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Bill, 2015 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 7th December 2015 and has been passed on 16th December 2015.

Progress under e-Courts Mission Mode Project

2363. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of computerization of district and subordinate courts under e-Courts Mission Mode Project in Punjab, Union Territory of Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) the number of courts in each of the above States in which LAN, hardware and software have been installed under the project;

(c) the total cost incurred for the purpose; and

(d) by when all others courts would be covered under it?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, the status of various components of computerisation of District and Subordinate Courts under the jurisdiction of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana and the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh respectively are as under:

Under the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, of the total 714 sites prepared under the Project, LAN and Hardware has been provided at 689 Courts and software is available at 682 courts.

Under the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the States of Telangana and

Andhra Pradesh, of the total 889 sites prepared under the Project, LAN and Hardware has been provided at 835 courts and software is available at 705 courts.

(c) Based on the cost estimates sent by the implementing agency (NIC), the Deptt. of Justice released aggregate amount to NIC. Hence State wise cost is not maintained.

(d) Envisaging enhanced ICT enablement of courts through universal computerisation in addition to the completion of remaining activities of Phase I of the e-Courts, Phase-II of the e-Courts Project has been approved in July, 2015. The duration of the project would be four years, or until the project is completed, whichever is later.

Delay in construction of conference hall

2364. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways Promotee Officers Federation under Delhi Division, Northern Railway has given tender of ₹ 25 lakh for construction of a Conference Hall, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether work for the Conference Hall has been pending for the last two years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether investigation would be conducted by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for irregularities in the work and action taken against responsible persons, if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Tender for improvement in the office building of Indian Railway Promotee Officers Federation (IRPOF) including construction of their Conference Hall in Basant Lane, Railway Colony, New Delhi, was awarded on 02.05.2014 and the construction work has been extended upto 31.01.2016.

(b) The construction of Conference Hall has already been completed. Other improvement works in the office building would be completed by 31.01.2016. Delay in construction was caused due to some additions/alterations suggested by the representatives of Indian Railway Promotee Officers Federation during execution of work.

(c) No such complaint for irregularities in the work has been received till date and hence, no investigation has been done.

Allocation of fund for medical tourism

2365. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount designated for medical tourism by the Indian Rail Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC); and

(b) whether such a scheme is exclusively available in the East Zone or will it be available to the rest of the country, if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has not allocated any special fund for Medical Tourism. As a Pilot Project, IRCTC has signed an MoU with M/s Appllo Hospital, Chennai for providing health check-up packages through its tourism website. The scheme will be considered for extension to other zones if the Pilot project succeeds.

Pending railway projects in Chhattisgarh

†2366. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the pending railway projects in Chhattisgarh and since when;

(b) whether survey of Rajnandgaon -Jabalpur *via* Bematara, Kawardha, Mandala railway line was sanctioned in 2013-14 and the survey of Raipur- Jabalpur *via* Khairagarh, Kawardha, Bodla railway line was sanctioned in 2012-13;

(c) if so, the target set for completion of the survey;

(d) whether doubling work of Jagdalpur-Koraput railway line and construction of Jharsuguda-Bilaspur flyover/bypass is pending and Bilaspur-Anuppur, Jharsugda-Bilaspur and Rajnandgaon-Nagpur railway lines are overloaded; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to reduce the traffic load on these lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Railways have taken up 12 major rail network expansion projects, comprising 5 New Lines and 7 Doublings falling fully/partly in Chhattisgarh at an anticipated cost of ₹11,535 crore, the oldest being Bilaspur-Urkura 3rd line(sanctioned in 1997-98). These projects are at various stages of completion. In addition, 6 Doubling projects

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

falling fully/partly in Chhattisgarh have been included in Railway Budget 2015-16 at an estimated cost of ₹ 9902 crore subject to requisite approval of Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Survey requires interaction with various departments of State Government, District Administration, Trade and Industries, etc. for assessment of traffic projection. It also involves preparation of plan, drawing, calculation of cost, rate of return, etc. Since this is an extensive exercise, no time frame has been fixed for completion of these surveys.

(d) Doubling of Jagdalpur-Koraput (110 Km.) and Jharsuguda-Bilaspur Flyover/bypass (10 Km.) have been included in the Budget of 2015-16 subject to obtaining requisite Government clearances. Both these projects have now received requisite approvals and detailed estimates have been sanctioned. The Bilaspur-Anuppur, Jharsuguda-Bilaspur and Rajnandgaon-Nagpur sections are over saturated and percentage utilization of these sections is above 100%.

(e) Due to increase in passenger and freight traffic, Railways have sanctioned construction of 3rd lines, 4th lines and flyover/bypasses over these routes.

Captive power plants to reduce spending of railways

2367. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether apart from spending ₹ 20,000 crore on purchase of diesel for traction during last financial year, Railways spent around ₹ 13,000 crore on sourcing electricity for traction;

(b) whether Nabinagar captive power facility of Railways in Bihar is partly to be commissioned with the 250 MW unit going on stream later this fiscal; and

(c) whether Railways have also worked on a project for setting up a second captive power plant at Adra in West Bengal, which together with the Nabinagar captive power facility, will save more than ₹ 5000 crore every year for railways on power bills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. The actual expenditure incurred on purchase of diesel (fuel) and traction (electricity) during last financial year (2014-15) is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Year	Fuel (diesel)	Traction (electricity)
2014-15	18,586	10,436

(b) The first unit of 250MW captive power plant of 1000 MW capacity located at Nabinagar, Bihar by name “Bhartiya Rail Bijli Company Limited (BRBCL)” is slated for commissioning during 2015-16.

(c) A coal based power plant of 1320 MW (2x660 MW) capacity at Adra, West Bengal was proposed as a part of the budgetary announcements in the year 2009. For this purpose, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 31.10.2010 between NTPC and Railways. However, construction of this plant is yet to commence.

Electrification of NF Railway

2368. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed allocation for electrification of Northeast Frontier (NF) Railway zone in the budget 2015-16;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned till now; and
- (c) the present status of the railway track electrification projects of NF Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) There are two ongoing Railway Electrification projects which fall partly in the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) Zone. The details of funds allocation for 2015-16 are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Name of Project	Total Route Kilometres (RKM)	RKM in Northeast Frontier Railway	Outlay for 2015-16	Proportionate Outlay for Northeast Frontier Railway
Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati incl. Katihar-Barsoi	836	649	107.00	83.06
Kumedpur-Malda-Singhabad and Pakur-Malda	153	79	60.05	31.01

(c) The present status of on-going railway electrification projects of NF Railway under Plan Head 'Railway Electrification' are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Project and year of sanction	Route Kilo- meter (RKM) Total	Balance RKM to be electrified as on 01.04.2015
1.	Kumedpur-Malda-Singhabad and Pakur-Malda (2012-13)	153	69
2.	Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati incl. Katihar-Barsoi (2008-09)	836	403

Kumedpur-Malda-Singhabad and Pakur-Malda electrification project has been entrusted to Central Organisation for Railway Electrification (CORE) Allahabad and Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati incl. Katihar-Barsoi electrification project has been entrusted to CORE and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) New Delhi for execution.

Railway stations with ambulance and first-aid facilities

2369. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Railways to provide critical first-aid and ambulance access to people injured while using the suburban and long distance services across the country;

(b) the number of stations that are fully equipped to provide critical first-aid and ambulance access, station-wise; and

(c) the time-frame by when all stations will have such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) First Aid Boxes containing essential drugs and dressing materials are provided with the guards of all passenger carrying trains and Station Masters of all Railway stations. In addition, Augmented First Aid Boxes with wide range of medicines, disposable medical material, etc. have been provided at model stations and with the Train Superintendents of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and Guards of nominated trains. Front line staff deployed at stations and on trains are also trained in rendering First Aid. Trains can also make unscheduled halts, if necessary, at the stations *en-route* in emergencies. The Station Masters of all stations have details of

doctors, clinics and hospitals, both Government and Private, in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed, in emergencies. Ambulance service of both Railway hospitals and State Governments are utilized when required.

Pending railway projects

†2370. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of railway routes pending for gauge conversion in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) the length of railway routes converted into broad gauge during the last Five Year Plan and the expenditure incurred thereon, State-wise;
- (c) the target determined for gauge conversion during the current Five Year Plan, particularly for Maharashtra; and
- (d) the details of the sections to be completed till the end of the current fiscal year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As on 01.04.2015, Indian Railways have 4907 Route Km. of Metre Gauge (MG) and 2297 Route Km. of Narrow Gauge (NG) lines. Out of these, 3208 Km. of MG and 1153 Km. of NG have been sanctioned for gauge conversion. Four Gauge Conversion projects having a total length of 1013 Km. falling fully/partly in Maharashtra have been taken up at total cost of ₹ 5300 crore.

(b) As most of the railway lines straddle across one or more States, State-wise data is not maintained. During Eleventh five year plan *i.e.* from 2007-08 to 2011-12, 5321 Km length of railway track has been converted to Broad Gauge and an expenditure of ₹ 15,500 crore incurred thereon.

(c) A target of 2000 Km. has been fixed for Twelfth Five Year Plan. Out of which 1536 Km. has already been completed in first three years of this Plan.

(d) During the current financial year, target of commissioning of about 800 Km. of gauge converted section has been fixed, which fall fully/partly in Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Coach factory in Kanjikode, Kerala

2371. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to start the coach factory in Kanjikode, Kerala, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project of setting up of Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad has been sanctioned under Public Private Partnership. Request for Qualification (RFQ) was floated for selection of the bidder. RFQ was discharged due to inadequate response. The modified Business model has been firmed up after interaction with the prospective bidders. In the meantime, the work of construction of Boundary wall at site has been completed.

Employing hygienic technology to clean train toilets

2372. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of sweepers employed performing manual scavenging in Railways, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether sweepers are mandated to wear gloves and protective equipments, if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether sweepers are provided with hygiene awareness workshops, if so details thereof and number of workshops held in the past three years, State-wise, if not, reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether technology is employed to clean train toilets and tracks, if so, details thereof, details of trains using it and percentage of tracks cleaned through technology, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) There are no manual scavengers on Indian Railways.

- (b) Yes, Sir. All protective gears and devices notified by the Government, such as uniform, apron, face mask/nose mask, gloves, shoes, floor mopper/broom with long handle, toilet commode brush/hand brush or any equipment for removal of choking of toilets in coaches are provided to persons employed in cleaning activities.

(c) Safai Karamcharis are regularly educated as a part of both modular training programme and on-job training.

(d) Rag picking from railway tracks outside station area is being done on periodic manner. Contracts for mechanized cleaning, rag picking and garbage disposal are awarded by Zonal Railways for ensuring proper cleanliness at station. In such contracts, conditions exist for use of prescribed protective gears and devices by persons involved in the cleaning of tracks and platforms. Besides use of handheld devices, high pressure jet machines, electrical scrubbers, vacuum cleaners are used in cleaning coach toilets of mail/express as well as passenger trains maintained in around 123 coaching depots on zonal Railways.

Fund to finance key railway projects

2373. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to redevelop 400 stations through open bids called the 'Swiss Challenger' method, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are also considering to create a US \$ 30 billion fund with the World Bank to finance key railway projects and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) It has been planned to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations (about 400 stations) on Indian Railways for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting open bids from interested parties with their designs and business ideas duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. Guidelines in this regard have been issued to the Zonal Railways.

(b) The World Bank has been approached to explore the possibility of creating a Railway infrastructure development fund. The World Bank has taken up a detailed scoping and options study for creating such a fund.

New railway projects in Telangana and Odisha

2374. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state when Railways will consider to sanction eleven new projects, namely - Bhadrachalam Road (Andhra Pradesh) -Malkangiri-Jeypore-Junagarh-Lanjigarh Road-Talcher-Bimlagarh, Bargarh-Nuapada via Padmapur (120 Kms), Talcher-Gopalpur

(245 Kms), Puri-Konark (35 Kms), Rupsa-Bangriposi to Gorumahisani (35 Kms), Badampahar to Keonjhar (70 Kms), Berhampur-Phulbani (169 Kms), Khurda Road-Raj Athgarh bypassing Bhubaneswar (59 Kms), Jeypore-Nabarangpur, Rayagada-Gopalpur via Gunupur-Bhismagiri and Digapahandi and Gunupur-Therubali-Rayagada (79 Kms)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Junagarh-Lanjigarh Road new line has already been completed and commissioned. Talcher-Bimlagarh New Line project has already been sanctioned and the work taken up.

The Surveys for Bhadrachalam Road-Malkangiri-Jeypore-Junagarh (390 Km.), Lanjigarh Road-Phulbani-Talcher (230 Km.), Bargarh Road-Nawapara Road-via-Padmapur (136 Km.) New Line Projects have been taken up.

Status of remaining surveys/proposals are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Survey/ Proposal	Present Status
1.	Talcher-Gopalpur (293 km.)	Survey was completed in 2001-02 and the cost of the project was assessed as ₹ 863 crore.
2.	Puri-Konark (32.6 km.)	Updating survey has been completed in 2015 and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 254.41 crore.
3.	Rupsa-Bangriposi to Gorumahisani (41.75 km.)	Survey has been completed for a new line between Bangriposi and Gorumahisani and the cost of the project has been assessed ₹ 521.64 crore.
4.	Badampahar-Keonjhar (80 km.)	Survey completed in 2011-12 and the cost of the project was assessed as ₹ 619 crore.

Sl. No.	Name of Survey/ Proposal	Present Status
5.	Berhampur-Phulbani (169 km.)	Survey from Sambalpur-Phulbani - Berhampur (240 Km.) has been completed and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 2957.44 crore.
6.	Khurda Road-Rajathgarh bypassing Bhubaneswar (82 km.)	Survey has been completed and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 643.82 crore.
7.	Jeypore-Nabarangpur (38 km.)	Survey for Jeypore-Nabarangpur new line was completed in 2012-13 and the cost assessed as ₹ 466.43 crore (revised).
8.	Rayagada-Gopalpur via Gunupur, Bhisimagiri and Digapahadi (223 km.)	Survey was completed in 2011-12 and the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹1649 crore.
9.	Gunupur-Therubali-Rayagada (79 km.)	Updating survey for extension of Naupada-Gunupur line upto Theruvali (79km.) was completed in 2013-14 and the cost of project has been assessed as ₹435 crore. However, a Broad Gauge railway line already exists between Theruvali and Rayagada.

All the above projects could not be taken up due to Railways' huge throwforward of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for new lines and other competing priorities.

Dynamic fare system

2375. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have announced to introduce dynamic fare system for all trains and all classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons and rationale therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware that poor people and middle class cannot afford dynamic fares in Railways which is mainly used by them for travel; and
- (d) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal to extend the concept of dynamic fare/variable fare system on all types of trains. However, over and above the regular time tabled trains, the concept of Suvidha/Premium Special trains with variable/dynamic fares have already been introduced. Besides this, with effect from 01.10.2014, in some of the selected trains identified by Zonal Railways which are most in demand, 50% of the existing accommodation under tatkal Quota has been earmarked as Premium Tatkal Quota and is being booked on dynamic pricing.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways cater to various segments of the travelling public and accordingly operates different types of services like suburban services, passenger services and Mail/Express services, which include Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, Yuva and Garib Rath services etc. Running of Suvidha Trains (earlier, premium trains) during peak seasons do not displace these regular services but complement them by providing a facility for travel at short notice by paying higher fares. The passengers have the option of travelling in regular Mail/Express and Passenger trains by paying the normal fare.

Resource mobilisation measures

2376. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Railways' deficit is likely to increase in the coming years if no additional resource mobilisation measures are initiated;
- (b) if so, whether Railways' financial problems are likely to worsen in view thereof; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) So far Railways have been generating 'Excess' *i.e.* total receipts over its total expenses and dividend payment to the Government, over the years. In fact in 2014-15, Railways generated higher 'Excess' over 2013-14 and improved its Operating Ratio as indicated below:

Items	2013-14	2014-15
Excess generated by Indian Railways (₹ in crore)	3,740	7,665
Operating Ratio (%)	93.6%	91.3%

Financial estimates covering earnings and expenses on Indian Railways are prepared annually taking into account various factors like traffic (passenger and freight) throughput and input cost like staff cost, fuel cost, material cost and other factors like plan size, Gross Budgetary Support, dividend payments to general revenues, and if the situation so warrants, additional resource mobilisation measures are adopted. It is not possible to comment on the financial scenario in the future as no exact advance information is available regarding these financial parameters.

(c) Does not arise.

Bullet train corridor

2377. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final feasibility study on the proposed project to build a bullet train corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad has been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether Government plans to partner with foreign Governments or organisations to build this corridor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Final report of joint feasibility study for Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed train project, co-financed by Indian Railways and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been received by Ministry of Railways in July 2015. The completion cost of 508 km. long high speed line is estimated at approximately

₹ 98,000 crore. It also provides details of alignment, station locations, land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement, rolling stock requirement, other technical specifications and different funding options required to implement the project etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government of Japan has agreed to provide technical and financial assistance for building the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail corridor which includes assistance to the tune of 81% of the total project cost by way of a soft loan at an interest rate of 0.1% for 50 years with 15 year moratorium.

Rail Neer scam

2378. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Rail Neer scam unearthed by CBI recently;
- (b) whether it is a fact that ₹ 27 crore cash was seized from an accused's residence;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the accused has more than 70 per cent of Railway catering contracts in his kitty; and
- (d) the details of irregularities done by the said accused and the action Government proposes to take against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against two Railway officials and eight private caterers under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 regarding the supply of packaged drinking water other than the prescribed 'Rail Neer' in Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains in Northern Railway.

(b) No such official communication has been received from CBI.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per the case registered by CBI, the caterers allegedly supplied packaged drinking water other than the prescribed 'Rail Neer' in Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains in Northern Railway in violation of the existing policy. It has been decided to make payments directly to Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation for supply of Rail Neer Packaged Drinking Water in Shatabdi/Rajdhani/Duronto trains.

Number of unmanned railway level crossings

2379. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of unmanned railway level crossings across the country;
- (b) whether Government has established a nation-wide database of the number of fatal accidents occurring at the unmanned railway level crossings, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government plans to install warning systems at the unmanned railway level crossings to prevent fatal accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As on 01.04.2015, there are 10,440 unmanned railway level crossings in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per database, in the last five years (2010-11 to 2014-15) and in current year (upto 30th November 2015), there have been total 276 accidents at unmanned level crossings. Details are as under:

Year	No. of Accidents at Unmanned Level Crossings
2010-11	48
2011-12	54
2012-13	53
2013-14	47
2014-15	50
2015-16 (upto 30.11.2015)	24
TOTAL	276

(c) Yes, Sir. Railways have planned to develop a suitable and viable vandal-proof advance warning system to pre-warn road users against approaching trains at unmanned level crossings and accordingly a pilot project has been initiated by Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)/Kanpur.

Linking Char Dham routes with railway lines

†2380. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether the Prime Minister had made an announcement to link the Char Dham routes in Uttarakhand with railway lines;
- (b) whether the said announcement is likely to be implemented in near future;
- (c) if so, the details of progress made on the announced railway routes; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Preliminary Engineering survey for Rail Connectivity to Chardham and Chardham Yatra (Gangotri, Yamunotri, Badrinath and Kedarnath *via* Dehradun and Karanprayag) has been completed. Total cost of 327.11 Km. long rail line has been assessed as ₹ 43,292 Cr. To assess viability, Traffic Survey has been taken up.

Change in route of Bagh express

†2381. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bagh Express running from Kathgodam is still being run *via* Rampur despite the construction of broadgauge line;
- (b) if so, the justification therefor;
- (c) by when Bagh Express would run from Kathgodam to Bareilly directly; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. 13019/13020 Howrah-Kathgodam Bagh Express is well patronized on its presents schedule and route *via* Rampur. At present, there is no proposal to run it *via* the diverted route. However, diversion of trains is an ongoing process over Indian Railways and is done keeping in view the traffic demand, availability of services on the present route and the diverted route, operational feasibility, resource availability etc.

Facility of i-ticket for defence personnel

2382. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to extend the facility of hassle-free collection of i-tickets by defence personnel booked on the Defence Travel System, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that now, the defence personnel can collect the ticket from any counter of Computerized Passenger Reservation System, if so, the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The facility of i-ticketing has been extended to defence personnel wherein tickets are booked online by the Defence Units on the Defence Travel System through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) website and i-ticket can be collected by the defence personnel from any Computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counter of Indian Railways by submitting the authority for collection of i-ticket along with a photocopy of any one of the prescribed proofs of identity allowed for undertaking journey on e-tickets. If some other person collects the ticket on behalf of defence personnel, then he/she must produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity in original to establish his/her identity, alongwith photocopy of any one of the prescribed proofs of identity of defence personnel.

Rape cases at railway stations and in train compartments

2383. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rape cases reported since the last one year at railway stations and in train compartments;

(b) whether Railways have taken any action in this regard; and

(c) whether Railways have provided any financial assistance for the rehabilitation of these women and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The details of rape cases reported at Railway stations and in train compartments and the number of persons arrested during the years 2014 and 2015 (Upto Nov.) are as under:

Year	Number of incidents of rape cases reported		Number of persons arrested
	In train compartments	At Railway stations	
2014	6	14	21
2015 (Upto Nov.)	8	26	30

‘Policing’ on Railways is a State Subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains including creation of secure environment for women passengers are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned. However, Railway Protection Force supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.

Further, to provide better security to women passengers, the following measures have been introduced:-

1. An Integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control and Anti-Sabotage Checks has been finalized to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive Railway stations.
2. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2000 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
3. RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.
4. RPF Crime prevention and detection squads and special teams are formed to keep vigil on the criminals in trains/stations to prevent crime.
5. Joint drives by RPF/GRP and Commercial Department of Railways are conducted from time to time against the unauthorized entry of passengers in trains and Railway premises.
6. Mass media programmes are being launched by Zonal Railways to create awareness regarding crime against women passengers through electronic and print media.
7. Passenger outreach programmes have been launched including announcement through loudhailers/PA system as well as pasting of stickers providing the Security Help Line Number 182 of RPF Security Control Room for security related assistance.
8. The ladies compartments in local trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak/non peak hours. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning local trains to ensure better security to the lady passengers.

(c) In one case, based on the recommendations made under section 357 (3) of Cr.P.C. by Hon' ble Additional District and Session Judge, D.K. Mangalore in Sessions Case No. 181/2010 for rehabilitation of a rape victim, financial assistance of ₹ 2.5 lakhs had been provided from the Railway Minister's Welfare and Relief Fund.

Representation for extension of trains

2384. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have received a representation from people/ rail users of Gujarat for extension of trains; and

(b) if so, whether Railways intend to accept the demands in the current year, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Representations, *inter-alia*, for extension of trains are received at various levels of Railway administration, a compendium of which is not maintained. Further, extension of existing services serving the State of Gujarat is not feasible at present, due to operational and resource constraints. However, extension of trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic demand, availability of resources etc.

Zero accident mission

2385. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents on railway tracks are on the rise;

(b) whether Railways have launched a zero-accidents mission envisaging renewal of railway tracks, more railway bridges, better signalling and rolling out of accident-proof coaches and engines; and

(c) whether Railways have prepared any plan to generate resources to implement the zero-accidents mission, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. In the current year from 1st April, 2015 to 10th December, 2015, the number of consequential train accidents (including accidents at unmanned level crossings) have registered a decrease from 105 in the corresponding period of the previous year to 81.

(b) and (c) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Colour Light LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60kg rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches, Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc. Resources required for improving Safety will be provided as and when required.

Indo-Bangla railway track

2386. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of Indo-Bangla railway, track;
- (b) by when it is likely to be opened for train passengers between both the countries;
- (c) whether such a project is also under consideration with our other adjoining neighbours; and
- (d) if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Agartala to Akhaura (15 Km) project has been sanctioned for providing additional rail connectivity between India and Bangladesh with funding of Indian portion of project (5 Km) by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) and of the Bangladesh portion (10 Km) by Ministry of External Affairs. The present cost of this project is ₹ 967.85 crores with cost of Bangladesh portion as ₹ 387.85 crores and Indian portion as ₹ 580.00 crores. As per the MoU signed between Government of India and Government of Bangladesh, Indian Railways is responsible for the construction of the Indian portion and Bangladesh Railway is responsible for the construction of the Bangladesh portion of the project. Execution of Indian portion of the project has been entrusted to IRCON. This line will cater to passengers as well

as goods traffic. No time frame for opening can be given as DoNER has expressed its inability to fund the project and present throwforward of ongoing projects and limited availability of funds for new lines precludes Railways to proceed with the execution of the project.

(c) and (d) Two projects for Indo-Nepal connectivity have been taken up. The status of these two projects is as detailed below:

(i) Jogbani-Biratnagar (Nepal)(18.60 Km) new line project:- This project taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹407 crore is being funded by Ministry of External Affairs. 5.45 Km length falls in India and 13.60 km falls in Nepal. Land for the entire project, except for a length of about 1.8 Km falling in Nepal, has been acquired and earthwork, bridge works etc. taken up.

(ii) Jaynagar-Bijalpura gauge conversion and its extension up to Bardibas (69 Km):- This project taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 540 crore is being funded by Ministry of External Affairs. 3 Km length falls in India and 66 km. falls in Nepal. Final location Survey has been completed. Land plans for Indian portion has been submitted to the State Government. In Nepal portion, land has been handed over in 47 km. in patches. Earthwork and bridgework have been taken up in the stretches where land is available.

Reduction in consumption of electricity

2387. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways were able to reduce the consumption of electricity by around ₹400 crore a year through greater efficiency, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways will be able to reduce the cost of over 2,000 MW power that it will purchase by June, 2017, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Bureau of Energy Efficiency has assessed that Indian Railways (IR) have been achieving an average annual reduction in electricity consumption of about 2% in electric traction and about 2.8% per year in non traction applications. On the total electricity bill of about ₹12,332 crore for the year 2014-15 (provisional) it translates into a saving of about ₹ 250 crore per annum due to adopting greater energy efficiency measures.

(b) IR has initiated steps to procure power through the bidding process at the tariff to be discovered through market process and to source power from captive power

plant. IR has already started availing cheaper power in North Central Railway (about 50 Mega Watt) and in Maharashtra (about 250 Mega Watt). The extent of saving in expenditure due to these efforts are subject to market forces.

Railway projects in Kerala

2388. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the railway projects under implementation in the State of Kerala at present;
- (b) the status of each project; and
- (c) by when they are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Details of major ongoing railway projects including New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects falling partly/fully in the State of Kerala are as under:

Sl. No.	Project	Anticipated Cost (₹ in crore)	Expenditure upto March, 2015 (₹ in crore)	Outlay 2015-16 (₹ in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. New line					
1.	Tirunavaya-Guruvayur (35 km)	477	26	1	Project alignment has been approved by State Government in 2009 but Final Location Survey has not progressed due to public protests.
2.	Angamali-Sabarimala (116 km)	1566	163	5	Track linking on Angamali-Kaladi section (7 Km) of the project has been completed.

1	2	3	4	5	6
					<p>Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up in Kaladi-Perumbavoor (11 Km) section.</p> <p>This project has suffered delay due to late finalization of alignment by State Government, local resistance against land acquisition, court cases, abnormal increase in land cost, etc.</p>
B. Gauge conversion					
3.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar (357 Km)	1122	921	86	<p>Virudhunagar-Tenkasi-Sengottai (130 Km), Tiruchendur-Tirunelveli-Tenkasi (133 Km) and Kollam-Punalur (45 Km) sections have been commissioned and track linking in Punalur-Edamann (7 km) and Bhagavathipuram-Sengottai (7 Km) sections have been completed. In the balance portion <i>i.e.</i> Edamann-Bhagavathipuram (35 Km), earthwork, bridge works and tunnel works have been taken up.</p>
4.	Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat and Pollachi-Coimbatore (225 Km)	1215	919	150	<p>Dindigul-Palani-Pollachi-Palghat (179 Km) and Podanur-Coimbatore (6 Km) sections have been</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6
					commissioned. Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply works in balance portion have been taken up.
C. Doubling					
5.	Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara (24 Km)	242	217	45	Mulanturutti-Piravam Road (11 Km) commissioned. Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply works in balance portion have been taken up.
6.	Kuruppantara-Chingavanam (27 Km)	346	67	225	Final location survey completed and land acquisition papers submitted to State Government.
7.	Chingavanam-Chengannur (27 Km)	343	213	128	Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply works have been taken up.
8.	Ernakulam-Kumbalam (8 Km)	189	5	70	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government did not accede to Railway's request.
9.	Kumbalam-Thuravur (16 Km)	253	4	170	In view of considerable increase in project cost

1	2	3	4	5	6
					due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government has not responded to Railway's request.
10.	Ambalapuzha-Haripad (18 Km)	289	55	110	Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply works have been taken up.
11.	Thuravur-Ambalapuzha (50 Km)	1000	23		Projects included in Budget subject to requisite approvals.
12.	Trivandrum-Kanniyakumari (85 Km)	900	21		

Completion of projects depends on a number of factors such as acquisition of land, forestry and wildlife clearances, shifting of various services, construction of Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges by road maintenance departments, apart from availability of adequate funds. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of the Ministry of Railways, it is not feasible to give time lines for completion of all the projects.

Uniform signalling system

2389. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no uniformity in signalling system across all Railway Zones;
- (b) if so, the details of prevailing signalling system in various Railway Zones;
- (c) whether any proposal is pending with Government to introduce uniform signalling system cutting across the Railway Zones; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) By and large uniform Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling (MACLS) system exists on Zonal Railways, however, in certain sections Mechanical Semaphore Signalling still exists.

(b) Prevailing Signalling System in various Zones are broadly as under:

- (i) Mechanical Semaphore Signalling
- (ii) Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling

So far, out of 6268 interlocked stations on Broad Gauge, 5824 stations are provided with Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling. Railway Zone wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) There is by and large uniform signalling system across Zonal Railways. Mechanical Semaphore Signalling are being progressively phased out and replaced by Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling. However, proposals from Railways to replace Mechanical Semaphore Signal are considered depending upon the traffic density, other priority works and also availability of funds.

Statement

Type of Signalling on Broad Gauge network of Indian Railways

Railway Zone	No. of stations with Colour Light Signalling	No. of stations with Semaphore Mechanical Signalling
1	2	3
CR	440	7
ER	339	16
NR	636	65
NER	247	17
NFR	313	5
SR	493	9

1	2	3
SCR	563	0
SER	307	8
WR	437	45
ECR	408	14
ECoR	249	11
NCR	273	31
NWR	373	30
SECR	191	5
SWR	281	0
WCR	274	17
IR	5824	280

Note: Balance 164 stations on BG network are Class 'C' stations *i.e.* only Block Hut

Mumbai local trains

2390. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over-crowded local trains of Mumbai and adjoining areas are claiming precious lives of passengers who have no option but to travel by these local trains;

(b) if so, the details of passengers who lost their lives or were critically injured during the last three years in these trains year-wise; and

(c) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The unreserved tickets sold to the passengers are not train specific and hence the occupancy of local trains cannot be determined.

(b) The details of the passengers who lost their lives or injured due to falling from

local trains plying over Mumbai sub-urban railways during the years 2012, 2013 and 2014 are as under:

Year	Number of passengers dead	Number of passengers injured
2012	846	2066
2013	905	1855
2014	799	1777

(c) With a view to increase throughput, Railways has augmented suburban EMU rakes from 09 cars to 12 cars and also initiated introduction of 15 cars' services.

Train service from Kollam to Madurai

2391. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have finalised its work completion schedule for Kollam-Punalur-Sengottai metre gauge conversion, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when will the trains from Kollam to Madurai would start their services through the new railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) On Kollam-Punalur-Sengottai route (94 Km), Kollam-Punalur section (45 Km) has been commissioned for passenger traffic and track linking in Punalur-Edamann (7 km) and Bhagavathipuram-Sengottai (7 Km) sections have been completed. In the balance portion *i.e.* Edamann-Bhagavathipuram (35 Km), earthwork, bridge works and tunnel works have been taken up. As the remaining section is passing through Ghats involving a lot of uncertainties, it is not feasible to fix timeline for commissioning of balance section and starting of train services between Kollam and Madurai.

Kakodar Committee Report

2392. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted a high level Committee headed by Dr. Anil Kakodkar;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A High Level Safety Review Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Railways on 16.09.2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission to go into all technical and technology related aspects in connection with safe running of train services in the country.

(b) The Committee submitted its Report to the Ministry of Railways on 17.02.2012.

The Committee has made 106 recommendations covering various aspects viz. General Safety Matters, Organizational Structure, Empowerment at Working Level, Safety Related Works and Issues, Filling up of vacancies in critical safety categories and Manpower Planning Issues, Plugging the shortage of critical Safety Spares, External Interferences - Removal of Encroachment and Sabotage, Upgradation of Signaling, Telecommunication and Train Protection System, Upgradation of Rolling Stock, Track, Bridges, Elimination of Level Crossings, Human Resource Development with emphasis on Education and Training Institutes on Indian Railways, Eco-System and Safety Architectures on Indian Railways.

(c) Out of 106 recommendations, 68 recommendations have been fully accepted and are under implementation. Balance 38 recommendations are under consideration by the Ministry of Railways.

Online tendering processes in railways

2393. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make all the railway tendering processes online;

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) E-tendering started in 2010 and has already been implemented for Stores, Track Machine, Cement and Sleepers tenders. E-tendering has also been implemented as pilot project for parcel leasing contracts.

(c) Does not arise.

Growth and role of technical textiles sector

2394. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Technical Textiles sector;

(b) whether it has shown initial growth and has helped in creation of employment opportunities in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to give a good boost to this sector to help in creation of job opportunities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Technical Textiles are defined as textile materials and products manufactured primarily for their technical performance and functional properties rather than aesthetic properties and decorative characteristics. These products have a presence in major areas of activity such as aerospace, shipping, sports, agriculture, defence, medicine/ health, manufacturing, etc. Based on their functional requirements and end-use applications, the diverse range of technical textiles are grouped into 12 categories, as listed below:

Geotextiles (Geotech)	Agricultural textiles (Agrotech)	Medical textiles (Meditech)	Protective textiles (Protech)
Industrial textiles (Indutech)	Sports textiles (Sportech)	Clothing textiles (Clottech)	Construction and building textiles (Buildtech)
Automotive Textiles (Mobiltech)	Ecological protection textiles (Oekotech)	Packaging and containment textiles (Packtech)	Home textiles (Homotech)

(b) The market of technical textiles registered compounded annual rate of growth of 11% during the period from 2007-2012. As per the estimates of the Working Group for the Textiles Industry for the 12th Five Year Plan, the market size of Indian technical

textile industry is expected to grow from INR 76,000 crore in 2012-2013 to INR 1.58 lakh crore by 2016-17, at an anticipated growth rate of 20% year-on-year. As per draft final report on baseline survey of technical textiles in India, the employment in technical textiles industry was 9.89 lakh during the year 2012-13, and is expected to increase to 10.8 lakh in the year 2015-16.

(c) Government has taken number of steps to boost technical textile sector which also helped in generating employment in this sector. The details of various schemes/policy initiatives for the growth of technical textile sector is given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of various schemes/policy initiatives for the growth of technical textile sector is as under:

- (i) Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT) was launched for a period of five years from 2010-11 to 2014-15 with a total outlay of ₹ 200 crores. Subsequently TMTT has been extended for 2 more years from 2015-16 to 2016-17. Under the scheme, four new Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have been established namely DKTE Society's Textile and Engineering Institute, Ichalkaranji for Non-Wovens, PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore for Indutech, Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA), Ahmedabad for Composites and Wool Research Association, Thane for Sportech. Further four existing CoEs established under Scheme for Growth and Development of Technical Textiles (SGDTT) namely Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA) for Geotech, Synthetic and Art Silk Mills Research Association (SASMIRA) for Agrotech, Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) for Protech and South India Textile Research Association (SITRA) for Meditech are being upgraded. These Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have already started providing service to technical textile industry. The CoE act as a one stop shop for technical textile industry. Further, support is being provided for business start up particularly to MSME sector, buyers seller meets and seminars. Fund support is also being provided to stake holders for contract research and also for participating in international exhibitions on technical textiles. In the extended tenure, additional components like setting up of Focus Incubation Centres to help the potential entrepreneurs to enter into technical textiles, promoting usage of agrotechnical textiles and geotechnical textiles in the country (excluding North East States) have been included.
- (ii) Scheme for Promoting Usage of Agrotexiles in North-Eastern Region : It is a five

year scheme under the 12th five year plan with a total outlay of ₹55 crore. The objective of the scheme is to encourage utilization of Agrotextiles in improving the agriculture, horticulture, floricultural and sericulture produce of the N-E States.

- (iii) Scheme for promoting usage of Geotechnical textiles in North-Eastern Region: It is a five year scheme from 2014-15 to 2018-19 with a total outlay of ₹427 crore. The objective of the scheme is to promote and utilize geotechnical textiles in development of the infrastructure in the NE states by providing technological and financial support for meeting additional costs, if any, due to the usage of geotechnical textiles in existing/ new projects in road, hill/ slope protection and water reservoirs.
- (iv) Major machineries for manufacture of technical textiles has been covered under Revised Restructured Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (RRTUFS).
- (v) Under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), the Government provides assistance for creation of infrastructure in the parks to the extent of 40% limited to ₹ 40 crore. Technical textile units can also avail benefits under this Scheme.
- (vi) The major machinery for production of technical textiles is covered in the concessional customs duty list of 5%.

Setting up of Common Facility Centres

2395. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to set up Common Facility Centres for development of handloom and indigenous textile industry;
- (b) if so, the locations identified therefor along with the details of facilities available in such Centres, State/Union Territory-wise, especially in Punjab; and
- (c) the time-frame by which the said Centres are likely to be functional to enable the handloom industry stay competitive in global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Under the Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), provision *inter-alia* exists to set up Common Facility Centre (CFC) at an upper cost of ₹ 50.00 lakh. CFC will have facilities for dyeing, warping, winding, training, internet facility, facilitation room, storage room, yarn

godown etc. During 2015-16, 41 CFCs under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) have been sanctioned in different blocks of various States. In these Block Level Clusters, besides CFCs, funds for other interventions like baseline survey, skill up-gradation, technology up-gradation, engagement of designer and Cluster development Executive etc. has been released recently. Release of funds to the Implementing Agencies for setting up of CFC are made on receipt of the Detailed Project Report and their approval. Duration for implementation of the Block Level Cluster Project is 3 years from the date of sanction of the project. Similarly, under CHCDS, 9 Common Facility Centres have been set up in 9 blocks of Varanasi. Proposal for setting up of CFC has not been received from Punjab. State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

In addition to the above, five CFCs for promotion of Jute Diversified Products located at Barpeta in Assam, Katihar in Bihar, and Fulia, Deganga and Magra in West Bengal have been sanctioned, having facilities of technical training, design development workshops for existing and new generation of artisans, marketing activities like Business Meet, Buyer Seller Meet, participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, etc. in collaboration with National Jute Board.

Statement

State-wise locations of the Common Facility Centres sanctioned under Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)

Sl. No.	State	Block and District
1.	Himachal Pradesh	Village Suma Development Block, Kullu
2.	Mizoram	Tlangnuam-I (Zuangtui), Aizawl
		Tlangnuam-II, Aizawl
		Aibawk, Aizawl
		Reiek, Mamit
		Serchhip (Thenzawl), Serchhip
		Ngopa, Champhai
		Zobawk, Lunglei
3.	Tamil Nadu	West Arni, Thiruvannamalai

Sl. No.	State	Block and District
		Palladam, Tirupur
		Kancheepuram, Kancheepuram
		Karamadai-I, Mettupalayam
		Ayothiyampatinam, Salem
		Chennai-malai, Erode
		Tirupur, Tirupur
		Pollachi North, Coimbatore
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Ziro-I, Lower Subansari
		Naharlagun, Papumpare
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Tilaru, Srikakulam
		Mori, Godavari
		Vemavaram, West Godavari
6.	Nagaland	Khuboto, Dimapur
		Longkhim, Tuensang
		Tsurangkong, Mokokchung
7.	Meghalaya	Umiling, -Ri-Bhoi
		Betasing, West garo hills
		Tikrikilla, West garo hills
8.	Kerala	Paravur, Ernakulam
		Kuthuparambu, Kannur
		Kanhirode, Edakkad, Kannur
		Kollayil, Perumkadavilla, Thiruvananthapuram
9.	Manipur	Wangoi, Imphal West
		Thoubal, Thoubal
		Singhat, Churachandpur

Sl. No.	State	Block and District
10.	Odisha	Bishnupur, Bishnupur
		Tigiria, Cuttack
		Rasulpur, Jaipur
		Boudh, Boudh
		Sonepur, Subarnapur
		Khaira, Balasore
		Sheragada, Ganjam

CFCs sanctioned under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)

1.	Uttar Pradesh	Cholapur, Ramnagar, Badagaon, Sevapuri, Urban Area (Bajardiha), Pindra, Arajiline, Chiraigaon Kashividyapeeth of Varanasi District
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Improvement in jute polymers technology

2396. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government has taken cognizance of improvements in the technology of jute polymers which can be a means to boost the declining jute industry, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Yes, Sir. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur with funding support from the National Jute Board (NJB), has developed a jute-polymer composite product suitable for manufacturing hygiene products such as sanitary napkins etc. Besides Indian Jute Industries' Research Association (IJIRA) has developed jute thermoset polymer technology, using jute to the extent of 60%. These materials are used in making products for use in Railways and Defence.

Production of jute in West Bengal

2397. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the production of jute in West Bengal is declining;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to increase it; and
- (c) if not, the production of jute during the last three years in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of raw jute in West Bengal has reduced during the year 2015-16 compared to that of last year, as some jute growing area was affected due to floods in West Bengal. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Jute Development Programme under National Food Security Mission-Commercial Crops (NFSM-CC) for enhancing the production and productivity of raw jute in 9 States including West Bengal. The thrust of the scheme is on transfer of technology through frontline demonstrations and training, in order to extend benefits to the farmers. ₹ 203.60 lakhs in 2014-15 and ₹ 401.00 lakhs (including Central and State share) in 2015-16, have been allocated to West Bengal under the NFSM-CC-Jute.

- (c) Does not arise in view of the above.

Linking handicrafts industry with e-commerce

2398. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is fact that Government is contemplating to connect the handicrafts industry with e-commerce;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step so far in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Under one of the sub-component of Marketing Support and Services Scheme there is a provision to support advertisements and other publicity activities on the web media and also creation of e-marketing platform.

(b) and (c) The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has submitted a proposal under the above sub-component to facilitate buyers and sellers to procure/sell as well as to promote product categories both in domestic as well as international markets.

The said proposal is being examined and will be consider for approval shortly.

Assistance to handloom and handicraft sectors

2399. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the hardships being faced by handloom weavers and artisans of handicrafts sector;

(b) whether Government provides any financial assistance/subsidy to self-help groups/non-governmental organizations through various schemes formulated for handloom weavers and artisans;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the schemes formulated for the purpose along with the names of such institutes/ groups as well as the funds allocated to them during the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government for promotion and development of handloom and handicraft sectors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The handloom weavers and artisans generally face the hardships like non availability of raw material, credit facilities, lack of adequate marketing of their products.

(b) and (c) Financial assistance is provided to various implementing agencies like State Handicrafts Development Corporate/Apex Cooperative Societies, NGOs etc. under various schemes formulated for promotion and development of handicrafts sector. No funds is allocated state-wise. The funds released to various States under various schemes is given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(d) In order to improve the living standard of handloom weavers and sustainable development of handloom sector, Office of the DC(Handlooms), through various schemes and programmes, has adopted focused, flexible and holistic approach by facilitating marketing of handloom products, infrastructure development, brand building and empowerment of weavers by organizing them under self help groups, training and skill upgradation, infusion of new and contemporary designs through design intervention as well as product diversification technology upgradation, easy access to raw material at subsidized prices and easy credit flow at low interest rate etc., besides providing better health care and life insurance under welfare schemes, the following schemes are implemented:

(1) National Handloom Development Programme

- (2) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (3) Yarn Supply Scheme
- (4) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts has been implementing generic schemes for the promotion and development of Handicrafts Sector:

- (1) Amedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY)
- (2) Marketing Support Services Scheme
- (3) Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme
- (4) Human Resource Development Scheme
- (5) Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (6) Research and Development Scheme
- (7) Infrastructure and Technology Development Scheme.

At present all above seven schemes are implemented under One Umbrella Scheme i.e. National Handicrafts Development Programme.

Statement-I

Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms

(A). *Details of fund allocated/released and spent during the last three years (2012-13 to 2014-15) and the current year i.e. 2015-16 to various States*

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of State(s)	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (30.11.2015)	
		Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.81	9.81	5.55	5.55	1.51	1.51	1.49	0.39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.25	1.25	1.32	1.32	0.35	0.35	0.98	0.98
3.	Assam	15.31	15.31	20.07	20.07	4.96	4.96	1.09	1.09
4.	Bihar	0.43	0.43	0.04	0.04	0.24	0.24	0.18	0.18
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.25	2.25	1.78	1.78	0.51	0.51	0.22	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	1.36	1.36	0.50	0.50	0.53	0.53	0.04	0.00
9.	Haryana	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.10	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.20	2.20	0.55	0.55	0.18	0.18	0.24	0.24
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.44	1.44	0.56	0.56	1.53	1.53	0.08	0.08
12.	Jharkhand	0.05	0.05	0.82	0.82	2.52	2.02	1.08	0.08
13.	Karnataka	1.77	1.77	2.69	2.69	1.66	1.66	0.19	0.19
14.	Kerala	2.34	2.34	1.64	1.64	0.19	0.19	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4.75	4.75	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.83	0.24	0.24
16.	Maharashtra	2.65	2.65	2.20	2.20	1.68	1.68	0.43	0.39
17.	Manipur	5.09	5.09	10.80	10.80	2.41	2.41	0.02	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	0.92	0.92	1.16	1.16	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.72	0.72	0.30	0.30	0.28	0.28	0.10	0.10
20.	Nagaland	6.40	6.40	3.89	3.89	2.65	2.65	0.09	0.09
21.	Odisha	7.51	7.51	2.94	2.94	0.66	0.66	0.28	0.28
22.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Rajasthan	0.60	0.60	0.85	0.85	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.00
25.	Sikkim	0.69	0.69	0.72	0.72	0.60	0.60	0.56	0.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
26.	Tamil Nadu	32.86	32.86	32.64	32.64	10.17	10.17	47.09	47.09
27.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.84	0.84	0.40	0.40
28.	Tripura	4.89	4.89	2.63	2.63	3.47	3.47	0.00	0.00
29.	Uttar Pradesh	18.73	18.73	13.50	13.50	28.16	28.16	6.72	3.17
30.	Uttarakhand	0.90	0.90	0.57	0.57	0.71	0.71	0.22	0.22
31.	West Bengal	4.68	4.68	4.68	4.68	5.77	5.40	0.99	0.00

(B) Details of fund allocated/released and spent in Handloom Sector during the last three years (2012-13 to 2014-15) and the current year i.e. 2015-16 all over India basis

(₹ in crores)

2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent	Fund Allo- cated/ released	Fund Spent
558.02	558.02	444.49	444.49	336.38	336.38	257.39	235.70

(C) Statement of Marketing Events organized and weavers benefited under the NHDP for the last three years (2012-13 to 2014-15) and current year 2015-16 (Handlooms Sector)

		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
Sl.No.	Name of State(s)	Achievements (Events organized)	Weavers benefited	Achievements (Events organized)	Weavers benefited	Achievements (Events organized)	Weavers benefited	Achievements (Events organized)	Weavers benefited
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32	187845	39	64450	30	49450		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	0	0	0	0	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Assam	65	361903	32	92650	36	84850		
4.	Bihar	3	13550	0	0	2	6600		
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	8489	11	29450	11	22350		
6.	Delhi	1	0	0	0	4	3400		
7.	Gujarat	5	12098	1	9250	2	6600		
8.	Haryana	1	200	0	500	0.00	0		
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	8050	12	11800	12	13900		
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	15050	5	17850	4	7450		
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0		
12.	Karnataka	20	36100	38	53800	21	42750		
13.	Kerala	5	15050	1	9250	5	16350		
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19	34050	15	22550	16	23400		
15.	Maharashtra	30	57800	17	43850	18	38960		
16.	Manipur	16	33700	0	17800	12	18800		
17.	Meghalaya	1	1900	0	0	1	2700		
18.	Mizoram	0	0	10	5650	8	8650		
19.	Nagaland	54	52500	6	42450	20	38850		
20.	Odisha	10	27050	11	25150	15	33250		
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0		
22.	Rajasthan	13	18900	0	0	1	850		
23.	Sikkim	10	10950	16	18200	7	10850		
24.	Telangana	0	0	0	0	20	34200		
25.	Tamil Nadu	5	10750	18	19100	30	44000		
26.	Tripura	23	27550	20	23450	18	22050		
27.	Uttar Pradesh	27	43400	38	55200	29	51750		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28.	Uttarakhand	14	21800	17	24050	16	22200		
29.	West Bengal	5	7950	10	7500	0	0		
TOTAL		395	1006635	317	593950	338	604210	Reports are yet to be received from the Implementing Agency.	

Statement-II

(A) State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts schemes during 2012-13

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVY	Design	Marketing	R&D	HRD	Welfare	Infra	Mega Cluster	Total
		Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99.90	22.60	144.66	4.86	40.40		0.00	0.00	312.42
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	0	0.00	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.65	12.7	59.7	3.65	1.25		0.00	0.00	121.95
4.	Assam	394.64	92.1	536.64	21.52	40.1		0.00	0.00	1085.00
5.	Bihar	102.13	8.10	62.82	7.18	38.1		0.00	0.00	218.33
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0.66	0.00	0		0.00	0.00	0.66
7.	Chhattisgarh	15.00	0	32.79	0.00	19.3		0.00	0.00	67.09
8.	Delhi	72.12	37.6	1458.57	252.28	430.54		0.00	0.00	2251.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Goa	28.35	0	20.38	0.00	3.82		0.00	0.00	52.55
10.	Gujarat	236.38	15.4	68.61	0.00	23.5		0.00	0.00	343.89
11.	Haryana	209.11	10.90	50.1	14.87	40.3		0.00	0.00	325.28
12.	Himachal Pradesh	44.51	5	46.55	0.00	1.42		0.00	0.00	97.48
13.	Jharkhand	52.62	7.20	21.84	0.00	11.5		0.00	0.00	93.16
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	315.37	16.3	30.43	9.80	57.65		0.00	0.00	429.55
15.	Karnataka	73.19	4.50	75.01	0.00	24.15		0.00	0.00	176.85
16.	Kerala	55.76	11.80	65.27	0.00	39.7		0.00	0.00	172.53
17.	Madhya Pradesh	161	44.9	113.23	27.10	112.62		0.00	0.00	458.85
18.	Maharashtra	86.63	2.70	121.68	0.00	62.9		0.00	0.00	273.91
19.	Manipur	396.32	31.3	114.16	21.63	44.3		0.00	0.00	607.71
20.	Meghalaya	1.75	5	5.61	0.00	6.25		0.00	0.00	18.61
21.	Mizoram	6.17	0.9	13.35	0.00	5.46		0.00	0.00	25.88
22.	Nagaland	40.45	19.50	20.15	0.00	4.50		0.00	0.00	84.60
23.	Odisha	72.89	19.90	135.46	8.70	93.20		0.00	0.00	330.15
24.	Punjab	141.74	8.6	58.83	2.49	28		0.00	0.00	239.66
25.	Pondicherry	3.61	0	22.96	0.00	11.4		0.00	0.00	37.97
26.	Rajasthan	54.92	3.60	94.54	29.30	86.6		0.00	0.00	268.96
27.	Sikkim	0	12.70	23.15	0.00	7.69		0.00	0.00	43.54
28.	Tamil Nadu	50.84	2.70	100.71	42.31	39.74		0.00	0.00	236.30
29.	Tripura	105.69	25.8	26.25	0.00	16		0.00	0.00	173.74
30.	Uttar Pradesh	1171.75	83.3	222.35	47.77	288.32		0.00	0.00	1813.49

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
31. Uttaranchal		100.28	9.50	371.81	2.40	11.6		0.00	0.00	495.50
32. West Bengal		119.34	18.10	129.01	0.00	48.21		0.00	0.00	314.66
All States								0.00	0.00	2489.00
TOTAL		4257.11	532.70	4247.28	495.86	1638.52	2489.00	0.00	0.00	13660.47

Note:- In Welfare scheme state-wise funds are not released

(B) State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts scheme during 2013-14

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	Marke- ting	R&D	HRD	Welfare	Mega Cluster	Infra	Total
		Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	Fin.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1145.50	31.2	254.83	20.16	64.49		0.00	0.00	1516.18
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	0	0	5.61		0.00	0.00	5.61
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.07	1.8	0	10.97	8.08		0.00	0.00	21.92
4.	Assam	247.23	72.1	735.89	34.04	143.37		0.00	38.75	1271.38
5.	Bihar	55.71	10.00	47.22	6.77	23.45		0.00	0.00	143.15
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	10.39	4.2	12.4	0	16.55		0.00	0.00	43.54
8.	Delhi	93.86	99.5	1336.05	419.73	168.58		28.28	350.00	2467.72
9.	Goa	0.90	0	6.75	0	0.87		0.00	0.00	8.52
10.	Gujarat	209.06	10.2	27.48	0	20.17		49.09	0.00	266.91
11.	Haryana	280.13	2.20	69.04	68.21	25.84		61.29	0.00	445.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12. Himachal Pradesh		26.70	4.8	76.4	2.89	2.17		0.00	0.00	112.96
13. Jharkhand		26.95	0.00	7.44	0	18.96		0.00	0.00	53.35
14. Jammu and Kashmir		273.78	25	41.99	13.18	44.72		320.00	300.00	698.67
15. Karnataka		29.89	0.00	30.85	0	20.66		0.00	62.80	144.20
16. Kerala		52.99	0.00	16.89	0	6.9		0.00	22.98	99.76
17. Madhya Pradesh		214.11	14.2	64.48	24.59	75.75		0.00	28.75	421.88
18. Maharashtra		68.28	2.40	55.45	7.69	27.39		0.00	0.00	161.21
19. Manipur		212.43	19.5	45.66	48.52	71.75		0.00	0.00	397.86
20. Meghalaya		0.75	6.8	0	0	10.76		0.00	0.00	18.31
21. Mizoram		22.24	1.8	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	24.04
22. Nagaland		74.91	15.40	0	0	14.29		0.00	15.64	120.24
23. Odisha		675.31	7.20	99.75	6.9	38.37		0.00	0.00	827.53
24. Punjab		113.97	5	65.38	4.66	57.72		0.00	0.00	246.73
25. Puducherry		0.75	0	10.54	0	0		0.00	0.00	11.29
26. Rajasthan		137.76	16.90	135.3	16.06	48.7		0.00	116.00	470.72
27. Sikkim		18.57	12.70	4.51	0	13.67		0.00	0.00	49.45
28. Tamil Nadu		68.90	0.00	90	1.15	51.93		0.00	12.80	224.78
29. Tripura		13.16	15.4	0	0	38.39		0.00	0.00	66.95
30. Uttar Pradesh		1056.5	48.1	503.64	139.84	269.12		119.14	31.79	2048.94
31. Uttaranchal		33.71	0.00	20.45	0	76.66		0.00	0.00	130.82
32. West Bengal		41.29	17.40	3	5	31.49			25.00	123.18
All States							2194.00			2194.00
TOTAL		5206.8	443.80	3761.39	830.36	1396.41	2194	577.80	1004.51	14837.22

Note:- In Welfare scheme state-wise funds are not released

(C) State-wise, Scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts scheme during 2014-15

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV Fin.	Design Fin.	Marke- ting Fin.	R&D Fin.	HRD Fin.	Welfare Fin.	Infra Fin.	Mega Cluster	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.15	21.77	151.08	4.53	23.62		148.00	60.30	429.45
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	2	0.00	1.84		0.00	3.85	7.69
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	7	8.38	10.04		0.00		25.42
4.	Assam	61.63	73.45	389.94	38.89	157.22		0.00		721.13
5.	Bihar	33.18	1.50	19.03	2.18	45.54		0.00	14.26	115.69
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	2	0.00	0		0.00		2.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	20.25	7.5	40.51	0.00	15.91		0.00		84.17
8.	Delhi	32.19	175.8	1857.27	119.34	102.4		2625.00	1353.00	6265.00
9.	Goa	0.00	0	14	0.00	0		0.00		14.00
10.	Gujarat	113.97	9.9	46.41	0.00	16.76		0.00		187.04
11.	Haryana	71.97	5.73	42.20	2.11	15.96		0.00		137.97
12.	Himachal Pradesh	49.07	18.4	45.14	0.00	9.12		0.00		121.73
13.	Jharkhand	10.76	0.00	11.99	0.00	26.85		0.00		49.60
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	64.64	2.4	54.76	3.09	44.97		1009.00	110.00	1288.86
15.	Karnataka	13.45	0.00	24.91	0.00	6.19		0.00	223.77	268.32
16.	Kerala	18.72	3.50	36.58	0.00	3.55		0.00		62.35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17. Madhya Pradesh		246.76	5.72	81.96	4.23	98.41		0.00		437.08
18. Maharashtra		54.64	12.95	77.7	0.00	22.26		5.00		172.55
19. Manipur		30.44	6	34.54	5.00	23.92		0.00	14.14	114.04
20. Meghalaya		0.00	19.5	7	4.87	26.45		0.00		57.82
21. Mizoram		0	0	12.25	2.41	7.5		0.00	25.00	47.16
22. Nagaland		26.56	13.08	50.39	7.36	32.99		0.00	75.61	205.99
23. Odisha		129.78	8.45	107.56	5.00	109.90		0.00	300.00	660.69
24. Punjab		53.81	20.175	30.75	0.00	42.52		0.00		147.26
25. Puducherry		0	0	10	0.00	5.5		0.00		15.50
26. Rajasthan		63.54	6.30	61.53	1.67	58.26		0.00	360.00	551.30
27. Sikkim		0	0.00	7	7.37	17.61		0.00		31.98
28. Telangana		0.00	0.00							
29. Tamil Nadu		13.69	2.40	166.08	0.00	30.66		0.00	12.80	225.63
30. Tripura		1.22	0	16.4	10.72	19.72		0.00		48.06
31. Uttar Pradesh		265.63	42.33	413.64	51.16	187.29		61.00	67.69	1088.74
32. Uttaranchal		1.75	0.90	32.33	0.00	93.44		487.00		615.42
33. West Bengal		8.65	22.25	35.71	2.85	32.13		0.00	26.25	127.84
All States						14.97				14.97
TOTAL		1406.45	480.01	3889.66	281.16	1288.53	14.97	4335.00	2646.67	14342.45

Note:- In Welfare scheme State-wise funds are not released

* No cluster has been sanctioned during 2014-15. However various intervention sanctioned approved during 2013-14

*(D) State-wise, Scheme-wise fund released during 2015-16 upto Nov., 2015**(₹ in lakhs)*

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	MSS	HRD	Welfare	R&D	Mega Cluster	Infra	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.70	50.24	74.85	12.16		11.06	165.09	12.23	328.33
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	12.14	0.00	18.99		0.00	0.00	0.00	31.13
4.	Assam	26.61	47.24	188.90	121.61		9.80		37.78	431.94
5.	Bihar	7.2	0.00	0.00	10.28		0.00		0.00	17.48
6.	Chandigarh	0	4.99	19.23	0.00		0.00		0.00	24.22
7.	Chhattisgarh	3.18	16.40	69.24	46.49		15.31		0.00	150.62
8.	Delhi	6.30	419.42	724.28	50.08		144.18	2043.12	7.60	3394.98
9.	Goa	0.00	0.00	9.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	9.00
10.	Gujarat	65.26	22.33	29.25	51.51		4.50		0.00	172.85
11.	Haryana	56.8	2.40	0.00	20.65		2.50	41.31	0.00	123.66
12.	Himachal Pradesh	10.60	1.50	15.75	5.01		0.00		0.00	32.86
13.	Jharkhand	19.61	0.00	8.00	9.11		0.00	1500.00	0.00	1536.72
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.3	8.30	0.00	23.12		10.93		0.00	67.65
15.	Karnataka	42.3	17.55	21.97	24.09		0.00		5.75	111.66
16.	Kerala	5.3	5.40	16.90	18.83		2.50		0.00	48.93
17.	Madhya Pradesh	138.46	26.60	32.00	63.68		2.02		1.40	264.16
18.	Maharashtra	10	10.25	24.35	43.43		6.52		0.00	94.55
19.	Manipur	39.30	3.05	14.96	23.53		0.00		46.37	127.21
20.	Meghalaya	0.00	1.41	0.00	24.19		4.60		0.00	30.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21. Mizoram		0.00	0.82	0.00	13.08		0.00		0.00	13.90
22. Nagaland		6.30	11.05	43.10	33.27		2.16		0.00	95.88
23. Odisha		15.67	9.47	21.25	18.33		1.75		0.00	66.47
24. Punjab		51.30	0.00	20.35	113.37		17.50		0.00	202.52
25. Pondicherry		0.00	0.00	8.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	8.00
26. Rajasthan		36.57	4.98	21.25	40.57		0.00		18.00	121.37
27. Sikkim		0.00	9.50	0.00	17.89		2.12		0.00	29.51
28. Telangana		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00
29. Tamil Nadu		8.80	4.73	47.74	51.51		0.00	1019.23	119.57	1251.58
30. Tripura		0.00	6.89	0.00	9.59		6.00		0.00	22.48
31. Uttar Pradesh		127	108.51	87.15	203.26		74.72	873.28	383.25	1857.17
32. Uttaranchal		21.68	0.00	8.33	38.76		0.00	1012.50	0.00	1081.27
33. West Bengal		39.03	30.49	9.00	59.10		7.50		0.00	145.12
Welfare *						86.73			0.00	86.73
TOTAL		765.27	835.66	1514.85	1165.49	86.73	325.67	6654.53	631.95	11980.15

*Note:- In Welfare scheme State-wise funds are not released

Training centres for production of handicrafts

†2400. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to open training centres for promotion of Handicrafts;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps so far in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Various Councils/Implementing Agency in consultation with various stakeholders of handicrafts, exporters and master crafts men/artisans are identified time

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and again. Under various components of HRD Scheme training program is given to artisans/trainees as detailed below:

- (i) Training through Established Institutions which is a 5 year plan of training given to 200 artisans every year. This year as per EFC approval 2 programmes were approved, so far 1 target has been achieved. By the end of Financial year 2015 we will be achieving the target.
- (ii) Handicrafts Training Programme has two sub components namely (a) Technical Training and (b) Soft Skilled Training. Under this component training is given mainly to increase production by giving training in hard and soft skill thus by filling the gap of unskilled work force with the skilled work force. Persons in non-technical skills such as micro finance/entrepreneurship development/preparation of business plans/preparation of projects reports/packaging/documentation are given in order to run their own enterprises smoothly. So far 163 Technical Training and 146 Soft Skill Training has been given till date for 2015-16.
- (iii) Training Through Guru shishya Parampara where handing over/transfer of traditional knowledge from master craftsmen to the new generation, thus ensuring the sustenance of the craft. So far 99 Training programmes were given to Shilp guru/Padmashree/National Awardee. Due to paucity of funds State Awardee and other craft persons were not accommodated.
- (iv) Training the trainers given to master craftsperson/trainers who are exposed to new designs, 4 use of improved tools and new production techniques and technologies thereby giving room for upgrading their skills. 3 Programmes till now have been achieved during 2015-16.
- (v) Design Mentorship and apprentice programmes (DMAP) : Under this training programmes final year/graduate/post graduate students from reputed design institutes are trained by International/Domestic designers to keep pace with the changing global scenario, for more innovations in the craft sector, for new designs pattern and product development as per the market demands. So far 1 programmes has been achieved against the target of 2.

In all 8860 artisans were benefited under different component of HRD Scheme during 2015-16 (up to Nov 2015). The Target Fixed as per EFC was 445 programmes against which 413 have been achieved till now.

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

The House reassembled at thirty minutes past two of clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS**The Child Development Programmes Coordination Agency Bill, 2015**

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि बाल विकास कार्यक्रमों के सुचारु संचालन तथा ऐसे कार्यक्रमों के लिए निश्चित समयावधि में लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के सुनिश्चितीकरण हेतु बाल विकास कार्यक्रम समन्वय अभिकरण के गठन तथा तत्संसक्त अथवा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री प्रभात झा: महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Prohibition of Publication and Dissemination of Objectionable Material on Religion Bill, 2015

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि देश में किसी भी रूप में धर्म से सम्बन्धित आपत्तिजनक सामग्री के प्रकाशन एवं प्रसारण पर प्रतिबंध लगाने और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री प्रभात झा: महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajkumar Dhoot; not present. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot, again; not present. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot, again; not present.

The Death Penalty (Abolition) Bill, 2015

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to abolish capital punishment under the laws in relation to which the powers of the Union extends.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Self-financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for proper planning and co-ordinated development of self-financing professional educational institutions throughout the country by regulating the admission of students and prescribing fee structure in such self-financing institutions including prevention of commercialization of professional education and prohibition of capitation fees and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Husain Dalwai; not present.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 324)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Compulsory Basic Facilities for Neglected Senior Citizens,
Widows and Orphans Bill, 2015**

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory basic facilities like housing, food, water, medicine and security to neglected senior citizens, widows and orphans of the country.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Women (Equal Participation in Decision Making) Bill, 2015

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (Odisha): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the empowerment of women to enable them to have equal participation in the governance of the country by making reservations and such other provisions in the body polity such as executive, legislative and judiciary and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Abolition of Begging and Rehabilitation of Beggars Bill, 2015

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (Odisha): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and rehabilitation of beggars and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Prevention of Deaths due to Heat and Cold Waves Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the prevention of human deaths caused by heat stroke during summer and chilling cold during winter seasons by declaring heat wave and cold wave as national calamity and for making provisions for advance preparedness to face these natural calamities immediately on predictions of Meteorological Department making provision for providing woollens, setting up night shelters, community bonfires, etc., during winter and for drinking water, ORS packets, Mango panna, cooling space and shades at conspicuous places, free ration and other needs for the poor homeless workers and daily wage earners during summer and for payment of compensation to the kins of those losing lives in heat or cold wave, as the case may be, by the Central and the State Governments and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Missing Children (Faster Tracking and Reuniting) Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for faster tracking and reuniting the children who go missing due to abduction, kidnapping, luring or runaway from their homes and parents, for creation of Special Cells in Police establishments with specifically trained personnel to trace missing children, for immediate registration of FIR, for flashing photograph and details of missing children in television, newspapers and social media so as to put in place proper mechanism to trace missing children and retuning them with their near and dear ones and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Victims of Acid Attack, Sexually Abused and Trafficked Girls and Women (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the rehabilitation measures to be undertaken and payment of adequate compensation by the Central and State Governments to the victims of acid attacks, sexually abused or raped or gangraped and trafficked girls and women from weaker sections and tribal and rural areas pushed for working as domestic maids or into flesh trade by the placement agencies, pimps and traffickers and for making it mandatory for the State to bear all costs of treatment including cosmetic and other requisite surgeries for all such victims and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

RE. MOTION MOVED BY SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad. The position is that on 4th December, Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot, the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment and Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad, the mover of the Bill had replied to the discussion. So, reply is over. Now the only thing is that you have replied and your job is to withdraw.

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Uttar Pradesh): No, Sir, I am not withdrawing. माननीय उपसभापति जी, संविधान में यह व्यवस्था है कि जो सामाजिक और आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े हुए हैं, उनको संरक्षण की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए।

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, यह कोरम का इश्यू है। चूंकि कोरम पूरा नहीं है और हाउस में without quorum voting is not possible.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: मान्यवर, हम जानते हैं, चाहे कांग्रेस पार्टी हो या भारतीय जनता पार्टी हो, वोट के समय जब ये लोग जनता के बीच जाते हैं, तो वे कहते हैं कि आरक्षण दिया जाएगा, लेकिन हाउस में सभी लोग इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। हम तो अपने बिल का प्रबल समर्थन करते हैं और हम चाहते हैं कि इस पर वोटिंग कराई जाए।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: सर, कोरम कहाँ है? जब कोरम होगा, तभी तो वोटिंग होगी, but where is the quorum?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me get the official note on quorum. If there is no quorum, give me in writing. As per Article 100 of the Constitution, if there is no quorum the Chairman can adjourn the House for the day. There are two ways. One is, the Chairman or Speaker, or person acting as such, can adjourn the House. I am taking this option of adjourning the House. If Members don't want to attend and if there is no quorum, the Chair is helpless because the Constitution is clear. So, I am going to adjourn the House for Monday.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL(Kerala): Sir, it is Private Members' Business.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not seeing Private Members here!

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: We all are Private Members, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Where have the Private Members' gone? I don't see.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Only some Private Members have gone.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only a few Members are here. Majority is not here. So, for lack of quorum, the House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 21st December, 2015.

*The House then adjourned at forty-one minutes past two of the
clock till eleven of the clock on Monday,
the 21st December, 2015.*