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सत्यमेव जयते

Friday

4 March, 2016

14 Phalgun, 1937 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 4th March, 2016/14th Phalguna, 1937 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

Reports of the Law Commission of India, 2015.

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

- (a) Two Hundred and Fifty-fifth Report on Electoral Reforms (March 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4125/16/16]
- (b) Two Hundred and Fifty-sixth Report on Eliminating Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy (April 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4126/16/16]
- (c) Two Hundred and Fifty-Eighth Report on Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organisations - A Study and Proposed Amendments (August 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4127/16/16]
- (d) Two Hundred and Fifty-Ninth Report on Early Childhood Development and Legal Entitlements (August 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4128/16/16]
- (e) Two Hundred and Sixtieth Report on Analysis of the 2015 Draft Model Indian Bilateral Investment Treaty (August 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4129/16/16]
- (f) Two Hundred and Sixty-first Report on Need to Regulate Pet Shops and Dog and Aquarium Fish Breeding (August 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4130/16/16]
- (g) Two Hundred and Sixty-second Report on The Death Penalty (August 2015).
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4131/16/16]

**Report and Accounts(2 014-15)of Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi
and related papers.**

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो अधिनियम, 1986 की धारा 23 के अधीन निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bureau of Indian Standards, 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 Bureau.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.4143/16/16]

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

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

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (a) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), 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 above Company, for the year 2014-15.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.3958/16/15]

**Reports and Accounts (2 014-15) of ISEPC, Mumbai and EPCH, New Delhi
and related papers.**

वस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) (a) Thirty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC), 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 Council.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.4216/16/16]
- (ii) (a) Twenty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), 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 Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.4133/16/16]

Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया): महोदय, मैं आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 की धारा 3 की उप धारा (6) के अधीन, मूल अधिसूचना में कतिपय प्रविष्टियों को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए अधिसूचना सं. का.आ. 2776(अ), दिनांक 10 अक्टूबर, 2015 का संशोधन करने वाली कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय (कृषि, सहकारिता और किसान कल्याण विभाग) की अधिसूचना सं. का.आ. 3373(अ), दिनांक 12 दिसम्बर, 2015 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.4149/16/16]

Reports and Accounts (2012-13 and 2014-15) of various companies and related papers.

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

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (i) (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), 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 Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.4151/16/16]
 - (ii) (a) Fifty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), Gurgaon, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4150/16/16]

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4123/16/16]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

II. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of GSSC, Gandhinagar and related papers

III. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of NIPHM, Hyderabad and CAA, Chennai and related papers

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) Notification No. S.O. 101 (E), dated the 13th January, 2016, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (First Amendment) Order, 2016, under sub-section (2) of Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4157/16/16]
- 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:—
 - (a) Thirty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited (GSSC), Gandhinagar, 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.4116/16/16]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2014-15.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4158/16/16]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA), Chennai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.4117/16/16]

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

National Conference of Women Legislators

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, I have great pleasure in informing you that the Parliament of India is organizing a National Conference of Women Legislators on 5th and 6th of March, 2016 in New Delhi on the theme 'Women Legislators: Building Resurgent India'. The Conference will be inaugurated by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India on Saturday, 5th of March, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. in the Plenary Hall of Vigyan Bhawan in the presence of Hon'ble Vice-President of India and Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Besides Plenary and Business Sessions at Vigyan Bhawan on Saturday, 5th of March, 2016, the Valedictory Ceremony will be held in the Central Hall of Parliament House on Sunday, 6th of March, 2016.

Members may make it convenient to attend the Conference.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the
Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Information Technology**

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 Ravi Shankar Prasad, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on the Demands for Grants (2014-15), pertaining to the Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह सूचित करता हूँ कि मंगलवार 8 मार्च, 2016 से आरंभ होने वाले सप्ताह के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिए जाएंगे:-

1. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात् निम्नलिखित अनुदान माँगों से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना:-

(क) वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए लेखानुदान माँगें (रेल)	8 घंटे
(ख) वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए अनुपूरक अनुदान माँगें (रेल)	
2. वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए बजट (सामान्य) पर सामान्य चर्चा।
3. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात् निम्नलिखित माँगों से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना:-

(क) वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए लेखानुदान माँगें (सामान्य)	10 घंटे
(ख) वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए अनुपूरक अनुदान माँगें (सामान्य)	
4. भू-संपदा (विनियमन और विकास) विधेयक, 2013 पर विचार और पारित करना।
5. सूचना प्रदाता संरक्षण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर आगे विचार और पारित करना।
6. बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध और विनियमन) संशोधन विधेयक, 2012 पर विचार और पारित करना।
7. आज की कार्यवाही से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार:-
 - (i) राष्ट्रपति के अभिभाषण पर धन्यवाद प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा।
 - (ii) भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो विधेयक, 2015 पर आगे विचार और पारित करना।
 - (iii) राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**Need to install the statue of late Shri Biju Patnaik in Parliament Premises**

श्री दिलीप कुमार तिकी (ओडिशा) : महोदय, कल 5 मार्च को बीजू पटनायक जी की सौवीं जयंती है। बीजू बाबू जैसे महान समाजवादी और देशभक्त नेता के लिए देश की सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि यही होगी कि इस अवसर पर संसद परिसर में उनकी प्रतिमा की स्थापना की जाए।

महोदय, स्वर्गीय बीजू पटनायक ओडिशा के ही नहीं, बल्कि देश के एक महान नेता थे। वे आधुनिक ओडिशा के निर्माता थे। वे दो बार ओडिशा के मुख्यमंत्री रहे, केन्द्र में मंत्री रहे, 7 बार राज्य की विधान सभा, 4 बार लोक सभा और एक बार राज्य सभा के सदस्य रहे।

उन्होंने एक पायलट के रूप में अपना कैरियर शुरू किया था। स्वाधीनता संग्राम के दिनों में उनकी मुलाकात पंडित नेहरू से हुई और वे उनके विश्वासपात्र बन गए। बाद में इंडोनेशिया की आजादी की लड़ाई के दौरान पंडित नेहरू के कहने पर उन्होंने अपनी जान पर खेल कर सुलतान शाहरीर को इंडोनेशिया से बाहर निकाला था। उनकी इस बहादुरी के लिए इंडोनेशिया सरकार ने उन्हें अपना सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान "भूमि पुत्र" प्रदान किया था। बाद में कश्मीर में भी उन्होंने देश के लिए अपनी जान पर खेलकर विमान उड़ाने की दक्षता का परिचय देते हुए सैनिकों को वहां पहुंचाया था। एक राजनेता के रूप में भी उनका जीवन जनकल्याण के लिए समर्पित था। यही कारण था कि उन्हें ओडिशा और देश की जनता का अपार प्यार मिला। 1989 में जनता दल की जो केन्द्र में सरकार बनी थी, उसमें भी उनकी प्रमुख भूमिका थी।

स्वर्गीय बीजू पटनायक का राजनीति के अलावा विमानन, पत्रकारिता, विज्ञान और संस्कृति के क्षेत्र में विशाल योगदान रहा है। हमारे साथी ए.यू. सिंह दिव जी पहले भी इसी सदन में बीजू बाबू को भारत रत्न देने की मांग रख चुके हैं। इसलिए मैं बीजू जनता दल की ओर से और ओडिशा की जनता की ओर से केन्द्र सरकार से यह आग्रह करता हूं कि संसद परिसर में स्वर्गीय बीजू पटनायक की प्रतिमा स्थापित करके, देश के महान नेताओं के बीच स्थान देकर उन्हें उनकी सौवीं जयंती पर श्रद्धांजलि दी जाए और उन्हें मरणोपरांत भारत रत्न भी दिया जाए। धन्यवाद।

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

Hardships being faced by unorganised workers in jewellery sector

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am raising a very important matter. सर, सब जानते हैं कि बंगाल की एक खासियत यह है कि जो बंगाली आदमी है, वह स्वर्ण आभूषण, डायमंड और ज्वेलरी सेक्टर में पारंगत है। आप सूरत चले जाइए, गुजरात चले जाइए - भारत में जहां-जहां स्वर्ण आभूषण और डायमंड का काम होता है, हमारे बंगाल का आदमी आपको वहां काम करते हुए नज़र आएगा। जहां-जहां ये लोग गए हैं, इन्होंने एक छोटा बंगाल भी वहां बनाया है, जो राष्ट्रीय एकता के लिए बहुत जरूरी है। लेकिन केन्द्रीय सरकार की कुछ गलत नीतियों के कारण इन सब लोगों की जीविका पर बहुत बड़ा खतरा आ गया है। अभी तो इन लोगों ने कोलकाता में केवल तीन दिन की स्ट्राइक की है, लेकिन अगर केन्द्र सरकार ने बहुत जल्दी अपनी नीतियों को ठीक नहीं किया तो यह स्ट्राइक चलती रहेगी। सर, यहां यह बताना बहुत जरूरी है कि 2005 और 2012 में केन्द्र सरकार इस तरह की चेष्टा कर चुकी है। उस समय माननीय सोनिया जी के हस्तक्षेप से इसको वापस लिया गया था और उन लोगों को उनका हक वापस दिया गया था तथा वे लोग चैन की सांस ले पाए थे। सर, जो लोग ज्वेलरी खरीद रहे हैं, उन पर आपको टैक्स लगाना है, आप लगाइए, लेकिन इसे इस तरह से लगाइए कि स्वर्ण आभूषण बनाने वालों की जीविका पर इसका कोई भी असर न पड़े। सर, ये लोग ज्यादातर गरीब मजदूर हैं। अगर आप इन पर एक्साइज ड्यूटी थोप देंगे और इनको आप कहेंगे कि एक्साइज वाले के यहां जाइए, सरकारी बाबू, सरकारी लाइसेंसराज,

सरकारी इंस्पेक्टरराज के तहत जाइए, तो वे वहां जाकर अपना दम तोड़ देंगे क्योंकि वे एक्साइज आदि को नहीं समझते हैं। इस प्रकार वे उस कानून को, उस किताब को समझने में ही उलझ जाएंगे। मैं आपके माध्यम से हमारे माननीय वित्त मंत्री और बाकी लोगों को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि स्वर्ण आभूषण के काम में लगा कारीगर कई बार सुनार से रात को मोमबत्ती के तले सोना लेकर आता है, फिर उस आभूषण पर काम करता है, एक-एक जड़ाऊ, एक-एक ऐसा पीस बनाता है, जो यहां नहीं, विश्व भर में इंडिया का नाम रोशन करता है। ऐसे लोगों की जीविका पर, उनके पेट पर लात मारना बहुत बड़ा पाप है। इस पर जल्द से जल्द कोई कार्यवाही की जानी चाहिए। ये जितने लोग हैं, ये ज्यादातर गरीब और marginalized वर्कर्स हैं और unorganised सेक्टर में हैं और इनकी सुनवाई भी नहीं हो रहा है। यहां पर बात हो गयी, आज सुबह, मेरे घर के बगल में BJP के एक सांसद रहते हैं, वहां पर ये लोग प्रतिवाद भी कर रहे थे। मेरे घर भी आये थे। मुझसे मिले भी थे। मैंने कहा कि भाई, मैंने एक जीरो ऑवर दिया है। अगर चेयर की मेहरबानी हुई तो आपकी बात रखूंगा। सर, आपकी मेहरबानी से मैं यह विषय उठा भी पा रहा हूँ। यहां पर, इन सेक्टर्स पर already कई तरह के टैक्स लगाये जा रहे हैं। इस टैक्स से भी शायद सरकार का पेट नहीं भर पा रहा है जो इस सेक्टर के ऊपर और टैक्स लगाये जा रहे हैं जो ज्वेलर है, वह हमारी अर्थ व्यवस्था और रुपये के लिए भी जिम्मेदार है, क्योंकि ज्वेलरी का जो सारा एक्सपोर्ट है, वह धीरे-धीरे बंद और खत्म होता जा रहा है। पता नहीं सरकार इसे सोने का अंडा समझ कर धीरे-धीरे एक-एक अंडा लेने के बजाए एक साथ पूरी मुर्गी का पेट क्यों चीरने पर लगी है? यह मेरी समझ के परे है। श्रीमान्, आपके माध्यम से मैं वित्त मंत्री व बाकी लोगों का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि ये करीब-करीब एक खरब ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, हमारी मांग पर ध्यान दिया जाए। धन्यवाद।

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री आलोक तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. भालचन्द्र मुण्णगेकर (नाम निर्देशित) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

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

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

SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP (Haryana): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is support from all sections.

**Separation of Haldia Port from Kolkata Port Trust and stoppage
of maintenance dredging of Auckland Channel**

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House and, particularly, of the Government to a disastrous move that is going to take place to ruin the Port and Dock system in my State, West Bengal. A move is afoot to bifurcate the Haldia Port from the Kolkata Port system and, as a result of which, the viability of both the Kolkata Port and Haldia Dock will be put under severe threat in the days to come. And, as a complementary to that move of separating Haldia Port from Kolkata Dock complex, the maintenance dredging of the Auckland Channel, which is the main thoroughfare from the Bay of Bengal to Kolkata Port for vessels to come in, that maintenance dredging has been ordered to be stopped from March 2016. Sir, the whole understanding of the concerned Ministry and the Port Authorities is that, in that situation, Kolkata Port may get ruined but Haldia Dock will continue to act because it will be used as the Eden hidden channel of the Bay of Bengal. But all the international experts, after a detailed study, came to a conclusion that a particular Eden channel, which is again the lifeline and main thoroughfare from Bay of Bengal to Haldia Port, remains unoperated. Because of atmospheric and weather conditions, that remain unoperational for an average of six months in a year. That is an observation of international experts, and an official study was conducted. But ignoring all the studies, the present Government, depending on a tutored study undertaken, allegedly by some IIT Chennai fellow have come to the conclusion and their closing shop has already ordered for stopping the maintenance dredging of the Auckland Channel, which will ruin the Kolkata Port. Ultimately, their over-dependence on the Eden channel is finally going to ruin the Haldia Port also. And, it will finally, become a bonanza to a new Port coming just in the Hinterland by Mr. 'Great' Adani. Is that the game plan? Why should the Government not come clean and say that they will destroy whatever infrastructure the country has built up, in the last six decades, to ensure the benefit of the selected private corporates with foreign collaboration? Similar exercise is going on in other major ports of the country. Such contracts are being entered into, which is teaming. So, I demand that Government must stop their decision and not ruin the Kolkata Port, renew maintenance dredging in the Auckland Channel and keep the Kolkata and Haldia Port together in the interests of the whole country and in the interests of the people.

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

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

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

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Incomplete implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to mention here about the gross injustice done to both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana by non-implementation of the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act by this Government. Sir, I am, specifically, talking about the Special Category Status promised, in this very House, at the time of bifurcation, to the State of Andhra Pradesh, that is, on the 20th of February, by the Prime Minister. Now the Ruling Coalition is raising four objections without remembering their own promises, their own commitments. No.1, they say, "It is not in the Act." In respect of all the eleven States, which enjoy the Special Category Status, this had never been done through an Act. So, firstly, I refute that allegation. No.2, they say, "Andhra Pradesh does not fulfill the criteria of Special Category Status." Sir, it is not for the criteria, but it is for the great economic and financial loss being suffered by the State, and for efforts to promote industries, to create a new capital, etc., that the Special Category Status is to be given. Of course, there are certain criteria, relating to backwardness, that may be applicable. The third thing is that they say, "Other States are also objecting." I would like to submit that in the same House, none of the leaders present on that day, none of the political parties, objected to it. It was a consensus decision taken by the Government, on behalf of the entire House. So, there is no point in saying that others are objecting to it. They are trying to find alibis to delay the process of giving Special Category Status to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Fourthly, Sir, their next alibi is that the Fourteenth Finance Commission has not recommended it. Who is the Fourteenth Finance Commission? In a democratic country like India, do we not recognise the institution of the Prime Minister? And the entire House is witness to it. Do they not recognise the superiority and the propriety of the Prime Minister of India and the assurances which were made? The Fourteenth Finance Commission cannot deny it. Moreover, the Cabinet decided on the 1st of March, in pursuance of the decision taken, and directed the Planning Commission to implement it. The Planning Commission may not exist now. But the NITI Aayog is there. They can take the decision forward. Not only this, Sir, the Backward Areas Package, consent for the Polavaram project and then the promise of tax concessions and

special incentives, etc., have not been given. The Government of the day has no business in not giving the same. It is the right of the Telugu people. I demand this Government to abide by their promise. They are going back on their promise disgracefully. The M.Ps. of both BJP and the Telugu Desam should support it. They go and say something to the people there...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Please sit down.

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

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate with it in the interests of the Telugu people.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to make an announcement.

*Not recorded.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM BANGLADESH

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the Hon'ble Members of the House and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to Her Excellency, Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of the Parliament of Bangladesh and Chairperson of CPA Executive Committee, who is visiting India as our honoured guest to participate in the National Conference of Women Legislators to be held on 5 and 6 March, 2016. She is now seated in the Special Box.

Hon'ble Members, India and Bangladesh share age-old civilizational linkages. Our ties are characterized by close friendship, cooperation and understanding. I am confident that this visit would further reinforce the excellent bilateral relations between our two countries for the benefit of our people.

We wish her an enriching and memorable stay in our country. Through her, we convey our greetings to the people, Parliament and the Government of Bangladesh.

RE. INSTALLATION OF MIRROR FOR DIGNITARIES BOX

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, can I make a suggestion?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, most of the dignitaries cannot see the Chair because of the position. So, I request you to have a mirror placed here so that they can at least see you. Please think about it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Otherwise, try to arrange some other thing.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, in Lok Sabha they have a big screen.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, you also can't see them.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, that is why mirror is better because it is a two way thing. You can also see them. They can also see you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That can be examined. That proposal can be examined.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, in Lok Sabha there is a big screen. We can put like that here also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will examine it and we will make suggestions also. Okay, now Shri Ahamed Hassan. He is absent. Shri Javed Ali Khan.

MATTER RAISED WITH PERMISSION - *Contd.*

Alleged closure of the Off-campus centre of the Aligarh Muslim University on grounds of illegality

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय के अस्तित्व पर जो आप प्रश्न उठ गया है, उसकी तरफ मैं सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम यूनिवर्सिटी एक्ट के सैक्शन 12 के तहत वहाँ की एकजीक्यूटिव कमेटी और वहाँ की Academic Council ने अलीगढ़ से बाहर पांच ऑफ कैम्पस सेंटर्स खोलने का फैसला किया था। उसमें से तीन अस्तित्व में भी आ गए - मल्लपुरम, किशनगंज और मुर्शिदाबाद में। जो पांच सेंटर्स खोलने का फैसला किया गया था, उनमें से दो अभी अस्तित्व में नहीं आए हैं। इसकी जरूरत 2006 में सच्चर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद महसूस हुई कि अल्पसंख्यकों की हालत दलितों से बदतर है। जब सच्चर कमेटी ने इस तरफ इशारा किया, तो तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री डा० मनमोहन सिंह जी की सरकार ने अल्पसंख्यकों के अंदर शिक्षा का प्रचार-प्रसार करने के लिए, शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए, ऐसी नीति बनाई, जिसके तहत अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय ने कानूनी तरीके से उन सेंटर्स को खोलने का निर्णय किया, लेकिन आज अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम यूनिवर्सिटी के वाइस चांसलर का एक बयान आया है, जिसमें वे फरमाते हैं कि हमारी केन्द्रीय मानव संसाधन मंत्री श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी जी इन सेंटर्स को गैर-कानूनी करार दे रही हैं और इन्हें मिलने वाली सहायता को बंद करने की धमकी दे रही हैं। उनका बयान मेरे पास है। ऐसी स्थिति है। एक तरफ जहाँ हम "सबका साथ, सबका विकास" का नारा देते हैं, वही समाज के एक बड़े हिस्से को शिक्षा की सुविधाओं से दूर रखना चाहते हैं। ये सेंटर्स पूरी तरह से कानूनी तरीके से बने थे और मैं यह बता दूँ कि अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय की जो संरचना है, वहाँ का जो डिजिजन मेकिंग तरीका है, उसमें भारत के महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी, उस विश्वविद्यालय के विजिटर होते हैं। अगर कोई भी नीतिगत फैसला अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय की एकजीक्यूटिव कमेटी या वहाँ की Academic Council लेती है, वह तब तक अमल में नहीं आता, जब तक भारत के राष्ट्रपति जी उस पर अपनी स्वीकार्यता नहीं देते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में, मंत्री जी की तरफ से यह कहना, जो मैं वाइस चांसलर के हवाले से कह रहा हूँ और जैसा अखबारों में उनका बयान छपा है कि ये सेंटर्स गैर-कानूनी हैं, इनको फंड नहीं दिया जा सकता।

मैं चाहूँगा कि सरकार अभी और इसी वक्त इस सवाल पर अपना स्पष्टीकरण दे कि अलीगढ़ विश्वविद्यालय या दूसरे अल्प संख्यक शिक्षण संस्थान...

†جناب جاوید علی خان (اثر پردیش): اب سبھا پتی مہودے، علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی کے وجود پر جو آج سوال اٹھ گیا ہے، اس کی طرف میں سدن کا دھیان آکرٹ کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی ایکٹ کے سیکشن 12 کے تحت وہاں کی

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

ایگزیکوٹو کمیٹی اور ہاں کی اکیڈمک کاؤنسل نے علی گڑھ سے باہر پانچ آف کیمپس سینٹرس کھولنے کا فیصلہ کیا تھا۔ اس میں سے تین وجود میں بھی آگئے۔ ملپورم، کشن گنج اور مرشدآباد میں۔ جو پانچ سینٹرس کھولنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا تھا، ان میں سے دو ابھی وجود میں نہیں آئے۔ اس کی ضرورت 2006 میں سچر کمیٹی کی رپورٹ آنے کے بعد محسوس ہوئی کہ اقلیتوں کی حالت دلتوں سے بدتر ہے۔ جب سچر کمیٹی نے اس طرف اشارہ کیا، تو تتکالین پردھان منتری ڈاکٹر منموہن سنگھ جی کی سرکار نے اقلیتوں کے اندر شکشا کا پرچار-پرسار کرنے کے لئے، شکشا کو بڑھاوا دینے کے لئے، ایسی نیتی بنائی، جس کے تحت علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی نے قانونی طریقے سے ان سینٹرس کو کھولنے کا فیصلہ کیا، لیکن آج علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی کے وائس چانسلر کا ایک بیان آیا ہے، جس میں وہ فرماتے ہیں کہ ہماری کیندریہ مانو سنمادھن منتری شریمتی اسمرتی زوبن ایرانی جی نے اس سینٹرس کو غیر قانونی قرار دے رہی ہیں اور انہیں ملنے والی مدد کو بند کرنے کی دھمکی دے رہی ہیں۔ ان کا بیان میرے پاس ہے۔ ایسی حالت ہے، ایک طرف جہاں ہم ”سب کا ساتھ، سب کا وکاس“ کا نعرہ دیتے ہیں، وہی سماج کے ایک بڑے حصے کو شکشا کی سویدھاؤں سے دور رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ یہ سینٹرس پوری طرح سے قانونی طریقے سے بنے تھے اور میں یہ بتاؤں کہ علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی کی جو سترچنا ہے، وہاں کا جو ڈسٹریکٹ میکنگ طریقہ ہے، اس میں بھارت کے مہامہم راشٹرپتی جی، اس یونیورسٹی کے وزیر ہوتے ہیں۔ اگر کوئی بھی نیتی گت فیصلہ علی گڑھ مسلم یونیورسٹی کی ایگزیکوٹو کمیٹی یا وہاں کی اکیڈمک کاؤنسل لیتی ہے، وہ تب تک عمل میں نہیں آتا، جب تک بھارت کے راشٹرپتی جی اس پر اپنی منظوری نہیں دیتے ہیں۔ ایسی حالت میں، منتری کی طرف سے یہ کہنا، جو میں وائس چانسلر کے حوالے سے کہہ رہا ہوں اور جیسا اخباروں میں ان کا بیان چھپا ہے کہ یہ سینٹرس غیر قانونی ہیں، ان کو فنڈ نہیں دیا جاسکتا۔

میں چاہوں گا کہ سرکار ابھی اور اسی وقت اس سوال پر اپنی وضاحت کرے کہ علی گڑھ یونیورسٹی یا دوسرے اقلیتی تعلیمی ادارے۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. It is not going on record.

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: *

श्री मुनक्राद अली (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री परवेज़ हाशमी (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री आलोक तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Bihar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

*Not recorded.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole House associates with the issue raised by Shri Javed Ali Khan.

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, ऑनरेबल मेम्बर ने अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम यूनिवर्सिटी से संबंधित जो मुद्दा उठाया है, मैं उनको अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम यूनिवर्सिटी को माइनॉरिटी स्टेटस मिला हुआ है और सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी के रूप में स्वीकृति मिली हुई है। इस देश में हजारों माइनॉरिटी इंस्टीट्यूशंस हैं, जिनको संविधान ने सुरक्षा दी है और उनकी सुरक्षा के प्रति हमारी सरकार पूरी तरह से प्रतिबद्ध है।

जहां तक अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम यूनिवर्सिटी का प्रश्न है, वह एक सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी है, इसके साथ ही साथ उसे माइनॉरिटी इंस्टीट्यूशन का दर्जा भी प्राप्त है, इसलिए यह मैटर कोर्ट में है। निश्चित तौर से कोर्ट जो डिसीज़न लेगा, उस डिसीज़न के प्रति हम सबकी प्रतिबद्धता होनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

दूसरा, इसके अलावा हजारों ऐसे इंस्टीट्यूशंस हैं, जिनको माइनॉरिटी स्टेटस मिला हुआ है। उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए संविधान में जो व्यवस्था दी गई है, उसके अनुसार हम उन्हें पूरी तरह से सुरक्षित रखेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनकी सुरक्षा को किसी भी तरह की ठेस नहीं पहुंचेगी, यह हम आपको विश्वास दिलाते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त जो विषय माननीय ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, the Government has withdrawn the Affidavit in the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is an off campus issue.

श्री शरद यादव: महोदय, हमारा सम्पूर्ण विरोध इसी पर है। हमारा पूरा विरोध इस बात पर है कि जो संस्थान पूरी तरह से संविधान सम्मत है, जिसका समाधान हो गया था, लेकिन कोर्ट में एफिडेविट देकर आप सारा काम खराब कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह ठीक बात नहीं है। सरकार को इसे वापस करना चाहिए और जो माइनॉरिटी स्टेटस है, उसको फिर से लागू करना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपने जो एफिडेविट लगाया है, उसी के चलते विवाद है और उसी के चलते सभी तरह की परेशानी बनी हुई है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I totally agree with what Sharad Yadavji has said. The present Government has withdrawn the Affidavit given to the Supreme Court by UPA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. No further discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Sharad Yadav for the next Zero Hour submission. ...*(Interruptions)*... No discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: This cannot be accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... The entire House is opposing this, ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government has to explain.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, the point is, we cannot have a discussion on Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... What the hon. Minister answered, is not the issue that has been raised. This is number one. The second question is: Today's Government has withdrawn an Affidavit submitted by the earlier Government and given a new Affidavit which is a cause of the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: That is the root cause of the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, this is a serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... Aligarh Muslim University...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, what can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is Zero Hour.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Therefore, what you have to do is to use your good

offices to persuade the Government to withdraw their Affidavit. That is what has to be done.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a legal matter.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Otherwise, they should answer what is the Affidavit and why have they changed it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want discussion, you give a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Give notice. Then, it can be considered for discussion.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, let me make a submission for your consideration. Since this is a serious matter, the Government needs to explain why it changed the Affidavit filed by the UPA Government. You have to explain it. And, why are you targeting the minority institutions and the universities?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want discussion, you give a notice.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the House demands for a debate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, you give notice if you want debate.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: That can be accepted now.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: आपने अभी तक कितने एफिडेविट कोर्ट में जमा किए हैं, कितने एफिडेविट चेंज किए हैं, क्या आपने कभी उनके बारे में हाउस में आकर बताया था? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप जो एफिडेविट कोर्ट में देंगे, क्या वे हमसे पूछकर देंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री आनंद शर्मा: आप उस बात को बीच में मत लाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That is all. No more discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: हमने आपसे कहा कि matter is *sub judice*. ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब यह मैटर कोर्ट में है, तो कोर्ट के दायरे में उस मैटर पर निर्णय होने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस पर हमारा कोई पूर्वाग्रह नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सीताराम येयुरी: ये गलत कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us go to the next item. Shri Sharad Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)* ...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: हम यही चाहते हैं कि अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय का सम्मान बरकरार रहना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, it is a Zero Hour matter. I cannot allow discussion now. If you want discussion, give proper notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Give proper notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, what has gone on record in the House is misleading. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is misleading. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If he is misleading..

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Secondly, Sir, please understand, it has got the potential of a very big communal flare. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the danger and our House can't be a party to it.

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री सदन को बार-बार गुमराह करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... गलत बयान देते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If he has misled, then there is a provision in the Rule Book. You can invoke that. This is number one. If you want a discussion, you may give a notice. What can I do now? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, our House can't be a party to the communal polarization. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: sir, please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is over. His Zero Hour time is over. I can't allow him. No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am requesting the hon. Members that his Zero Hour time is over. If you want a discussion on this, please give a notice. I can't allow a discussion now. ...*(Interruptions)*... If he has misled, then invoke the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is a provision in the rules and you can invoke that if he has misled the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, he is not taking note of what we are saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can't do anything more than that. Please give a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I suggest that you expunge from the records all that the Minister has said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please expunge that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want me to expunge, I will go through the

records. I can't do it now because I am not convinced either way. ...*(Interruptions)*... To expunge, I have to be convinced. I am not convinced either way. I will go through the records and take a decision if there is anything to be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, we will give a notice. But this assertion by the Minister will only contribute to sharpening communal polarization in the country.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, we are neither supporting nor opposing. ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, मैंने यह बताया है कि जो ऑनरेबल मेम्बर ने कहा है ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो माइनॉरिटी इंस्टीट्यूशंस हैं, उनके माइनॉरिटी स्टेटस को, जो कांस्टीट्यूशन ने अधिकार दिये हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा की जिम्मेदारी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am going to the next Zero Hour mention by Shri Sharad Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: जहां तक अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम युनिवर्सिटी का सवाल है, the matter is in the Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can't allow Mr. Khan. His Zero Hour time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to give another notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Khan, I can't allow you. Shri Sharad Yadav, I can't allow him. His Zero Hour time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, यह इस सदन की गरिमा का सवाल है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देश के
[جناب جاوید علی خان : سر، یہ اس سدن کی گریمہ کا سوال ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ دیش کے
لوکتنتر کا سوال ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would request you to please calm down. Now, Shri Sharad Yadav to make a mention on Special Package to the State of Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*... शरद यादव जी, आप अपना Zero Hour submission बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Nothing else will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... You may give another notice.

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khan can give another notice and Mr. Chairman may consider that. Please sit down. Shri Sharad Yadav, speak on Special Package to Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is enough; now go back.

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

...(Interruptions)... Please ...(Interruptions)... Please go back. ...(Interruptions)... Please go back. ...(Interruptions)... Please ...(Interruptions)... There will be no solution. ...(Interruptions)... I would request ...(Interruptions)... I would request you, please give notice. We can have a discussion. ...(Interruptions)... What are you doing? ...(Interruptions)... Listen ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)... One minute. ...(Interruptions)... I would request the agitated Members, if you want the result, then give a notice. Hon. Chairman will consider. We can have a discussion. ...(Interruptions)... By shouting slogans, nothing will happen. ...(Interruptions)... You will not get the result. ...(Interruptions)... Are you interested in getting the result? ...(Interruptions)... Then you allow a discussion. ...(Interruptions)... I have told you, I will examine that. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर का बयान पहले expunge किया जाए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If anything expungeable is there, I will do that. ...(Interruptions)... I will do that. ...(Interruptions)...

A Sikh boy assaulted in Australia

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): सर, मैं आपके सामने और इस सदन के सामने एक घटना के बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ। जब ऑस्ट्रेलिया में एक सिख लड़का बस में सफर कर रहा था तो तीन ऑस्ट्रेलियंस - दो लड़के और एक लड़की ने उसको डराया, धमकाया और उसकी पगड़ी के साथ छेड़खानी की। यह एक बहुत ही घिनौनी हरकत ऑस्ट्रेलिया में की गई है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, जीरो ऑवर। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, मैं इनके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक बच्चे, एक सिख बच्चे के ऑनर की बात है, जिसके साथ आस्ट्रेलिया में, जब वह बस में सफर कर रहा था, उसकी पगड़ी के साथ और उसके साथ घिनौनी हरकत की गई है। उसको टीज़ किया गया है। अगर वहाँ पर रहने वाले भारतीयों के साथ ऐसी हरकतें होती रहेंगी तो उन लोगों के मन में एक डर का वातावरण बना रहेगा। सर, मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि इस घटना को ऑस्ट्रेलिया सरकार के सामने लाकर, वहाँ पर रहने वाले पंजाब के जो लोग हैं, जो सिख लोग हैं, जो भारतीय हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा की गारंटी ऑस्ट्रेलियन गवर्नमेंट से ली जाए, ताकि ऐसी घटनाएं न हों। अगर उस घटना की सारी रिपोर्ट्स को पढ़ा जाए, तो उससे पता चलता है कि आज वह बच्चा डरा हुआ है, वह स्कूल जाने को तैयार नहीं है। उसकी माता डरी हुई है और उसका परिवार डरा हुआ है। सर, यह एक immediate action लेने वाली बात है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि भारत सरकार ऑस्ट्रेलिया की सरकार के साथ इस मैटर को टेकअप करके वहाँ रह रहे हमारे पंजाबी भाइयों, जो कि भारतीय हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा की गारंटी ले, ताकि नस्लवाद के नाम पर वहाँ भेदभाव न हो। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, हम वहाँ इज्जत के साथ जीना चाहते हैं।

हम वहां के क़ानून को मानते हैं, लेकिन at the same time वहां रह रहे भारतीय लोगों की सुरक्षा की गारंटी ऑस्ट्रेलिया सरकार को लेनी चाहिए। ऐसी बातें रिपीट न हों, ऐसी बातें दोहराई न जाएं, उसके लिए भारत सरकार को ऑस्ट्रेलिया की सरकार से बात करनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि चूंकि वहां पर ऐसी घटनाएं होती रहती हैं, इसलिए जब तक इनके खिलाफ सख्त ऐक्शन नहीं लिया जाएगा, तब तक ये घटनाएं नहीं रुकेंगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: मैं एक बार फिर सारे सदन से भी निवेदन करता हूं कि यह घटना एक छोटे से बच्चे के साथ हुई है, एक धर्म के साथ हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री तरुण विजय (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Chaudhary Munvvar Saleem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Saleem, don't you want to have your Zero Hour Submission? ...*(Interruptions)*... Not making. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Ritabrata Banerjee, are you not making? ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. Now, Shri Tarun Vijay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Resentment amongst tribal people of Manipur

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, today, we are paying our deep felt homage to one of the greatest leaders from North-East, Shri P.A. Sangama, and I pay my humble tribute to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... But the best tribute to him would be to take up the issues of the North-East and hear the pains and anguish of our North-Eastern people. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, on 31st August and 1st September, nine Manipuri youth were killed in the police shoot out in Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*... The FIR has still not been lodged. ...*(Interruptions)*... They were protesting against the three Bills which had been passed by the Manipur Assembly without any discussion; without consulting the stakeholders; without discussing with the tribal organizations. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, only a few decide the fate of Manipuri tribals. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody takes them into confidence; nobody consults them; nobody seeks their opinion. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is gross violation of their constitutional rights. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is gross violation of their democratic rights. ...*(Interruptions)*... All that they want is to live within the framework of India. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are 'Jai Hind' people of Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are young people.

[Shri Tarun Vijay]

...(Interruptions)... Nine youngsters were killed on 1st September. ...(Interruptions)... They have not yet buried their dead bodies. ...(Interruptions)... They are demanding justice. ...(Interruptions)... They want that the Government must institute a high-level inquiry committee against the Manipur Government's highhandedness. ...(Interruptions)... They should be assured by the Government that these three Bills—which have been passed without any consultations, without any discussion, and which have been sent to the President for approval - are not signed by the hon. President and these are not approved. ...(Interruptions)... Necessary corrective measures must be taken to safeguard the rights of Manipuri tribal people. ...(Interruptions)... Their cultural identity, their existence must be safeguarded as per the Constitution of India. ...(Interruptions)... I demand that the Government must assure that there is a high-level inquiry against the police shootout. ...(Interruptions)... The killers must be punished as per the law. ...(Interruptions)... The Government must immediately consider whether tribal hill areas of Manipur within the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution can be put under an empowered model, which is powerful enough to guarantee the constitutional rights relating to their land, identity and community. ...(Interruptions)... सर, मणिपुर के लोग हमारे अपने लोग हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... युवा लोग हैं। वे अपने अधिकार, अपनी संस्कृति और अपने समाज की सुरक्षा के लिए लड़ रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... वे यहां छह महीने से जंतर-मंतर पर बैठे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... नौ बच्चे, हिन्दुस्तान के नौजवान मारे जाते हैं, अभी तक उनका burial नहीं होता है। ...(व्यवधान)... वे चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर न्याय मांगते हैं। क्या आप नार्थ-ईस्ट को, मणिपुर को अपना हिस्सा नहीं मानते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... यहां पर एक छोटी सी घटना पर सदन रोक दिया जाता है। ...(व्यवधान)... लेकिन मणिपुर के नौ बच्चे के बारे में किसी भी पार्टी ने बात नहीं की, कोई आवाज़ नहीं उठाई। ...(व्यवधान)... क्या आप उन्हें अपना नहीं मानते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... ...(समय की घंटी)...

SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आप को संबंधित करता हूं

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Hussain Dalwai. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Hussain Dalwai. ...(Interruptions)... Speak loudly. ...(Interruptions)... You are not speaking? ...(Interruptions)... You are not speaking? ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Ahamed Hassan. ...(Interruptions)...

Concern over increasing pendency of cases of crime against children

श्री अहमद हसन (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, जिस तरह से सरकार अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी में गड़बड़ कर रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी के पांच सेंटर्स को बंद कर रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह सरकार चिल्ड्रन्स के राइट्स का हनन कर रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

Sir, Today, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the issue of mounting pendency of cases of crime against children in our country. ...**(Interruptions)**... As in 2014, there were 1,25,000 cases pending for adjudication before courts in India. ...**(Interruptions)**... There has been a rise of 59 per cent in pending cases of crime against children since 2012; whereas, 74,400 cases were pending under various special and general laws. ...**(Interruptions)**... Similarly, since 2012, there has also been a steady spurt in crimes against children in the country, that is, in 2012, there were 38,172 cases registered with regard to crime against children, which has increased more than double in two years to 89,423 in 2014. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, the menace of increasing crime and pendency of cases against children is primarily attributed to the delay in investigation of cases by the Police and adjudication of cases by the courts throughout the country. ...**(Interruptions)**... This twin-fold problem is not only affecting the development and a secure environment for children, but also negating the deterrent effect of enacting special laws for the protection of children in our country. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Sir, hence, I would request the Government to amend the special and general laws in the country to provide a speedy investigation and disposal of cases of crime against children by prescribing a time-bound investigation by the police and disposal of cases by the court in every offence committed against the children. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we associate ourselves with the views expressed by the hon. Member. We also support him ...**(Interruptions)**...

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

The House then adjourned at fifty-one minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

RE. DEMAND TO ADJOURN BOTH THE HOUSES.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 91. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. Please.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र): चेयरमैन सर, मेरा मानना है कि चूंकि संगमा साहब former Speaker थे, यह पूरे हाउस के premises का मुद्दा है, इसलिए दोनों सदन स्थगित होने चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rajeevji, we have an established practice of many, many, many years. We adjourn for a sitting Member of this House. The other day, a reference was made from the Chair for the passing away of Dr. Balram Jakhar. He was also a Speaker.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: But he was not a sitting M.P.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; sitting M.P. is for the House. That is an established practice. आप देख लीजिए।

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, मैं जानता हूँ कि यह एक established practice है, यह बात सही है, लेकिन जैसा राजीव शुक्ल जी ने कहा है कि संगमा साहब स्पीकर भी थे और निश्चित तौर पर वह एक बहुत बड़े लीडर थे, अगर आप इस पर सहमति दे सकते हैं और उनके सम्मान में हम यह हाउस adjourn कर सकते हैं, तो हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, मेरे ख्याल से हाउस को adjourn करना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. The Chair will be asked straightway. Please.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, आप हाउस की राय ले लीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me explain the position. ...*(Interruptions)*... नहीं, नहीं। ऐसे नहीं होगा। Somebody will ask the question: Why didn't you do it last week? There is an established practice. Let us stick to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Yes, Sir. Yes, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: You take the sense of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We can't make rules on the run. ...*(Interruptions)*... We can't make rules on the run. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): It will be very disrespectful to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us go by the established practice.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Correct. Correct, Sir. We support you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 91.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Food processing units in Maharashtra

*91. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra tops in the list of fruits producing States in the country, if so, the details in this regard;

- (b) the details of food processing units functioning in the State, district-wise;
- (c) whether a large quantity of fruits is wasted for want of food processing units in the State, if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to establish more food processing units in the State?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. As per data received from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, total fruit production in 2014-15 was highest in Maharashtra. The State is the largest producer of Grapes, Pomegranate and Custard Apple in the country.

(b) As per data received from National Statistical Organization under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the number of food processing units registered under the Factories Act, 1948, district-wise in Maharashtra as per Annual Survey of Industries, 2014-15 is given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) A study conducted by Central Institute of Post Harvesting Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana on behalf of Ministry of Food Processing Industries and submitted in March, 2015 indicates loss due to wastage in fruits in the range of 4.58-15.88% in the country based on random sampling of production data of 2012-13 from 107 districts from all States including Maharashtra. Losses in respect of the following fruits in Maharashtra were indicated in the study:

Fruits	Percentage Loss
Mango	4.91%
Citrus	12.97%
Banana	Less than 7.76%
Grapes	6.52%
Sapota	11.98%

(d) To promote more food processing units in the country including Maharashtra, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing Schemes of Mega Food

Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation, and Setting up/Modernization of Abattoirs. Under these schemes, grant-in-aid is given for setting up of projects. Under these schemes 4 Mega Food Parks projects, 27 integrated cold chain projects and two Abattoirs have been sanctioned by the Ministry in the State of Maharashtra.

Statement-I

District-wise number of units under food processing industries in Maharashtra in 2014-15

District	Number of Units
Ahmednagar	132
Akola	204
Amravati	78
Aurangabad	57
Seed	11
Bhandara	15
Buldhana	121
Chandrapur	41
Dhule	57
Gadchiroli	23
Gondia	24
Hingoli	14
Jalgaon	189
Jalna	48
Kolhapur	149
Latur	114
Mumbai	77
Mumbai Suburban	192
Nagpur	156
Nanded	40
Nandurbar	27
Nashik	134

District	Number of Units
Osmanabad	21
Parbhani	20
Pune	249
Raigad	127
Ratnagiri	56
Sangli	110
Satara	80
Sindhudurg	26
Solapur	104
Thane	276
Wardha	19
Washim	18
Yavatmal	38
Palghar	45
TOTAL	3092

Source: National Statistical Organization

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, Konkan region in Maharashtra is a coastal region with a large number of people depending on fishery as well as fruit production for livelihood. But they find it difficult to fetch the right prices from the market because there are not enough facilities for processing of fishes as well as horticultural products, including for the cold storage of fishes. What steps will be taken by the Ministry to increase the number of fishery and fruit processing units in Konkan region of Maharashtra?

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that the mandate of this Ministry is to create the infrastructure and to give certain grants to ensure that this infrastructure comes up. But the model is also such that whenever certain grants have to be given out, an expression of interest is invited. People from all over the country apply for this and according to the eligibility criteria, those people meeting that criteria are given sanction. So, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that at the moment in his State of Maharashtra, the Government has got a number of on-going cold chains, which is 27, and four mega food parks have also been sanctioned. Under the Technology Upgradation Scheme, which was discontinued

now, earlier before it was discontinued, around 504 units were given grants through the Ministry, and, out of that, for fishery, there were four people who had applied for units. They had applied. So, it was given for fishery. For fruits and vegetables, almost 90 units were given the subsidy. So, whenever people apply for, whatever they apply for, according to their demand, the grant is given.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, महाराष्ट्र में, खासकर कोंकण में, बड़े पैमाने पर आम पैदा होता है, जो sensitive होता है, और जल्दी खराब होता है। दूसरी बात यह है कि वहां fish का production भी बड़े पैमाने पर होता है, लेकिन वहां एक भी मेगा फूड पार्क नहीं है। आपने चार मेगा फूड पार्क के बारे में कहा है, लेकिन वहां एक भी मेगा फूड पार्क नहीं है। मेरा दूसरा सवाल है, ऐसा सुना जाता है कि आप food processing में 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment लाने वाले हैं। क्या यह बात सच है कि इसमें पेप्सी और कोका कोला जैसी कम्पनियां भी उतरेंगी और उनको भी पूरी 100 per cent सहूलियत दी जाएगी?

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल: सर, जैसा मैंने पहले बताया कि जो लोग इस सब्सिडी के लिए एप्लाई करते हैं, उन्हीं को यह सब्सिडी दी जा सकती है। It is according to the person applying for it. अगर आपके एरिया में से कोई इसके लिए एप्लाई करेगा, तो उनको भी जरूर कंसिडर किया जाएगा। It is not up to the Ministry; it is up to the people who are applying. It is given to the people who meet the eligibility criteria.

Secondly, regarding 100 per cent FDI in marketing in the food processing sector, I would like to clarify here that this 100 per cent FDI is only for food which is sourced from our country. इसका मतलब यह है कि पैसा विदेशों से आएगा, लेकिन उसके लिए इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर पूरा स्वदेशी बनेगा। इससे हमारे फार्मर्स को बहुत फायदा होगा।

आप यही कह रहे हैं कि वहां पर जो फ्रूट्स हैं, वेजिटेबल्स हैं, मरीन हैं, उनके लिए इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की कमी है और वह इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर क्रिएट करने में यह बहुत बड़ा एसेट प्रूव होगा।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir,

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you have a supplementary?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. We will take it up. Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, Malda in West Bengal is the highest mango producing district in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a question on Maharashtra.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister relates to the entire country. I can say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is Maharashtra-specific.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, kindly see para (c) of the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. You know the intent of the questioner.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, I have gone through the reply.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, in my reply, I have said, there is no data on loss due to wastage district-wise. There is only a basic line. ...*(Interruptions)*... from 'the entire country'.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, may I quote one line from the reply?

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, the Minister has said in her reply that "it indicates loss due to wastage in fruits in the range of 4.58 to 15.88 per cent in the country based on random sampling of production data of 2012-13 from 107 districts from all States including Maharashtra". Sir, I have a right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sukhendu Sekharji, as a very eminent lawyer, you can find fault in the writing of the answer, but the intent is very clear. And let the question be answered, that is relating to Maharashtra. You can always raise a question about any other State.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, kindly go through part (c) of the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have seen it. I have seen the question as it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, it is abundantly clear that it relates to 107 districts of the country, including Maharashtra. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Go to the question, not the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. Let us not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: What does it mean? Sir, if you do not allow me, I am not speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am only saying, the answer and the question should be specific.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, if you don't agree, I am sorry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let me see. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra.

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा: महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तरखंड में सेब, आलू और अदरक की पैदावार अत्यधिक होती है, परन्तु खाद्य प्रसंस्करण इकाइयां न होने की वजह से किसानों को बहुत ज्यादा नुकसान हो जाता है। क्या सरकार हमारे प्रदेश में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण इकाइयां स्थापित करने पर विचार करेगी?

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल: सर, मैं एक बार फिर से यही कहूंगी कि हमारे मंत्रालय में जब भी कोई स्कीम सैंक्शन होती है, तो एक expression of interest invite किया जाता है, जहां देश भर से लोग एप्लाइ कर सकते हैं। क्राईटीरिया यह है कि जो लोग एप्लाइ करते हैं, उनमें जिनकी highest eligibility होती है, उन्हीं को सैंक्शन किया जाता है।

उत्तराखंड में हमारे मंत्रालय की तरफ से 15 cold chains और 2 mega food parks सैंक्शन किए गए हैं, जिन पर काम चल रहा है। इनमें से कई cold chains तो बन चुके हैं और कई ongoing हैं। यह उनका टोटल नम्बर है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anand Sharma, is your question on this particular subject?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yes, Sir. It is on this particular subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the Minister, in her reply, has said that according to the Central Institute of Post Harvesting Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana, "it indicates loss due to wastage in fruits in the range of 4.58 to 15.88 per cent."

Sir, in this very House, and in the other House, the Ministry of Agriculture has given its Reports — the Agriculture Minister is also here — saying that the post-harvest losses of India, being the second largest producer of cereals...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Come to the question, on this particular subject.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yes, Sir. It talks about the post-harvest losses. Firstly, I have doubts about the correctness because there is a contradiction with what the Agriculture Ministry has reported to the Parliament. It is more than 10 to 12 per cent only for the cereals and pulses and in the range of 33 to 38 per cent for fruits and vegetables.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the data is wrong, please point it out.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, my specific question is this. Given the fact that the post-harvest losses is a major challenge...

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Maharashtra?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: All over the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; we are not talking of all over the country.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, Maharashtra is part of India. The Minister has said ...(*interruptions*)... allow me, Sir. I will just conclude. The Minister has just now said in the House about the 100 per cent FDI policy. My specific question, therefore, is that in 2012, an FDI of 51 per cent in retail was allowed and notified. Now, has a new policy come? Has the earlier notification on FDI multi-brand retail been withdrawn by the Government, or, are you enhancing it from 51 per cent to 100 per cent? I am asking this because she just informed the House.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, although FDI is not part of the question, I would still like to tell the hon. Member that in food processing, 100 per cent FDI through the automatic route is already allowed. The new FDI policy, which has been announced in the latest Budget, is to allow 100 per cent FDI in multi-brand marketing of foods grown and processed only in India. The big difference being from the FDI that you were bringing in is that you were bringing it in everything. We have ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, that is not correct. It is a wrong statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please; this is not a debate.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Let me finish. You were bringing it in multi-brand retail of all products. We are bringing it only in food and the other big difference being that you were allowing a big chunk to be brought from anywhere in the world ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, that is not true. That is a false statement. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Minister is misleading. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; listen. ...(*Interruptions*)... One minute ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: It is not a correct answer. It is misleading. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sharmaji, if it is a misleading answer, you know the procedure. It is not to be decided in debate. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please read that policy. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is misleading ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Is it not a fact that only ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, may I ask ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why is this unnecessary ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Is it not a fact that only 30 per cent ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid you know that there is no point of order in the Question Hour.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Yesterday, it was allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Only 30 per cent ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I am not ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: In our FDI policy, 100 per cent has to be sourced from within the country. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please read it before you make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister must read that before she makes such a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute ...*(Interruptions)*... Sharmaji, this is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Can the Minister, while replying to a question, make any allegation against a particular Member? This is my point of order because she is making allegation against one hon. Member. While replying, it cannot be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... That should be expunged from the record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will be examined if that is so.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I be allowed to rephrase my answer?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: The earlier FDI allowed things from other countries also to be brought in India. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Not fruits and vegetables.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sharmaji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Stop interjecting like this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: That is where I am humbly correcting the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the House is being misled, it is our duty then to correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If a misleading answer is given, there is a procedure for pointing that out in writing and then you hold the Department or the Minister responsible for misleading the House. But this is not to be decided in exchanges. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry; this is taking away the right of other Members to ask questions.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, may I just reiterate on this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude quickly.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: I would just reiterate that this FDI policy, which has been announced in the Budget, is only for food items grown and processed in India and 100 per cent sourced from India.

श्री अमर शंकर साबले: सर, महाराष्ट्र के कोंकण एरिया में आम और मछली ज्यादा पैदा होती है। वहां फूड प्रोसेसिंग की कोल्ड चेन रहेगी, तो वे बरबाद नहीं होंगे। तो क्या गवर्नमेंट वहां फूड प्रोसेसिंग की कोल्ड चेन लगा सकती है, स्थापित कर सकती है?

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल: सर, मैंने इसका जवाब पहले भी दे दिया है कि वहां पर जितने भी यूनिट्स दिये जाते हैं, उनके लिए अप्लाई करना होता है। जो अप्लाई करता है, जिस चीज के लिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, जो भी अप्लाई करता है और eligibility criteria fulfil करता है, उसे marking के हिसाब से वह दिया जाता है।

जैसा मैंने बताया कि महाराष्ट्र में ऑलरेडी 27 कोल्ड चेन और 4 मेगा फूड पार्क्स हैं। मैंने पहले ही माननीय सदस्य को जवाब दिया कि उनमें से 4 फिशरीज के लिए हैं। तो इसके लिए जैसे ही अप्लाई करेंगे, eligibility criteria में, उन सबको equal platform पर कंसीडर किया जाता है।

हाई स्पीड रेल नेटवर्क

***92. श्री हरिवंश :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या रेलवे हाई-स्पीड रेल नेटवर्क की उच्च लागत को ध्यान में रखते हुए, इसे लागू करने की स्थिति में है;

(ख) हाई-स्पीड रेल नेटवर्क को आरंभ करने की बजाय रेलगाड़ियों की मौजूदा गति को बढ़ाने के लिए रेलवे द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की जा रही है;

(ग) देश में ऐसे कितने हाई-स्पीड रेल नेटवर्क स्थापित किए जाने का विचार है और इन्हें कब तक शुरू कर दिया जाएगा; और

(घ) क्या यह नेटवर्क देश के लोगों के लिए आर्थिक दृष्टि से उपयोगी साबित होगा?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनोज सिन्हा): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) दिसम्बर 2015 में मुंबई-अहमदाबाद हाई स्पीड रेल परियोजना को रियायती शर्तों पर कुल परियोजना लागत के माध्यम से 81% तक जापानी वित्तीय सहयोग से कार्यान्वित करने का विनिश्चय किया गया है।

(ख) भारतीय रेलवे ने गाड़ियों की मौजूदा गति को बढ़ाना सतत् प्रक्रिया है। इसके अलावा, भारतीय रेलवे ने गाड़ियों की गति 160/200 कि.मी.प्र.घं. तक बढ़ाने के लिए नौ गलियारे भी चिह्नित किए हैं। नई दिल्ली-आगरा खंड पर 160 कि.मी.प्र.घं. की गति से यात्री गाड़ी सेवाएं चलाने का विनिश्चित किया गया है।

(ग) मुंबई-अहमदाबाद हाई स्पीड रेल परियोजना के अलावा, किसी भी अन्य हाई स्पीड रेल परियोजना को क्रियान्वयन के लिए अनुमोदित नहीं किया गया है।

(घ) जी हां। मुंबई-अहमदाबाद हाई स्पीड रेल परियोजना को प्रतिफल की 12% आर्थिक दर से यातायात क्षमता एवं संरक्षा बढ़ाने, यात्रा समय एवं प्रदूषण घटाने के लिए उपयोगी समझा गया है, इसके अलावा, इससे भारत में विनिर्माण में भी बढ़ोतरी होगी।

High speed rail network

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

(a) whether Railways are in a position to implement the high speed rail network in view of its high cost;

(b) the action being taken by Railways to increase the existing speed of trains instead of starting high speed rail network;

(c) the number of such high speed rail networks proposed to be set up in the country and by when they will be started; and

(d) whether this network would prove to be economically useful for the people of the country?

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

Statement

(a) It has been decided in December, 2015 to take up implementation of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project with Japanese financial assistance to the tune of approximately 81% of the total project cost on concessional terms.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Increasing the existing speed of trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Further, Indian Railways have also identified nine corridors for upgradation of speeds to 160/200 kmph. It has been decided to introduce passenger train services at 160 kmph on New Delhi-Agra section.

(c) Besides Mumbai- Ahmedabad high speed rail project, no other high speed rail project has been approved for implementation.

(d) Yes, Sir. Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project with almost 12% Economic Rate of Return is considered useful for enhancing transport capacity and safety, reducing the travel time and pollution, besides leading to growth of manufacturing in India.

श्री हरिवंश: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सूचनानुसार मुंबई-अहमदाबाद बुलेट ट्रेन का आरंभिक प्रस्तावित खर्च 98 हजार करोड़ रुपए बताया गया है। हालांकि रेल बजट 2015-16 में रेल यात्रियों की संख्या में चार फीसदी की कमी आई है। यात्रियों से रेल को होने वाली आमद में भी बजट अनुमान से 10 फीसदी की कमी आई है। 2015-16 के बजट के अनुसार सबअर्बन और नॉन-सबअर्बन, दोनों यात्री ट्रैफिक में कमी आई है। लगभग 2 करोड़ यात्री घट गए हैं यानी यात्रियों की संख्या घट रही है। यात्रियों से रेल को होने वाली आय घट रही है, पर इतने बड़े निवेश पर rate of return या इसकी economic viability क्या है? साथ ही साथ बुलेट ट्रेन में प्रति किलोमीटर कॉस्ट इन्वेस्टमेंट और हाई स्पीड ट्रेन में प्रति किलोमीटर कॉस्ट इन्वेस्टमेंट क्या है और यह कौन-से देश के अनुकूल है?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, उसी में उत्तर भी निहित है। इन्होंने कहा कि यात्रियों की संख्या घट रही है। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि रेल से जो यातायात है, वह रोड या हवाई जहाज की ओर जा रहा है और इसलिए मैं समझता हूँ कि हाई स्पीड रेल उसका एक स्पष्ट उत्तर है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जैसा कि हमारी सरकार ने चुनावी घोषणा पत्र में भी यह बात कही थी और मैं माननीय सदस्य से विनम्रतापूर्वक कहना चाहता हूँ कि हाई स्पीड रेल कॉरपोरेशन मुंबई-अहमदाबाद कॉरिडोर बनाने का जो निर्णय लिया गया है, उसमें पिछली बार प्रधान मंत्री जी जब जापान गए थे, तब जापान सरकार ने खर्च में 81 परसेंट सहायता करने की बात कही थी, वह इस स्पेसिफिक प्रोजेक्ट के लिए कही गई थी। जो शेष बीस प्रतिशत का खर्च है, उसमें आधा पैसा भारतीय रेल लगाएगी और आधा पैसा गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र की सरकार लगाएगी, इसलिए मोटे तौर पर जो भारतीय रेल को खर्च करना है, वह आने वाले सात वर्षों में जब प्रोजेक्ट शुरू होगा, तब 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए खर्च करना है यानी एवरेज 15-16 सौ करोड़ रुपए प्रति वर्ष खर्च करना है और उसको भारतीय रेल अपने resources से खर्च कर सकती है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि देश में बहुत से ऐसे लोग हैं, जो चाहते हैं कि इस देश में हाई स्पीड रेल भी चले और तेज गति से चले। मुंबई और अहमदाबाद, दो विकसित नगर हैं, बीच में अनेक ऐसे नगर हैं, जहां औद्योगिक विकास हुआ है। आपने मोटे तौर पर जो खर्च जानना चाहा है, वह इस परियोजना में 140 करोड़ रुपए प्रति किलोमीटर का अनुमानित खर्च माना गया है।

श्री हरिवंश: सर, मैंने उत्तर पढ़ा, उत्तर में स्थिति बहुत स्पष्ट नहीं है। पूरी दुनिया में पीपीपी के तहत चलने वाली बुलेट ट्रेनें घाटे में हैं। रेल विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि जब तक हाई स्पीड ट्रेनों से देश के सारे रूटों को कनेक्ट नहीं किया जाता, तब तक एक परियोजना का सफल होना मुश्किल है। इससे होने वाले पर्यावरण, noise pollution और विस्थापन के नुकसान अलग हैं और regional imbalance देश में अलग है। क्या मुंबई-अहमदाबाद बुलेट ट्रेन परियोजना बनाते वक्त इन मुद्दों पर गौर किया गया है?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, निश्चित रूप से इन मुद्दों पर गौर करके ही निर्णय लिया गया है। जब मुंबई-अहमदाबाद कॉरिडोर बन कर तैयार हो जाएगा, तब जो बात 2014-15 के रेलवे बजट में उस समय के मंत्री जी ने कही थी, डायमंड क्वाड्रिलेटरल का अध्ययन भी किया जा रहा है और फिर उस अनुभव के आधार पर आगे का निर्णय किया जाएगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसमें कार्बन एमिशन भी सबसे कम होगा, तेज गति से लोग जाएंगे, अनेक उपनगर बसेंगे, औद्योगिक विकास भी होगा और जनाकांक्षा की पूर्ति भी होगी।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, hon. Minister has just given a number and my question relates only to the number. He has said that the Ahmedabad-Mumbai train will cost ₹ 140 crores per kilometre. Railway experts have estimated that the per kilometre cost of Ahmedabad-Mumbai, a 543-kilometre route, is anywhere between 180 to 200 crores of rupees per kilometre. So, firstly, I would say that the figure of 140 crores per kilometre is a gross under-estimation. Secondly, the question which Mr. Harivansh asked is this. How does this compare with the cost of upgrading into a high-speed train? But that question remains unanswered. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, as opposed to a bullet train, which costs anywhere between 140 to 200 crores of rupees per kilometre, what the cost of upgrading the existing network is, which may be more economical.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति जी, मैंने जो उत्तर दिया था, उसमें मैंने लगभग 140 करोड़ का जिक्र किया था। वह सही तौर पर 140 होगा, ऐसा मैंने नहीं कहा था। वह लगभग आकलन है, जो मैंने बताया था। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब वह कार्य पूरा होगा तो सही कीमत भी पूरा देश जान जाएगा।

दूसरी बात, जो existing network है, उसमें speed raising की जो बात है, वह दूसरा विषय है और वह माननीय हरिवंश जी ने जानना नहीं चाहा था। वह काम ऑलरेडी दिल्ली-आगरा खंड पर शुरू हो चुका है और उसकी अनुमति कमिशनर, रेलवे सेफ्टी ने भी दे दी है। चूंकि अभी फॉग का सीजन था, लेकिन अब मैं समझता हूँ कि आने वाले 10-15 दिनों में दिल्ली-आगरा के लिए गतिमान एक्सप्रेस 160 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की तेज रफ्तार से गाड़ी चलने वाली है। ऐसे और भी आठ रूट्स हैं, जिनको आईडेंटिफाई किया गया है और जिन पर अध्ययन चल रहा है। उनका एक बार अध्ययन पूरा हो जाए, तो वहां भी हम raising of speed का काम शीघ्र करेंगे।

श्री सभापति: श्री अहमद हसन। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री हरिवंश: सर, मैंने पूछा था कि हाई स्पीड ट्रेनों का ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल खत्म हो गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

कई माननीय सदस्य: सर, जवाब नहीं आया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, सवाल सीधा सा है कि बुलेट ट्रेन की तुलना में जो अपग्रेडेशन है, उसकी पर यूनिट कॉस्ट कितनी आती है? इसका जवाब ही नहीं आया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, बुलेट ट्रेन या हाई स्पीड ट्रेन की जो कॉस्ट है, वह मैंने मोटे तौर पर बताई। अभी मेरे पास speed raising cost का आँकड़ा नहीं है, उसे मैं माननीय सदस्य को उपलब्ध करा दूंगा।

श्री अहमद हसन: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि रेलवे में यात्री घट रहे हैं, यह बहुत चिन्ता की बात है। क्या इसके बारे में रेलवे ने कोई समीक्षा की है या कोई सर्वे किया है? दूसरी चीज़ मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ...

श्री सभापति: आप एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री अहमद हसन: सर, यह इसके साथ ही है। ठीक है, सर।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, मूल प्रश्न से इनके पूरक प्रश्न का कोई संबंध नहीं है।

श्री अहमद हसन: यह आपने ही कहा है। आपने कहा कि यात्री घट रहे हैं, इसलिए आप हाई स्पीड ट्रेन्स की तरफ जा रहे हैं।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: मैंने यह नहीं कहा। मैंने उनके जवाब में यह बात कही।

श्री अहमद हसन: आपने उनके जवाब में ही यह कहा।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: यह सच है, क्योंकि यह पार्लियामेंट में रखा जा चुका है कि यात्रियों की संख्या घटी है। उसके कई कारण हैं और उन कारणों के विस्तार में मुझे जाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। एक तो देश में हाईवेज़ की स्थिति बहुत अच्छी हुई है, मैं मानता हूँ कि उसके कारण भी संख्या घटी है। दूसरा मूल कारण मैं यह समझता हूँ कि रेलवे under investment की शिकार रही है, लेकिन आज investment बढ़ा है। कई जगहों से ऐसी शिकायतें भी आई हैं कि लोग fake टिकट भी लेकर चलते हैं, इसलिए हमने इस बार बजट में "बार कोडिंग" के इंतजाम की घोषणा की है, ताकि लोग fake टिकट लेकर न चल सकें। उस दिशा में रेलवे उपाय कर रही है। खास तौर से, उपनगरीय रेलों में यात्रियों की संख्या ज्यादा घटी है। Reserved segment में कोई घटोतरी नहीं हुई है। जो दैनिक यात्री चलते हैं, उनकी संख्या में कमी हुई है और मैं समझता हूँ कि उसका मुख्य कारण हाईवेज़ का बेहतर होना है।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: माननीय सभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने हाई स्पीड ट्रेन और दिल्ली-आगरा खंड के बारे में जो बताया, उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। मंत्री जी, आपने कहा है कि ऐसे आठ खंडों पर हाई स्पीड ट्रेन्स चलाने के लिए सर्वे किए गए हैं। वे आठ खंड कौन-कौन से हैं? अगर आप यह बताने की मेहरबानी करेंगे तो अच्छा होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति जी, एक मिनट, मैं अभी शेष खंडों का विवरण बताता हूँ।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने लिखित उत्तर में बताया है कि ऐसे नौ गलियारे चिन्हित किए गए हैं, जबकि अब ये आठ खंड ही बता रहे हैं। इन्होंने एक और खंड घटा दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप थोड़ा सब्र कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: दिल्ली-चंडीगढ़ खंड के अध्ययन का कार्य प्रारंभ हो गया है और उसे हाल ही में किसी को दिया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Sir, in the Supreme Court we have a system where if the Counsel is not ready, the case is passed over. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Sir, the first semi high speed corridor is Delhi-Agra, second is Delhi-Chandigarh, third is Mysore-Bangalore-Chennai, Delhi-Kanpur, Nagpur-Bilaspur, Mumbai-Goa, Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Chennai-Hyderabad, Nagpur-Secunderabad corridors, Sir.

Legislation on agriculture tenancy

*93. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government proposes to prepare a draft Agricultural Tenancy Bill as a model legislation for guidance of the States;

(b) if so, why a need was felt by the Central Government when State Governments are competent to enact legislations on the subject and proved competent by dealing with the matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that Central Government desires to introduce private sector companies in the development of agricultural lands; and

(d) the essential features of the provisions that the Central Government has in mind for inclusion in the proposed draft Bill?

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

Statement

(a) Yes, NITI Aayog has constituted an Expert Group on 7th September, 2015 to prepare a draft model Agricultural Land Leasing Bill in consultation with State Governments.

(b) to (d) The Land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States as per Entry 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory nature.

There was consultation meeting with the Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary Revenue/Land Departments of the State Governments under the Chairmanship of Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog on 24th August, 2015. As a result of deliberations and on the request of representatives of State Governments, it was decided that the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog will constitute a committee to suggest a model land leasing law to the States. Expert Group is constituted by NITI Aayog as a follow up of this decision. At present, Expert Group is in process of consultation with different stakeholders and preparation of draft model Bill. The final draft of model Land Leasing Bill will be prepared after due consideration of the views of farmers and farming communities.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: This NITI Aayog has been constituted by removing the Planning Commission. Specially, they wanted to eradicate the name of Jawaharlal Nehru from the scene. Therefore, NITI Aayog has been constituted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I am coming to the question, Sir. Agriculture is a State subject. Since Independence, several legislations have been prepared by State Governments and effectively implemented including land reforms. इस टाइम पर ऐसी क्या जरूरत पड़ी? Why was a meeting called by the Planning Commission or NITI Aayog, whatever it is? What was the need to call for a meeting of Secretaries and other officers — officers, who come from the State Governments, and are, normally, opposed to touching of any State subject — for the purpose of deciding a State subject? Why has this issue come? Why has an expert committee been constituted? Is it to allow the private sector in our agricultural fields and destroy workers and farmers? Please make it clear.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सभापति महोदय, चाहे नीति आयोग हो या प्लानिंग कमीशन हो, सवाल है कि नीयत कैसी हो? अब आप किस नीयत से देखते हैं — उसको नीति आयोग के रूप में देखते हैं या किसी और रूप में देखते हैं, यह आपके देखने का नज़रिया है।

जहां तक आपका दूसरा सवाल है कि क्यों जरूरत पड़ी। आपको ध्यान होगा कि 2004 में स्वामीनाथन कमेटी बनी थी और उस कमेटी ने 201 सिफारिशें की थीं। उसके बाद 2007 में किसान आयोग का गठन किया गया, उसमें उन 201 बिंदुओं को लिया गया। उन 201 बिंदुओं में से 192 पर कार्य पूर्ण हो चुका है और जो शेष 9 बिंदु बचे थे, उनमें एक बिंदु यह भी था — आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी जब आप मंत्री थे, तो आपकी अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनी थी। इसकी क्यों जरूरत पड़ी,

[श्री राधा मोहन सिंह]

माननीय सदस्य का उत्तर बीच में किसी समय दे देंगे, तो शायद वे समझ जाएंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप सुन लीजिए। हमसे पहले आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी ने ...**(व्यवधान)**... 2007 में जो किसान नीति बनी थी, उसमें किसानों के सशक्तिकरण के लिए परिसम्पत्ति सुधार के लिए बिंदु था। उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए इन्होंने एक कमेटी बनाई और वे स्वयं उसके अध्यक्ष थे। वह इस दिशा में आगे बढ़े थे और आगे बढ़ने के बाद आपने इस दिशा में कुछ काम भी किया था।

श्री शान्ताराम नायक: आप private sector के बारे में बताइए।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैं उत्तर दे रहा हूँ, चूंकि मैं आज मंत्री हूँ और उत्तर मुझे देना है, नहीं तो इसका असली उत्तर ये पहले दे चुके होंगे। उस समय न हम थे, न शायद वह थे, हमने इसको पढ़ा है, इसलिए पता चल गया। उन्होंने पढ़ा नहीं है, इसलिए उनको पता नहीं होगा, इसके बारे में बताना जरूरी है। इस पर आपने काम भी शुरू किया और उसमें कुछ सुझाव भी दिए थे। आपका सुझाव था कि लीजिंग से प्रतिबंध हटाना चाहिए। लीजिंग पर 12 वर्ष से अधिक समय तक कोई खेती करता है, तो मालिक बन जाता है, इसको भी हटाना चाहिए। इसी प्रकार महिलाओं की भागीदारी सहित कई प्रकार के सुझाव दिए। परिस्थिति कुछ ऐसी बनी कि फिर आप उस काम को आगे बढ़ाने की स्थिति में नहीं रहे। उसके बाद दूसरी सरकार आई। आपने जो कुछ किया था, उसी को आगे बढ़ाने का काम इस सरकार ने शुरू किया है। हमने अपने उत्तर में भी साफ लिखा है कि यह राज्यों का विषय है और भारत सरकार की भूमिका सलाहकार की है। उन्होंने जो शुरू किया था, उसी के लिए फिर नीति आयोग के द्वारा कमेटी बनाई गई है, same वही उद्देश्य है, वही लक्ष्य है, वही विषय है और अगर किसी की समझदारी में यह बात नहीं आती है कि यह राज्य का विषय है, तो इसमें समझने वाले का कसूर होगा। यह राज्य का विषय है। भारत सरकार इसमें सलाहकार की भूमिका अदा करती है। जयराम रमेश जी, किसान आयोग का या स्वामीनाथन आयोग का मात्र यह लक्ष्य था कि वे किसान, जो स्वयं खेती नहीं कर पाते हैं, दूसरे को खेती करने के लिए देना चाहते हैं या दूसरा खेती करने वाला लेना चाहता है। लेकिन अपने देश में इस पर भय रहता है। अलग-अलग राज्यों के अलग-अलग नियम हैं कि हम अपनी जमीन देंगे, तो हमारा मालिकाना हक समाप्त हो जाएगा। यह भय कैसे दूर होगा? इसके लिए आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी ने राज्यों के साथ बैठक की थी और एक टास्क फोर्स भी थी। अंतर यही है, उस समय वे अध्यक्ष थे। इस समय अध्यक्ष मेरे मंत्रालय का है भी नहीं। इस बार मंत्रालय के जो मंत्री हैं, वे उसके अध्यक्ष नहीं हैं। नीति आयोग के जो हक साहब हैं, वे उसके अध्यक्ष हैं। उसी काम को आगे बढ़ाया जा रहा है। यह सिर्फ किसान की बात है, कृषि की बात है। यह कंपनी वाली बीमारी, इंडस्ट्री वाली बीमारी का * यदि किसी पर सवार है तो उस * का कसूर होगा, उस व्यक्ति का कसूर होगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसमें इसका कोई कसूर नहीं है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Second supplementary.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, my second supplementary is this.
...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सभापति जी * शब्द अनपार्लियामेंटरी है ...(व्यवधान)... Sir, * is an uparliamentary word. * शब्द को एक्सपंज किया जाए ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is unparliamentary, it will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: इंडस्ट्री का इससे कोई लेना-देना नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... यदि किसी के दिल में यह सवाल है ...(व्यवधान)... तो यह उसका कसूर होगा ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Perhaps a better expression could have been used. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैं किसी के ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं बोल रहा हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... सर, यह बात बहुत लोगों के दिमाग में है ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उनके लिए बोल रहा हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... यह * हर जगह ले जाना ...(व्यवधान)... यह किसान की समस्या है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी, बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us confine ourselves to parliamentary expressions.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: इसका इंडस्ट्री से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... जिनके सिर पर * सवार है ...(व्यवधान)... उनसे विनती है कि उसको इससे न जोड़ें। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the time for making speeches. Second supplementary, please.

श्री के. सी. त्यागी: सभापति जी, यह अपने सहयोगियों को संबोधित करने की भाषा नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... यह अनपार्लियामेंटरी है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मेरा बहुत साफ कथन है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सहयोगियों को नहीं बोल रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उनके लिए बोल रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... यहां * हर जगह ले जाना ...(व्यवधान)... यह किसान की बड़ी भयंकर समस्या है। ...(व्यवधान)... इसका इंडस्ट्री से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है, ...(व्यवधान)... लेकिन जिनके सिर पर * सवार है, उनसे मेरी विनती है कि उसको इससे न जोड़ें। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा बहुत साफ उत्तर है ...(व्यवधान)... 'शंका' शब्द कहिए ...(व्यवधान)... लेकिन इस शंका से, इस भय से ...(व्यवधान)... इस भय के कारण ...(व्यवधान)... दूर रखने के कारण ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के. सी. त्यागी: किसी सांसद के लिए ...(व्यवधान)... किसी मंत्री को इस तरह की भाषा इस्तेमाल करने का हक नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: त्यागी जी, बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... I think the hon. Minister ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: इस भय से ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस भय के कारण ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Minister. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please sit down now? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के. सी. त्यागी: इन पर * सवार है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: स्टेटमेंट की बात ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is not an occasion for making speeches. You answer the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is all. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, he has to withdraw it. What is it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mistryji, please. We will take care of that. ...*(Interruptions)*... If any unparliamentary expression has been used, it will be examined and withdrawn. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, the word is expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*... Second supplementary, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, my second supplementary is this. किसानों को कत्ल करके, मारकर ये * को अपने फार्म में इंट्रोड्यूज करने वाले हैं। * is not unparliamentary. इन * को आप अपने खेतों में क्यों रखें, यह बताइए? यह प्राइवेट सेक्टर का * क्यों रह रहा है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

श्री शान्तराम नायक: इन्होंने बताया कि कंसल्टेशन करेंगे। क्या villages में कंसल्टेशन करेंगे या तालुका लेवल पर कंसल्टेशन करेंगे या डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर करेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... कहां और कब कंसल्टेशन शुरू होगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह * लाने के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सभापति जी, मैं फिर कहूंगा कि यह जो टास्क फोर्स है, जो आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी के समय में बनी है, इसका मूल उद्देश्य किसान और खेत का है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not relevant what he did. Please answer the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: इसका किसान और खेत से संबंध है। देश में, इस संबंध में यदि किसी को कोई भी शंका है या * शब्द यदि असंसदीय है, पूरे देश के अंदर किसी को भी शंका है ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं * शब्द नहीं बोल रहा हूं, यदि शंका है, सवाल है, तो वह शंका हटनी चाहिए। जहां तक, किस स्तर पर राय करने की बात है, तो राज्य के जो कृषि अधिकारी हैं, उनके साथ बात करने की बात है। क्योंकि यह राज्य का विषय है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't use the word.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: तालुका और उस लेवल पर उनका काम बनता है ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम तो राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों के साथ टास्क फोर्स में बैठने का काम करते हैं।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, a few days back, in the very same House, a serious concern was expressed about the transfer of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. A question was also asked from the Government whether the Government has evolved a land use policy in consultation with the State Governments. But, in the mean time, the Government tells the House and the people that the Government has constituted an expert committee and is working on a model land leasing Bill. What is the purpose of this Bill? Are you under some pressure from corporate houses or big business houses? Make it clear. Be truthful to the country and the Parliament. What is the purpose?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि सदन में जो विवरण पटल पर रखा जाता है, कोई भी माननीय सदस्य जब प्रश्न पूछते हैं, तो उसको जरूर पढ़ते होंगे। इसमें बहुत साफ-साफ लिखा है कि संविधान की सातवीं अनुसूची की सूची 2 की प्रविष्टि 18 के अनुसार 'भूमि और इसका प्रबंधन' विषय राज्यों के क्षेत्राधिकार में आता है। भूमि सुधार के क्षेत्र में केन्द्र सरकार की भूमिका केवल सलाहकार की होती है। यह साफ-साफ है, जो हमने सभा पटल पर रखा है।

दूसरा, जो किसान खेती नहीं करता है, वह दूसरे किसान को खेती करने के लिए जमीन देने में डरता है। इसलिए देश में 12 लाख हेक्टेयर खेती योग्य जमीन पड़ी हुई है। अलग-अलग राज्यों में अलग-अलग कानून हैं। इसलिए इसमें एकरूपता लाने के लिए और यह भय दूर करने के लिए कैसे कानून राज्यों को बनाने चाहिए, इसके लिए बैठ कर बातचीत करने का काम आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी ने शुरू किया था और फिर नीति आयोग ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Raja, please. Now, Shri Ahmed Patel.

श्री अहमद पटेल: सर, मंत्री महोदय ने अभी स्वामीनाथन कमिटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में उल्लेख किया। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि जो 201 सिफारिशें थीं, उनमें से 192 सिफारिशों पर काम हो रहा है, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी ने स्वामीनाथन कमिटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में जो वादा किया था कि यह रिपोर्ट 100 per cent in toto accept की जाएगी और किसान अपनी खेती पर जो खर्च करता है, वह वाद करने के बाद 50 परसेंट मुनाफा किसान को मिलेगा, क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी का यह वादा पूरा किया जाएगा?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, यह प्रश्न से जुड़ा हुआ विषय नहीं है, फिर भी मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि स्वामीनाथन आयोग की जो सिफारिशें थीं, उनमें से 9 बिन्दु लागू नहीं हुए थे। एक की चर्चा तो आप सुन रहे हैं, उस दिशा में आपकी सरकार भी बढ़ी थी और हम भी बढ़ रहे हैं। जो दूसरा विषय आपने उठाया, प्रधान मंत्री जी के भाषण का, हमारे घोषणा पत्र का, उसमें बहुत साफ है कि किसानों की लागत बढ़े। यही हमारे घोषणापत्र में था और उस दिशा में हमने काम किया है। हमने काम यह किया है कि इस देश के अन्दर किसानों का जो लागत मूल्य है, वह कम हो। इसके लिए हमने कौन-कौन सी

योजना चलाई है, उसकी चर्चा के लिए कोई अलग दिन रखिए। दूसरा, उसको उच्च पैदावार की रोपण सामग्री और बीज प्राप्त हों। अगर इस पर भी चर्चा करनी है, तो इसके लिए कोई अलग दिन रखिए। हमने तीसरा काम किया है राष्ट्रीय कृषि मंडी के बारे में कि उसको अच्छा मूल्य मिले। चौथा काम समय-समय पर समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाने का है। ये चारों विषय हैं कि इन चारों विषयों पर आप चार दिन अलग-अलग चर्चा करिए, सरकार इसके लिए तैयार है। इससे आपको पता चलेगा कि हम किसानों का लाभ बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कर रहे हैं।

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, the hon. Minister is saying that there is twelve lakh hectares of land which is not under cultivation at this point of time. Now, the point is that they are talking about cooperative federalism. This is a * on the Indian Constitution because they are creating windows intended to encroach upon the State subject. The point is, this will result straightway in the corporatisation of agriculture. The land under food cultivation is declining. Under this condition, the UPA Government had passed the National Food Security Bill. Since the land under cultivation is changing from food cultivation to non-food cultivation and non-food crops, what will be the implications of such kind of legislations, if at all you make, by creating the window for the national food security which is the historical scheme introduced by the UPA Government?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, मैंने पहले भी कहा और जरूर किसी न किसी गाँव से सम्बन्ध होगा कि गाँव में मेरा पूरा परिवार ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उसी का उत्तर दे रहा हूँ। हम पूरे परिवार के साथ शहर में चले आए। मेरे पास एक एकड़ जमीन है। हम गाँव में किसी को खेती के लिए जमीन इसलिए नहीं देते हैं कि उसमें 12 साल तक वह उसके कब्जे में रह गया या कई-कई राज्यों में अलग-अलग कानून हैं कि यदि वह उसके कब्जे में रह गया और वह खेती करता रहा, तो हमारा मालिकाना हक समाप्त हो जाएगा। इस भय से खेती योग्य जमीन में खेती नहीं हो रही है और इसी भय को दूर करने के लिए हर राज्य से हमारी बात हो रही है। पहले भी सरकार ने यही प्रयास किया कि ऐसा कौन सा तरीका निकले, जिससे यह जो जमीन है, इस पर भी खेती हो सके। इसका लक्ष्य सिर्फ इतना ही है।

Compensation to victims of rail accidents

*94. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate and amount of compensation paid by Railways to victims of rail accidents during last three years and the number of compensation claim cases pending with Railways as on 1 December, 2015;

(b) whether discussions have been held with insurance companies for insurance of rail passengers, if so, details thereof along with agreement(s), if any, signed in this regard; and

(c) whether Government proposes to set up independent safety regulator for this purpose and if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor and by when a decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

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

Statement

(a) The rate of compensation paid by Railways to the victims of various rail accidents is ₹ 04 lakhs for death, and ₹ 32,000/- to ₹ 04 lakhs for injury (depending upon the gravity and nature of injury). Amount of compensation paid by Railways during last 3 years is as under:

(Amount Figures in Lakhs of ₹)	
Year	Compensation Paid
2012-2013	318.85
2013-2014	149.22
2014-2015	127.48
TOTAL	595.55

The number of compensation claim cases in various rail accidents pending with Railways as on 01.12.2015 is 579.

(b) Yes, Sir. Preliminary discussions have been held with seven (07) Public and Private Insurance Companies on 09.02.2016. However no decision has been taken in this regard so far.

(c) High Level Safety Review Committee (Kakodkar Committee) had given a recommendation to set up Railway Safety Authority independent of Indian Railway Board under the Government. However this recommendation has not been found acceptable to the Ministry of Railways as the institution of Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) fulfills the purpose.

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, under civil law compensation is assessed on the basis of age, monthly earning and status of the victim. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Railways apply this formula or not?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, रेलवे ने सिविल लॉ के हिसाब से कानून नहीं बनाए हैं। समय-समय पर हम इन कानूनों में बदलाव करते रहे हैं। आज की तारीख में Railway Claim Tribunal ने दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मृत्यु के लिए 4 लाख रुपये और घायलों के लिए 32,000 रुपये से लेकर 4 लाख रुपये

तक का कम्पनसेशन देने का फैसला किया है। आगे भी हम इस पर गंभीरता से विचार कर रहे हैं, यह प्रक्रिया चल रही है। आने वाले समय में जो फैसला होगा, माननीय सदस्य एवं सदन को हम उससे अवगत कराएंगे।

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, my first question has not been answered. Sir, let me put my second supplementary. I understand that Railways are discussing with public and private insurance companies for insurance of rail passengers. I would like to know the basis of discussion and whether the passenger will have to bear the burden of insurance charges. Can he avail the option for insuring himself for a higher amount?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदय, अपने बजट भाषण में रेल मंत्री जी ने इसका जिक्र किया है। रेलवे अधिकारियों की सात बीमा कम्पनियों से बातचीत हुई है, जिसका विवरण मैं अभी उपलब्ध नहीं करवा सकता हूँ, लेकिन जब एक बार इस पर फैसला हो जाएगा, तो रेल यात्रियों के लिए यह ऑप्शनल होगा। यदि वे चाहेंगे तो टिकट के साथ बीमा क्लेम के लिए भी प्रीमियम भरकर वे अपना बीमा ले सकते हैं। जब विस्तार से पूरा विवरण बन जाएगा, तो वह सदन को बता दिया जाएगा।

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ। यदि हम प्रश्न 'ग' का उत्तर देखें, तो इसमें लिखा है, "उच्चस्तरीय संरक्षा समीक्षा समिति (काकोडकर समिति) ने सरकार के अधीन और भारतीय रेलवे बोर्ड से स्वतंत्र, रेल संरक्षा प्राधिकरण स्थापित करने की सिफारिश की थी।"

माननीय सभापति महोदय, इसके लिए सिर्फ काकोडकर समिति ही नहीं बनी थी, अन्य अनेक कमेटियाँ भी बनी थी और उन कमेटियों ने भी इस पर अपनी-अपनी रिकमेंडेशंस दी थीं। हर कमेटी पर लाखों रुपये खर्च हुए थे और रिकमेंडेशन आ जाने के बाद रेल मंत्रालय का यह कहना है कि हमने उसे स्वीकार नहीं किया।

महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि एक के बाद एक कमेटी बनी और सबसे आखिर में काकोडकर कमेटी बनी। उससे पहले चार कमेटियाँ और बन चुकी थीं और चारों कमेटियों ने अपनी-अपनी रिकमेंडेशंस में मुआवज़ा देने की ज़रूरत बताई थी, उसमें उन्होंने कहा था कि मुआवज़े के लिए रेल मंत्रालय के सिवाए अलग से एक विभाग बनाया जाए, जिसके आधार पर मुआवज़ा मिले। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से इतना जरूर जानना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर कमेटियों के गठन के पीछे रेल मंत्रालय का जो उद्देश्य था, उस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति हुई या नहीं हुई?

दूसरा, आपने लिखा है कि रेलवे में अभी भी 579 मामले लम्बित हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ, अगर हम इस बात को मानवीय आधार पर देखें कि आज से चार या पाँच साल पहले रेलवे के जो एक्सिडेंट्स हुए, वे क्लेम करते-करते थक गए। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये 579 मामले कितने वर्षों से लम्बित थे और किस-किस वर्ष में कितने मामले थे? क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय इस बात की जानकारी देंगे?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य हमारे सदन के अत्यंत वरिष्ठ एवं अनुभवी सदस्य हैं। जब काकोडकर समिति का गठन हुआ था, मैं समझता हूँ कि उस बात को काफी वर्ष हो चुके हैं। काकोडकर समिति की संस्तुतियों को लागू न करने का दोष केवल हम पर या हमारी सरकार पर ही नहीं है, हमसे पहले भी अनेक रेल मंत्री ऐसे हुए, जो उस समिति की सिफारिशों को लागू नहीं

कर सके। यह फैसला रेलवे ने उसी समय लिया था। आज संरक्षा से सम्बन्धित काम को Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety कर रहे हैं और ठीक ढंग से कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, काकोडकर कमेटी की दो संस्तुतियां और हैं, Railway Safety Authority and Railway Research and Development Council. इसे बताने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि यह काफी पहले का निर्णय है।

माननीय सदस्य ने जो दूसरी जानकारी मांगी है कि रेलवे में मुआवज़ों से सम्बन्धित 579 मामले लम्बित हैं, यह ठीक है। रेलवे ट्रिब्यूनल्स देश भर में फैले हुए हैं और उनमें कई रिक्तियां भी हैं। वह एक क्वासी ज्युडिशियल अथॉरिटी है। निश्चित रूप से समय-समय पर हमारे बोर्ड से निर्देश जाता है। जनरल मैनेजर्स को यह निर्देश दिया जाता है कि जैसे ही इस तरह की कोई घटना होती है, तो 15 दिन के अन्दर दुर्घटना से पीड़ित परिवार को सूचना दें और तीव्र गति से कार्रवाई करें। इसमें कानूनी प्रक्रिया में विलम्ब होता है, लेकिन इसके बावजूद, हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि जल्दी से जल्दी उसका निपटारा हो।

माननीय सदस्य ने 579 केसेज का विवरण मांगा है कि वे मामले कब-कब के हैं, तो मैं माननीय सदस्य को लिखित में उत्तर दे दूंगा कि कौन सा केस कब से पेंडिंग है।

श्री परवेज हाशमी: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि पिछले 3 सालों में कितने एक्सिडेंट्स हुए हैं, उनमें कितनी casualties हुई हैं, कितने लोगों को compensation दिया जा चुका है तथा कितनों का अभी तक पेंडिंग है?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सर, पिछले तीन सालों में, 2012-13 में 122, 2013-14 में 118 और 2014-15 में 135, ये एक्सिडेंट्स के आंकड़े हमारे पास हैं। 2015-16 में अभी तक जो आंकड़े हैं, वे 100 दुर्घटनाओं के हैं। डेथ की फिगर्स के बारे में आपने जानना चाहा है, तो उसकी exact संख्या मुझे पूछ कर बतानी होगी, क्योंकि अगर मैं एक भी आंकड़ा गलत बताऊंगा, तो वह दूसरी बात हो जायेगी। इसलिए मैं लिखित रूप से आपको बता दूंगा कि उनमें कितने लोगों की मृत्यु हुई।

पिछले तीन वर्षों में क्लेम्स ट्रिब्यूनल के हिसाब से जे compensation दिया गया है, उसमें 2012-13 में 318.85 लाख, 2013-14 में 149.22 लाख, 2014-15 में 127.48 लाख और 2015-16 में अभी तक 115.90 लाख की पेमेंट क्लेम्स ट्रिब्यूनल के द्वारा की जा चुकी है।

श्री परवेज हाशमी: इसमें वह चीज़ तो आई नहीं कि कितनी casualties हुई, कितना compensation दिया गया और कितने मामले पेंडिंग हैं। आपने यह तो बता दिया कि इतने रुपये दिये गये, लेकिन ये कितने लोगों को दिये गये?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदय, मैंने आपको बताया कि..

श्री परवेज हाशमी: ठीक है, वह आप लिख कर भिजवा दीजिए।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदय, मैंने आपको बताया कि इतनी दुर्घटनाएं हुई हैं। मैंने डेथ्स के बारे में फिगर्स नहीं बताये हैं और आपको कहा है कि वह मैं आपको लिख कर दे दूंगा।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। वे आपको दे देंगे।

Revamping of the Crop Insurance Scheme

*95. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to revamp the Crop Insurance Scheme, stressing on advantage to the farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the precautions taken by Government to make the Scheme a Suraksha Kavach and more advantageous to farmers for getting out of the burden of premiums and crop losses;

(c) whether it is also a fact that abnormal delays are taking place in settlement of claims of farmers; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by Government for early settlement of claims and to prevent losses to the farmers?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The existing crop insurance schemes namely, National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with its three component schemes viz. Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) have been comprehensively reviewed and Government of India has recently approved the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which would replace the existing schemes of NAIS/MNAIS from ensuing Kharif 2016.

PMFBY is a marked improvement over the earlier schemes on several counts and comprehensive risk coverage from pre-sowing to post-harvest losses has been provided under it. Unit area of insurance has been reduced to village/village panchayat level for major crops where claims will be settled on unit area basis. However, for localized risks like hailstorm, landslide and inundation, claims will be settled on individual farm basis. The premium payable by farmers has been substantially reduced and simplified and there is single premium rate on pan-India basis for farmers, which would be maximum 1.5%, 2% and 5% for all Rabi, Kharif and annual horticultural/commercial crops, respectively. Other improved features of the scheme are no capping on premium with no deduction in sum insured; provision for coverage of the risk of post harvest losses due to cyclonic and unseasonal rains will be applicable on pan-India level, allocation of districts/areas on cluster/group basis and for longer period to insurance companies, for more effective implementation, as well as use of remote sensing technology and use of smartphone for

getting images of Crop Cutting Experiments etc. for early settlement of claims. Salient features of the scheme are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Premium rates payable by farmers, selection of insurance company and administrative and operational structure of Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) has also rationalized and brought at par with PMFBY.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. To address this problem, use of remote sensing technology, use of smartphone for getting images of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) along with its data, use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/Drone for smart sampling techniques and online transmission of yield/crop loss data used for early assessment of crop losses and early settlement of claims to farmers have been introduced under the new scheme.

Statement-I

Details of Salient Features of PMFBY

- (i) Provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks, thus helping in stabilizing the income of the farmers and encourage them for adoption of innovative practices.
- (ii) Increase the risks coverage of crop cycle - pre-sowing to post-harvest losses.
- (iii) Area approach for settlement of claims for widespread damage. Notified Insurance unit has been reduced to Village/Village Panchayat for major crops.
- (iv) Uniform maximum premium of only 2%, 1.5% and 5% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif Crops, Rabi Crops and Commercial/horticultural crops respectively.
- (v) The difference between premium and the rate of Insurance charges payable by farmers shall be shared equally by the Centre and State.
- (vi) Uniform seasonality discipline and Sum Insured for both loanee and non-loanee farmers.
- (vii) Removal of provision of capping on premium and reduction of sum insured to facilitate farmers to get claim against full sum insured without any reduction.
- (viii) Inundation has been incorporated as a localized calamity in addition to hailstorm and landslide for individual farm level assessment.
- (ix) Provision of individual farm level assessment for Post harvest losses against the cyclone and unseasonal rains for the crops kept in the field to dry upto a period of 14 days, throughout the country.

- (x) Provision of claims upto 25% of sum insured for prevented sowing.
- (xi) "on-account" payment upto 25% of sum insured for mid season adversity, if the crop damage is reported more than 50%. Remaining claims based on Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) data.
- (xii) For more effective implementation, a cluster approach will be adopted under which a group of districts with variable risk profile will be allotted to an insurance company through bidding for a longer duration upto 3 years.
- (xiii) Use of Remote Sensing Technology, Smartphones and Drones for quick estimation of crop losses to ensure early settlement of claims.
- (xiv) Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for ensuring better administration, co-ordination, transparency and dissemination of information.
- (xv) Focused attention on increasing awareness about the schemes among all stakeholders and appropriate provisioning of resources for the same.
- (xvi) The claim amount will be credited electronically to the individual farmer's Bank Account.
- (xvii) Adequate publicity in all the villages of the notified districts/areas.
- (xviii) Premium rates under weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) have also been reduced and brought at par with new scheme. Further, capping on Actuarial premium and reduction in sum insured has been removed in this scheme also.

डा. प्रदीप कुमार बालमुचू: सभापति महोदय, फसल बीमा योजना के पुनरुद्धार के लिए सरकार के द्वारा एक नयी स्कीम पीएमएफबीवाई तैयार की जा रही है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से बड़ा स्पेसिफिक सवाल है कि किसानों के प्रीमियम के बोझ को कम करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, देश में फसल बीमा योजना पहले से चल रही थी, लेकिन उसके अन्दर जो प्रीमियम की दर थी, वह 15 फीसदी तक थी और अलग-अलग जिलों में अलग-अलग रेट थे तथा अलग-अलग फसलों के लिए अलग-अलग रेट थे। यह जो नयी प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना आयी है, उसमें अब पूरे देश में हर जिला के लिए एक प्रीमियम रेट रखा गया है। रबी के सीजन में जो भी फसल होगी, उसके लिए 1.5 प्रतिशत और खरीफ के सीजन में जो भी फसल होगी, उसके लिए 2.5 प्रतिशत का प्रीमियम निश्चित किया गया है और शेष रकम की भरपाई राज खजाने से की जायेगी।

डा. प्रदीप कुमार बालमुचू: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार शीघ्र और समय सीमा के अन्दर दावों का निपटारा करने के लिए क्या कदम उठा रही हैं?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सर, पहले राज्य सरकार के पटवारी और लेखपाल होते थे। वे तीन महीने के अन्दर आकलन करके भेजते थे। नयी व्यवस्था में अब उन सबको स्मार्ट फोन मुहैया कराया जाएगा और ऑनलाइन द्वारा उपज के आंकड़े सेंट्रल सर्वर पर उपलब्ध कराये जायेंगे, जिससे अब बीमा कम्पनियों को फसल या उपज के आंकड़े एक माह के अन्दर प्राप्त हो जायेंगे।

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन साहब, स्कीम तो बहुत अच्छी है, इसके लिए हम धन्यवाद करते हैं। स्थिति में पहले से बहुत सुधार हुआ है, लेकिन इसमें दो प्वाइंट्स और हैं। मैं आपके जरिए माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो विलेज यूनिट है, क्या उसे विलेज यूनिट बनाने के बजाए इंडिविजुअल फार्मर को यूनिट बनायेंगे? दूसरा, जो हेल्स्टार्म या पैस्ट से लॉस होता है, जैसे यह एक खेत में पड़ जाता है और एक खेत में नहीं पड़ता, तो मैं आपके जरिए माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ... इस स्कीम को और ठीक करने के लिए विलेज यूनिट की बजाए individual farmer को यूनिट बनाया जाए, ताकि हर किसान को इसका फायदा हो। दूसरी बात यह है कि जो प्रीमियम है, उसको कम किया गया है, लेकिन इसको और कम किया जाए, क्योंकि यह भी किसान बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकेगा।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, स्थानीय आपदाओं के लिए अब इकाई को खेत स्तर तक कर दिया गया है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि वह किसान जो जमीन लीज पर लेता है, क्योंकि उनके पास अपनी जमीन नहीं होती है, वह दो एकड़, पांच एकड़ या कुछ जमीन लीज पर लेता है, क्या उसकी फसल का भी बीमा किया जाएगा? क्या उसको भी इसका फायदा मिल सकेगा, क्योंकि ज्यादातर किसान जो सुसाइड कमिट कर रहे हैं, विशेष करके पंजाब में वे इसी category में आते हैं? मैं यह जानना चाहूंगी कि क्या आप उन लोगों को भी इस स्कीम के तहत लेंगे, जिनके नाम पर जमीन नहीं है? वे जमीन लीज पर लेते हैं, उसके लिए वे बीज भी लेते हैं, फसल भी उगाते हैं, उनकी फसल खराब हो जाती है और उनको उसका कुछ compensation नहीं मिलता है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, अलग-अलग राज्यों में लैंड लीज पॉलिसी इस प्रकार की बनी हुई है, जिसके कारण इसका लाभ उनको नहीं मिलता है। हमने सभी राज्यों से, जो प्रश्न 1 था, जिसमें इंडस्ट्री की शंका बड़ी तेजी से हमारे सिर पर सवारी कर रही है, वह इसीलिए किया जा रहा है कि ऐसे किसानों के लिए ऐसी लैंड लीज पॉलिसी बनाइए ताकि वैसे किसान भी बीमा का लाभ उठा सकें। जयराम रमेश जी ने जिस काम को शुरू किया था, उसको हम तेजी से लागू करने जा रहे हैं। इसकी चर्चा करने जा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... राज्य सरकारें अपनी-अपनी लैंड लीज पॉलिसी ठीक करें, ताकि इसका लाभ ऐसे किसानों को मिले, जो लीज पर जमीन लेकर खेती करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, मेरा प्रश्न यह है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The message is continuity. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, इन्होंने इंडस्ट्री की बात की है, लेकिन मैं उन किसानों की बात कर रही हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, नहीं, आपका खत्म हो गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, मैंने जो सवाल पूछा, इन्होंने उसका जवाब नहीं दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैं आपको फिर जवाब दे रहा हूँ कि राज्यों में लैंड लीज पॉलिसी इस प्रकार की है, जिसके कारण उन किसानों को बीमा का लाभ नहीं मिलता है। हम इस टास्क फोर्स के माध्यम से सभी राज्यों से बात कर रहे हैं और उनसे कह रहे हैं कि आप लैंड लीज पॉलिसी इस प्रकार की बनाइए कि बीमा का लाभ वैसे किसानों को भी मिले।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Respected Chairman, "हे राम, जय राम जी की", this is the era of video-doctoring technology. Now, the Union Government is keeping a lot of hopes on the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana to cater to the welfare of the agrarian sector and they have worked out an elaborate insurance programme by combining several existing insurance schemes. In that, they tried to keep 25 per cent for sowing and 25 per cent for mid-season adversity and remaining for crop-cutting" estimates. I also appreciate it to identify village as the unit in insurance decision. At the same time, I would like to know whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments is planning to involve agricultural extension official mechanism and revenue mechanism to give larger scope to the insurance claims and not to fall prey to the private insurance companies. Thank you.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, हमने स्थानीय आपदाओं के लिए खेत, जो सबसे नीचे की इकाई हो सकता है, वह तय किया है, लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताऊँ कि राज्य सरकार और संघ शासित क्षेत्रों के द्वारा तय किए गए इलाके में तय की गई फसल, जो कि अनाज, खाद्यान्न, तिलहन, सालाना व्यावसायिक और बागवानी फसल हो सकती है, उगाने वाले किसान बीमा कर सकते हैं। यह इलाका कौन-सा होगा, अनाज कौन-सा होगा, इसके बारे में राज्य सरकार notification जारी करती है और फिर टेंडर करके कौन बीमा कंपनी वहां पर काम करे, यह राज्य सरकार तय करती है। मैं इसके फायदे की चर्चा आपसे करना चाहूंगा कि पहले किसान के बुआई करने के बाद जब फसल निकलता था, तब आपदा के बाद उसके बीमा का क्लेम मिलता था। यदि किसान ने तैयारी की और आपदा के कारण वह बुआई नहीं कर पाया, तो इस नई योजना में उसको भी बीमा भुगतान करने की कुछ व्यवस्था की गई है। पहले यह होता था कि यदि किसान ने खेत में फसल काटी और वह खेत में पड़ी हुई है, तो उसके बीमा का भुगतान उसे नहीं होता था। आपके ध्यान में यह होगा कि जब किसान फसल की कटाई करते हैं, तो उसे वे पांच-छः दिन खेत में छोड़ते हैं और फिर उसमें से अनाज निकालने की कोशिश करते हैं। पहले यह व्यवस्था नहीं थी कि कटाई के बाद यदि फसल खेत में पड़ी है और उसी बीच आपदा आ गई, तो उसका बीमा किसान को मिले। अब इसमें यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि यदि वह फसल 14 दिन तक खेत में पड़ी हुई है, तो उसका बीमा भी किसान को दिया जाएगा। इसलिए हम, आप और पूरा देश यह मान रहा है कि किसानों की राहत के लिए अब इससे बड़ी कोई योजना नहीं हो सकती। इसमें राज्य सरकारों के सक्रिय सहयोग की आवश्यकता है। राज्य सरकारों ने इसमें रुचि दिखाई है और कई राज्यों ने प्रक्रिया शुरू की है। इसको प्रारंभ करने से पहले एक साल तक राज्यों से काफी विचार-विमर्श हुआ है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैं समझता हूँ कि सभी भेदभाव और आपसी दुराव से अलग हटकर भारत सरकार और राज्य सरकारें, दोनों इस चीज के लिए बड़ी तेजी से काम कर रही हैं कि अगर किसानों की आत्महत्या रोकनी है, उनकी समस्याएं, जिनकी अभी चर्चा की गई, उनका समाधान करना है, तो इन योजनाओं को तेजी से क्रियान्वित करना होगा, कंजूसी नहीं करनी होगी।

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: There is no cover for seeds. सर, जब किसानों को बीज ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Make a proposal. ...**(Interruptions)** ... Question No. 96. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao. Let the answer be given.

Shortfall in production of chillies

*96. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the reports of a steep shortfall in the production of chillies in major chilli producing States like Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the steps taken/contemplated by Government to help the distressed chilli farmers?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) According to the available official estimates upto 2014-15, there is no shortfall in the production of Chillies in India as well as in Andhra Pradesh, as is evident from the table given below:

Production of Chillies in India including Andhra Pradesh

	Production (In lakh Tonnes)	
	2013-14	2014-15
Andhra Pradesh*	6.02	7.39
ALL INDIA	14.92	16.05

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spice Development (DASD)

* Figures for Andhra Pradesh are for the bifurcated state.

However, Andhra Pradesh has reported drought during Kharif and also incidence of Gemini virus in Chillies, which may marginally affect the yield during 2015-16.

(c) Government has taken several measures to promote spices production including chillies, which are as under:

- Micro-irrigation has been promoted under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) for high water use efficiency.
- Providing training programmes for control of Gemini virus and steps taken to overcome drought situation.
- Conducting programmes for creation of awareness among chilly farmers about benefits and adverse effects of usage of bio-pesticides.

- Under MIDH, ₹ 91.06, ₹ 64.68 and ₹ 55.75 crores have been provided in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively as Government of India share to implement National Horticulture Mission in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- Under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), ₹ 294.60, ₹ 237.51 and ₹ 433.77 crores have been provided in year 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively for mitigating the adverse impact of national calamities in the State.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, many of us may not be aware that chilli farmers of Andhra Pradesh are illiterate, and most of the chilli growing areas are very backward areas. In this background, the farmers do not know the fluctuations of the market and they are not experts in marketing their commodity. If alternative usage of chillies, such as using chillies in dyes, using chillies in chemicals and using chillies in pharmaceutical industry, is developed, if these kinds of agro-based industries are developed, to support chilli growers in distress times, it will help the farmers. Would the Minister consider this request?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, वैल्यू ऐडिशन के लिए कई प्रकार की योजनाएँ चल रही हैं, प्रोसेसिंग की भी कई योजनाएँ चल रही हैं। मैं एक उदाहरण बताना चाहूंगा कि एक गांव का पूरा इलाका हरी मिर्च की खेती करता था। बाद में, उसको लाल मिर्च में divert करके वहां पर उसका पाउडर बनाने का प्लांट लगाया गया। उस पूरे एरिया में जहां सिर्फ मिर्च की खेती होती थी और पहले एक साल में छः लाख की आमदनी होती थी, अब वैल्यू ऐडिशन के बाद उस गांव की सालाना आमदनी 13 लाख रुपये बढ़ गई है। सरकार इस दिशा में प्रयत्नशील है। वैल्यू ऐडिशन के लिए हम कई प्रकार की सहायता कर रहे हैं। प्रोसेसिंग के लिए भी प्रोसेसिंग मिनिस्ट्री और हमारी मिनिस्ट्री द्वारा सहायता दी जा रही है।

श्री सभापति: दूसरा प्रश्न। ...**(व्यवधान)**... One minute, please.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: सर, अब क्वेश्चन आँवर का आधा मिनट, एक मिनट बाकी रह गया है। सर, ऑनरेबल लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस आपसे एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: After Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... सर, ये बहुत ही इम्पोर्टेंट क्वेश्चन पूछ रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, let me finish my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, we will do it immediately after Question Hour.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Is the Ministry thinking of giving any warehousing facilities?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid Question Hour is over. Before I adjourn the House, hon. Leader of the House wanted to say something.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Using Twitter to lodge complaints**

†*97. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only those passengers who convey their complaints to Railways through Twitter, and not in any other way, are receiving facilities instantly, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether passengers, who do not use Twitter, are not entitled to receive help from Railways; and

(c) if not, the other ways, besides Twitter, through which one can connect with Railways and receive instant help?

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

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Besides Twitter, a passenger can connect with railway authorities through following ways to get instant help:

1. At every station, Station Manager is the nodal officer for redressal of grievances of passengers. Passengers can approach Station Manager for getting instant help. Passengers can also lodge their complaints in Complaint books which are kept at prominent places such as platforms, waiting halls / rooms at the station, in refreshment room and also with the guard / conductor / pantry car manager / coach attendant of the trains and chief reservation supervisors.
2. At all major stations, there are 'MAY I HELP YOU' booths / counters from where passenger can get instant help.
3. Passengers can contact TTE / Train Conductor in running train to get help.
4. Passengers can also connect with railway authorities through various Help Line Numbers available like All India Railway Help Line No. 138, Security Help Line No. 182 and Toll Free Numbers 1800-111-322 and 1800-111-321 for lodging complaints related to Security and Catering respectively.
5. A dedicated website *coms.indianrailways.gov.in* has been launched by Ministry of Railways to facilitate bonafide passengers for lodging complaints on-line and through App for getting instant help. Passengers can also send their complaints through SMS on No. 9717630982.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Suicide by farmers in Maharashtra

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra has recorded 3,228 cases of farmers' suicides in 2015, the highest since 2001; and

(b) if so, the region-wise details thereof and the reasons for failure to arrest this disturbing trend despite a slew of measures taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) As reported by the Government of Maharashtra, 3228 farmers have committed suicide and it is the highest since 2001. The region-wise break-up is as follows:

Sl. No.	Region	No. of suicides during 2015
1.	Konkan	2
2.	Pune	96
3.	Amravati	1179
4.	Nashik	459
5.	Nagpur	362
6.	Aurangabad	1130
TOTAL		3228

Further, as reported by the State Government of Maharashtra, out of these 3228 cases, 1841 cases are eligible for *ex-gratia* payment, while 903 cases are ineligible. 484 cases are pending enquiry. ₹ 1 lakh has been given to the heirs in respect of 1818 suicide cases.

The Government of Maharashtra is implementing various schemes like waiver of interest on crop loans, constructions of check dams, improved seed distribution to farmers, crop insurance, etc. for prevention of farmer suicides due to agrarian distress.

In order to prevent the farmers' suicides, the State Government of Maharashtra has reported that it is implementing "Krishi Samruddhi Scheme", "Baliraja Chetna Abhiyan Scheme" and "Vasantrao Naik Sheti Swawlamban Mission". Under the Krishi Samruddhi Scheme, the State Government is taking short term and long term measures for tackling the drought situation. Under the Baliraja Chetna Abhiyan Scheme, the District Committee headed by the Collector has ₹10 crore per year at its disposal to take up awareness

campaign, health counselling, de-addiction, revival of social support system, Bhajan, Kirtan Mandals, community marriages etc. to reduce the distress level of farmer families. The village level committees, headed by sarpanch has Rs. 1 lakh per year at its disposal to help the farmers families in situations like meeting health expenses, educational expenses, loan instalments etc. which cause acute financial distress. Under the Vasant Naik Sheti Swawlamban Mission, the State Government of Maharashtra is restructuring the various schemes to prevent farmers' suicides in the State.

In the above context, the strategy of Government of India is to focus on farmers' welfare by making farming viable. Farm viability is possible, when cost of cultivation is reduced, yields per unit of farm are increased and farmers get remunerative prices on their produce. The Department has been implementing various schemes to meet this objective *viz*;

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. 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 reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote 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 being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) Government has also recently approved a new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances. Some salient features are:
 - (a) Farmers have to pay the lowest ever premium rate.
 - (b) There will be a uniform premium rate for farmers for entire country - 2% maximum for Kharif food and Oilseed crops, 1.5% maximum for Rabi food and Oilseed crops and 5% maximum for Annual Horticultural/ Annual Commercial crops.

- (c) The remaining financial burden will be borne by the Government.
 - (d) Farmers will get full insurance cover - there will be no "capping" of the Sum Insured and consequently, claim amount will not be cut or reduced.
 - (e) For the first time, inundation has been included under localized risk cover, in addition to hailstorm and landslide. Individual farm level assessment of crop loss will be done for this.
 - (f) For the first time, post harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains throughout the country have been covered.
 - (g) For the first time, emphasis has been given to mobile and Satellite Technology to facilitate accurate assessment and quick settlement of claims.
 - (h) Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for better administration, co-ordination, dissemination of information and transparency.
 - (i) Coverage of areas to be increased from 23%, at present to 50% in 2 to 3 years.
- (vi) The Government also undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its '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, 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.

The Central Government has also taken measures to tackle the crisis that has arisen in the country due to second consecutive year of drought. During the year 2015-16 (including Kharif 2015), the State Government of Maharashtra had submitted a memorandum seeking financial assistance for drought from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), amounting to ₹ 4002.82 crore. The Central Government has approved an amount of ₹ 3049.36 crore for Maharashtra under NDRF.

The norms under NDRF were also revised comprehensively with relief in the form of Input Subsidy is now admissible for 33% or more crop loss, as against 50% loss earlier; financial assistance admissible up to 2 hectare against earlier limit of 1 hectare; in assured irrigated areas, the financial assistance has been increased from ₹ 9,000 per hectare to ₹ 13,500 per hectare. In case of perennial crops, the quantum of input subsidy has been increased from ₹ 12,000/- to ₹ 18,000/-per hectare.

Achievements of PMKSY

†*99. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements as on date, with regard to the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), State-wise; and

(b) the contribution of this Yojana in the national context, including action plan thereunder for the next three years *vis-a-vis* the targets?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (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. The programme envisages end-to end solutions in irrigation supply chain, *viz.* water sources, distribution network and farm level applications. PMKSY is to be implemented based on comprehensive State/District irrigation plans. The scheme is in the initial stages of implementation. The guidelines of the schemes have been issued. National level and State level committees have been constituted. 153 officers have been trained for preparation of District Irrigation Plans. Rs 4965.16 crore has so far been released to the States for implementation of various components of the programme. The State-wise details of funds released under various components of PMKSY is given in Statement-I (*See* below). The State-wise details of the achievements made for micro irrigation under Per Drop More Crop Component is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) 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) with a target to bring 2.5 million hectare under irrigation coverage and 1.5 million ha area under command area development. The component-wise tentative financial allocation for the coming three years is as under:

(₹ in crore)			
Component	2016-17*	2017-18	2018-19
Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)	1377.13	1980	2780
PMKSY (Har Khet Ko Pani)	500	1690	2200
PMKSY (Per drop more crop)	2340	3050	3960
PMKSY (Watershed Development)	1500	2540	3300
TOTAL	5717.13	9260	12240

*As per budget speech, 2016

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I*State-wise details of funds released under various components of PMKSY*

Amount released (₹ in Lakh)												
Sl. No.	Name of the State	MoWR, RD & GR				Deptt of Land Resources		Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare				
		AIBP- MMI	CADWM	Minor Irrigation	RRR	IWMP	Micro Irrigation	Other inter- ventions- Supple- menting material cost of MGNREGS	Other inter- ventions- Supple- menting IWMP for drought proofing & GW Recharge	Preparation of DIP	Extn. Activity	Total PMKSY (₹ in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	8673	17768	1460	1014	120	142.26	29177.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1472.25	0	1800	0	0	0	180	79.5	3531.75

3.	Assam	4985	1152.69	13940.952	0	4500	50	0	0	270	183.27	25081.9
4.	Bihar	1036.125	775.154	0	0	500	1000	0	1033	380	446.86	5171.14
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	2000	375	840	10	270	122.28	3617.28
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	10.04	30.04
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	10000	17556	30	330	330	205.02	28451
8.	Haryana	0	7738.87	0	0	0	1694	220	1273	210	99.58	11235.5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	2000	75	0	500	120	65.27	2760.27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	989.95	6200.1	0	0	0	0	0	220	266.95	7677
11.	Jharkhand	27737.21	0	0	0	2000	0	0	1040	240	216.74	31233.9
12.	Karnataka	0	5201.29	0	0	12500	11175	7240	2460	290	147.28	39013.6
13.	Kerala	0	48.49	0	0	2000	86	0	500	140	127.2	2901.69
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1201.85	7448.577	0	0	15000	13433	530	1360	510	261.93	39745.4
15.	Maharashtra	10094.78	478.13	0	0	25000	8837	0	1252	340	296.24	46298.1
16.	Manipur	0	929.8	4000	0	900	0	0	0	90	50.21	5970.01

Written Answers

[4 March, 2016]

to Starred Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17. Meghalaya		0	0	0	0	1800	0	0	0	110	32.64	1942.64
18. Mizoram		0	0	0	0	0	225	0	0	80	21.76	326.76
19. Nagaland		0	0	3138.07	0	2700	0	0	0	110	61.93	6010
20. Odisha		892	5705.059	0	5474.6	6750	592	0	220	300	262.76	20196.4
21. Punjab		0	9755.3	0	0	795.3	0	1180	2782	220	117.99	14850.6
22. Rajasthan		4550.60	4116.99	0	3592.5	20000	5237	4080	4140	330	248.54	46295.6
23. Sikkim		0	0	0	0	630	213	0	0	40	20.09	903.09
24. Tamil Nadu		0	2927.07	0	0	7500	7275	1150	3870	310	322.18	23354.3
25. Telangana		0	0	0	0	7000	9275	650	792	90	84.52	17891.5
26. Tripura		0	0	0	0	1350	0	0	0	80	37.66	1467.66
27. Uttar Pradesh		50000	7693.38	0	1536.1	7500	750	0	1564	750	687.03	70480.5
28. Uttarakhand		0	0	4810.163	0	2567.7	350	0	400	130	79.5	8337.36
29. West Bengal		0	755.955	0	0	1000	0	0	0	190	290.28	2236.24
30. Delhi		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10

31. Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	50	20	12.55	202.55
32. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	20
33. Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
35. Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10	0	20
36. Others						65					65
TOTAL	100497.6	55716.71	33561.535	10603	146466	96031	17500	24600	6540	5000.06	496516
GRAND TOTAL										496516.056	

Note: CADWM: Command Area Development and Water Management, AIBP-MMI: Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme-Major and Medium Irrigation, RRR: Repair, Restoration and Renovation of Water bodies, IWMP: Integrated Watershed Management Programme.

Written Answers

[4 March, 2016]

to Starred Questions

65

Statement-II

State-wise details of the achievements made under micro irrigation activities of PMKSY-Per Drop More Crop Component in 2015-16 (as on 31.01.2016).

Sl. No.	States	Area covered (Ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58110
2.	Bihar	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	2768
4.	Goa	72
5.	Gujarat	83558
6.	Haryana	1669
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1953
8.	Jharkhand	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0
10.	Karnataka	58895
11.	Kerala	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	22255
13.	Maharashtra	51000
14.	Odisha	2036
15.	Punjab	1904
16.	Rajasthan	13037
17.	Tamil Nadu	35307
18.	Telangana	37304
19.	Uttarakhand	135
20.	Uttar Pradesh	0
21.	West Bengal	0
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
23.	Assam	0

Sl. No.	States	Area covered (Ha.)
24.	Manipur	0
25.	Meghalaya	0
26.	Mizoram	0
27.	Nagaland	0
28.	Sikkim	773
29.	Tripura	0
30.	NCPAH (NLA)	-
TOTAL		370776

Development of Buxar railway station

†*100. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to develop Buxar railway station in Bihar in view of its religious, historical and ancient legacy;

(b) the status of construction of over bridge on the eastern crossing of the station;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposal for construction of the over bridge was prepared much earlier in view of the heavy congestion of traffic on the eastern crossing; and

(d) if so, by when it is planned to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of Passenger Amenities is undertaken through Adarsh Station Scheme in progressive manner. In addition to developing amenities at the station as per prescribed norms, Buxar station has also been identified for development as Adarsh Station during the current financial year.

(b) to (d) Work for construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) *in lieu* of level crossing (LC) 70-A at km. 660/25-2 at Buxar has been sanctioned on cost sharing basis.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) of the same is under approval. Due to limited availability of funds and huge throwforward of already sanctioned works (₹ 31.700 crore), works are progressing to the extent possible.

Cash maternity benefits under NFSA

*101. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether pregnant mothers are entitled to cash maternity benefits under the National Food Security Act (NFSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for delay in implementation of this provision of the Act; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for early implementation of the provision?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Act provides for maternity benefit of not less than rupee six thousand to pregnant women and lactating mothers, except those in regular employment with the Central Government or State Governments or Public Sector Undertakings or those who are in receipt of similar benefits under any law for the time being in force, subject to such scheme as may be framed by the Central Government.

The Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) for pregnant women and lactating mothers is being implemented as a pilot since October 2010, which presently covers 53 districts spread across States/UTs. Initially, pregnant women and lactating mothers of 19 years of age or above were receiving maternity benefit of ₹ 4000/- in three installments upon fulfillment of health and nutrition conditions. After enactment of the National Food Security Act, 2013, the maternity benefit was revised from ₹ 4000/- to ₹ 6000/- w.e.f. 5th July, 2013, payable in two installments.

Based on learning from the pilot, inter-Ministerial consultations have been held on a revised and expanded scheme for all districts.

Digitally connecting rural post offices

*102. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to digitally connect rural post offices across the country and enable core banking facilities at 1,20,000 other post offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to set up over 1,000 ATMs in three months for the convenience of post office savings bank customers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is digitally connecting all 1,29,323 Gramin Dak Sewak Post offices in rural areas.

(b) The Rural Information and Communication Technology (RICT) segment under the IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts, which is under implementation phase, will digitally connect 1,29,323 Gramin Dak Sewak Post Offices in rural areas across the country by March, 2017.

Core Banking Service (CBS) is being implemented in all 25,297 Departmental Post Offices of the country. The progress so far made in migration of post offices to CBS platform is as below:

As on 31st May, 2014	:	236 POs
June, 14 to 29-02-16	:	17995 POs
TOTAL	:	18231 POs

The RICT project is in its implementation phase. The software is under development. Once RICT is deployed in Gramin Dak Sewak Post Offices, in rural areas, they will be connected to CBS also. Hence, all the post offices in the country (Departmental and Gramin Dak Sewak Post Offices) will work on common Core Banking platform.

(c) Yes, Sir. Department of Posts is also setting up ATMs (Automated Teller Machine) with the Core Banking Services for the convenience of post office customers. By March, 2016, One thousand ATMs are planned to be installed. The progress made so far in installation of ATMs is as below:

As on 31st May, 2014	:	04 ATMs
June, 14 to 29-02-16	:	572 ATMs
TOTAL	:	576 ATMs

Sponsoring agriculture extension personnel/farmers abroad

*103. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sponsored Agriculture Extension personnel/farmers outside the country for their exposure and capacity building; and

(b) if so, the number of farmers/ personnel sponsored to different countries during

the last three years and the current year, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Farmers'/technical staff were sponsored for exposure visits under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) programme and under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) have sponsored visits under ASEAN-India Farmers' Exchange Program organized from Indian side during the period from 14th to 23rd April 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Indian Farmers' Delegation to Malaysia was organized by Agricultural Extension Division of the ICAR in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Agro-based Industry, Malaysia and the ASEAN Secretariat located at Jakarta, Indonesia.

The delegation visited various agricultural projects in Malaysia including interaction with successful farmers' in agricultural projects in Malaysia. The Delegation comprised 18 farmers' from 17 States namely Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Manipur, Nagaland, Assam, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Farmers also visited countries outside India under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). MIDH is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented during Twelfth Plan *w.e.f.* 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo.

Details of State-wise and year-wise number of farmers' exposure visit outside inputs/training/study tour of Technical staff/field functionaries under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details indicating State-wise and year-wise number of farmers' exposure visit outside and inputs/training/study tour of Technical staff under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Farmers/Field Functionaries			
		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Gujarat	4	5	6	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Haryana	10	20	2	-
3.	Punjab	2	16	7	1
4.	Rajasthan	-	2	-	-
5.	Assam	3	1	-	-
6.	Goa	-	-	4	-
7.	Maharashtra	9	-	-	-
8.	Telengana	-	-	-	1

Separate Ministry for pharma and medical devices sector

*104. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognizes the pharma sector as a sunshine industry having a tremendous potential for growth;

(b) whether Government is considering to set up a separate Ministry for pharma and medical devices sector in the next one year; and

(c) whether Government is considering to implement the recommendations of the Katoch Committee to cut bulk drugs import from China to help pharma industry in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Considering the potential of the Pharmaceuticals Sector, Government is contemplating a proposal to have a separate Ministry for Pharmaceuticals Sector.

(c) The Government is examining the recommendations of the Katoch Committee, which had the mandate to carefully study the whole issue of APIs of critical importance by identifying important APIs and then working out a package of interventions/concessions required to build domestic production capabilities and examine the cost implications. The Committee has since submitted its recommendation which *inter-alia* mentions establishment of Mega Parks for APIs with common facilities such as common

Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs), Testing facilities. Captive Power Plants / assured power supply by state systems, Common Utilities/Services such as storage, testing laboratories, IPR management, designing, guest house/accommodation, etc., maintained by a separate Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV); a scheme for extending financial assistance to States to acquire land and also for setting up common facilities; revival of public sector units for starting the manufacturing of selected and very essential critical drugs (e.g. penicillins, paracetamol etc.); financial investment from the Government for development of clusters which may be in the form of a professionally managed dedicated equity fund for the promotion of manufacture of APIs and extending fiscal benefits to creation of the entire community cluster infrastructure and individual unit infrastructure; extension of fiscal and financial benefits to promote the bulk drugs sector; promoting stronger industry-academia interaction, synergising R&D promotion efforts by various government agencies; incentivising scientists, duty exemptions for capital goods imports.

Food subsidy to poor families

*105. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some States have stopped providing food subsidy to the poor families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir, as the National Food Security Act is being implemented in 29 States/Union Territories and remaining 7 States/Union Territories are being covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Scheme.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Livestock deaths in the country

960. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of top ten diseases that are responsible for most of the livestock deaths in the country, and the number of animal deaths occurred due to that disease during the last five years; and

(b) the steps Government has taken to eradicate these diseases from livestock and the amount spent during the last five years on the eradication of each of the listed ten diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the available information on animal diseases reported by States/UTs Government, list of top ten diseases based on the deaths of animals during last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Prevention control and containment of animal diseases is carried out by respective State/UT Governments. However, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is supplementing the efforts of States /UTs for prevention, control and containment of animal diseases by providing financial assistance through various component of Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH &DC) Scheme.

Under the Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD), a component of LH &DC Scheme, funds are provided for control of economically important animal diseases including poultry diseases such as Ranikhet Disease, Infectious Bursal Diseases, Coccidiosis, Fowl Cholera and Salmonellosis. Since 2014-15, funds are also being provided for immunization against Rabies.

For control of Foot and Mouth Disease, intensive Foot and Mouth Disease control program has been initiated since tenth Five Year Plan and is under implementation in 351 districts as of now. Similarly, National Control Programmes on Classical Swine Fever, Peste des Petits Ruminants and Brucellosis have also been started in order to control these diseases. ₹ 331.96 crores, ₹ 325.86 crores, ₹ 394.53 crores, ₹ 376.60 crores and ₹ 234.73 crores were released to States and UTs under LH & DC Scheme during financial year 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. Implementation of National Animal Disease Control Programmes is aimed at prevention and control of the incidence of animal diseases at this moment.

For Control of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu), Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has dedicated action plan on Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza under which State Governments carry out all control and containment measures. Till date 29 episodes were reported and 74.83 lakhs birds were culled and sum of ₹ 26.23 crores was paid as compensation. Last outbreak of Avian Influenza was reported in Agartala, Tripura on 16.01.2016 which has also been successfully controlled.

Statement*List of top ten animal diseases based on death of animals in last five years*

Sl. No.	Disease	Total Deaths
1.	Avian Influenza (Domestic)	245839
2.	Chronic Respiratory Disease	229612
3.	Ranikhet Disease	113337
4.	Infectious Bursal Disease	97998
5.	Coccidiosis	93212
6.	Fowl Cholera	62699
7.	Salmonellosis	13021
8.	Foot and Mouth Disease	12001
9.	Swine Fever	9798
10.	Rabies	9641

Mission for integrated development of horticulture

961. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made, funds released and utilized under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) during last two years, State-wise;

(b) the status of physical progress under the said Mission in the State of West Bengal during last two years, district-wise;

(c) whether Government manages the data of the beneficiaries of various components under the said Mission; and

(d) if so, the details of the beneficiaries under the said Mission in West Bengal during last two years, district-wise, component-wise and if not, reasons for not maintaining such data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Detail showing

State-wise allocation made, funds released and utilized under National Horticulture Mission, Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States and National Agro Forestry and Bamboo Mission of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) during last two years is given in Statement-I, II and III respectively (*See* below).

(b) District-wise status of physical progress under the said mission is not available in the Ministry. However, physical progress in respect of major components for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 is given in Statement-IV (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The data of the beneficiaries district-wise and component-wise under the said mission is not available in the Ministry.

Statement-I

Details showing State-wise allocation made, funds released and utilized under MIDH - National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/UTs Implementing Agency	2013-14			2014-15		
		Allo- cation	Releases	Utili- zation	Allo- cation	Releases	Utili- zation
		(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	127.50	91.06	95.43	134.30	64.68	70.35
2.	Bihar	42.50	20.00	23.75	42.50	17.00	20.28
3.	Chhattisgarh	114.75	90.62	115.85	120.70	111.88	117.30
4.	Goa	4.25	4.00	1.33	4.68	0.00	2.78
5.	Gujarat	119.00	119.00	110.59	130.90	109.47	78.11
6.	Haryana	102.00	93.44	103.06	112.20	65.45	73.40
7.	Jharkhand	68.00	50.04	62.05	68.00	49.6935	49.33
8.	Karnataka	119.00	69.74	99.69	124.95	96.0813	104.78
9.	Kerala	85.00	30.00	34.23	85.00	40.00	33.48
10.	Madhya Pradesh	80.75	75.00	49.67	89.25	42.2254	53.41

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Maharashtra	702.10	674.60	657.50	158.95	140.00	141.04
12.	Odisha	85.00	84.10	85.11	93.50	71.75	71.47
13.	Punjab	63.75	58.19	56.11	70.13	58.5049	40.35
14.	Rajasthan	85.00	62.50	50.23	89.25	42.6666	47.83
15.	Tamil Nadu	97.75	92.87	74.74	107.95	55.36	108.16
16.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	59.71	45.00	30.95
17.	Uttar Pradesh	59.50	35.00	39.88	68.00	37.3204	34.56
18.	West Bengal	42.50	8.00	31.32	42.50	18.7423	16.85
19.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.55	0.00	0.00
20.	Puducherry	0.85	0.75	0.50	1.70	0.8563	0.76
21.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.00	1.32	1.87	5.00	1.4163	1.16
22.	Lakshadweep	0.85	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.11	0.25	0.15	1.11	0.00	0.00
SUB TOTAL		2004.16	1660.48	1693.06	1613.83	1068.0970	1096.35

Statement-II

*Details showing State-wise allocation made, funds released and utilized under
MIDH - Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH)
(₹ in crore)*

Sl. No.	States	2013-14			2014-15		
		Allo- cation	Releases	Utili- zation	Allo- cation	Releases	Expen- diture
		(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)	(GOI)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	48.00	46.61	48.00	50.00	23.77	23.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Assam	48.00	48.00	50.22	48.00	29.09	21.45
3.	Manipur	48.00	58.00	65.20	50.00	44.17	24.17
4.	Meghalaya	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	27.60	27.60
5.	Mizoram	48.00	48.00	48.00	52.00	41.00	41.00
6.	Nagaland	48.00	47.45	48.00	52.00	34.76	24.76
7.	Sikkim	45.00	49.36	50.04	49.00	44.50	48.96
8.	Tripura	49.00	56.14	56.14	54.00	37.00	37.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	30.00	29.43	24.89	60.00	45.00	30.80
10.	Himachal Pradesh	32.00	26.19	30.41	48.00	42.42	23.98
11.	Uttarakhand	30.00	30.00	31.13	46.00	32.73	44.36
TOTAL		466.00	479.18	492.03	549.00	402.02	347.85

Note: Expenditure includes unspent balance of previous year.

Statement-III

Details showing State-wise allocation, released and expenditure during last two years i.e. 2013-14 and 2014-15 under National Agroforestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2013-14			2014-15		
		Alloca.	Released	Exp.	Allocation	Released	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23.28	0.00	0.00	83.95	0.00	0.00
2.	Bihar	163.10	0.00	0.00	76.49	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	571.47	514.54	514.54	512.40	380.00	380.00
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	396.04	303.28	303.28	439.06	291.16	291.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Himachal Pradesh	141.11	95.12	95.12	135.71	81.08	81.08
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.83	108.25	88.73	203.31	77.41	57.46
8.	Jharkhand	54.70	35.00	16.12	198.45	40.00	0.00
9.	Karnataka	965.90	965.90	965.90	616.09	464.62	456.90
10.	Kerala	100.75	96.23	96.23	112.53	109.54	109.54
11.	Madhya Pradesh	824.71	792.94	792.94	684.34	681.10	681.10
12.	Maharashtra	152.40	50.00	50.00	268.80	58.61	54.17
13.	Odisha	571.73	547.24	547.24	564.43	388.14	388.14
14.	Punjab	54.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Rajasthan	206.20	123.08	113.65	219.84	31.24	
16.	Tamil Nadu	104.04	0.00	0.00	120.72	15.00	15.00
17.	Telangana						
18.	Uttar Pradesh	185.17	85.38	85.38	257.67	50.00	29.72
19.	Uttarakhand	146.09	86.79	86.42	99.25	28.58	0.00
20.	West Bengal	91.12	0.00	0.00	93.19	0.00	0.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	1672.28	1667.14	1667.14	1376.29	1281.90	1280.94
22.	Assam	1518.99	1517.62	1517.62	1065.23	296.64	293.99
23.	Manipur	1434.94	1212.53	1212.53	1023.22	861.57	861.57
24.	Meghalaya	267.01	0.00	0.00	308.85	96.62	96.62
25.	Mizoram	2016.21	2009.36	2009.36	1396.00	1230.00	1230.00
26.	Nagaland	2029.43	2029.43	2029.43	1136.66	1135.91	1135.91
27.	Sikkim	301.24	280.32	280.32	301.46	56.76	56.76
28.	Tripura	109.82	57.75	57.75	198.73	80.60	54.93
GRAND TOTAL		14252.76	12577.90	12529.70	11492.67	7736.48	7554.99

Statement-IV

Details indicating year-wise and component-wise physical progress in NHM under MIDH in West Bengal

Sl. No.	Components	Unit	2013-14	2014-15
1.	Area Expansion	Ha.	5647.79	3261.71
2.	Rejuvenation	Ha.	1041.92	260
3.	Integrated Pest Management	Ha.	89.7	0
4.	Organic Farming	Ha.	1231	2064
5.	Protected Cultivation	Ha.	521.25	143.38
6.	Nurseries	Nos.	6	0
7.	Water Resources	Nos.	366	15
8.	Post Harvest Management	Nos.	0	6
9.	Market Infrastructures	Nos.	0	0

Source: Data uploaded by the State in NHM portal www.nhm.nic.in

Implementation of PMKSY in Bihar

†962. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- the details of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana;
- the amount of funds provided to Government of Bihar under this Yojana during the current year;
- whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister had announced that this would lead to initiation of green revolution from the north-eastern States in which Bihar's role would be important; and
- if so, the scheme formulated to achieve the desired goal and the manner in which it is being implemented?

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,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been operationalised from 1st July, 2015. PMKSY envisages end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, distribution network and farm level applications. PMKSY is to be implemented in an area development approach, adopting decentralized State level planning and projectised execution, allowing the States to draw their irrigation development plans based on district/blocks plans with a horizon of 5 to 7 years.

(b) Funds provided to Government of Bihar for various components/activities of PMKSY during 2015-16 (till 29.02.2016) is as under:

Sl. No.	Component/Activities	Funds released (₹ in lakh)
1.	Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programmer (AIBP)	1036.125
2.	Har Khet Ko Pani-Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD and WM)	775.154
3.	Watershed Development-Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)	500.00
4.	Per Drop More Crop (Micro Irrigation)	1000.00
5.	Per Drop More Crop (Other Initiatives-Drought Proofing)	1033.00
6.	Per Drop More Crop (Other Initiatives-Extension)	446.86
7.	Per Drop More Crop (Other Initiatives-District Irrigation Plan (DIP) Preparation.	380.00
TOTAL		5171.139

(c) and (d) PMKSY aims at enhancing irrigation coverage and improve water use efficiency in the country including that of Eastern and North Eastern region. State Governments have to formulate the schemes as per their priority based on District Irrigation Plans/State Irrigation Plan.

Shortfall in production of pulses

963. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that rates of pulses have almost doubled in the last twelve months adding thereby worries to citizens, already burdened with inflation;
- whether domestic production of pulses are not meeting the country's demand;
- if so, the reasons for shortfall in the production of pulses; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to overcome the shortfall of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of pulses increased from 255.4 in January, 2015 to 370.1 in January, 2016. The monthly average wholesale price (All India) of urad increased from ₹ 5858/- per quintal in March, 2015 to ₹ 10,020/- in November, 2015, after which it showed a decreasing trend. The price of arhar rose from ₹ 5882/- per quintal in March, 2015 to ₹ 10,425/- in January, 2016 and started decreasing in February, 2016. Moong prices have been comparatively steady during the past year. The price of gram rose from ₹ 3805/- per quintal in March, 2015 to ₹ 5144/- per quintal in February, 2016.

(b) Annual domestic production of the pulses in the country falls short of demand by 4-5 million tonnes. This is met through imports.

(c) The shortfall in pulses has been on account of cultivation of pulses on marginal land under rainfed conditions, low area coverage due to risk of pests and diseases, higher profitability of other competing crops etc.

(d) The Government promotes production of pulses in the country through National Food Security Mission (NFSM), which covers 622 districts in 27 States. Around 50% of total allocation of NFSM is made for pulses for various interventions like demonstration of improved technology, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, integrated pest management, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers. An additional allocation of ₹ 440 crore has been made for rabi and summer pulses during 2015-16.

- In order to increase production of pulses in the eastern India, pulses have been included in the scheme "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)" from 2015-16.
- A special programme for demonstration of new varieties of pulses seeds through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) has been initiated from Rabi 2015-16.
- To incentivize pulse production, the Government has increased minimum support price (MSP) for pulses in 2015-16. In addition to MSP, a bonus of ₹200/- per quintal over and above MSP is payable for Kharif pulses and ₹75/- per quintal for Rabi pulses.
- In 2015-16, buffer stock of pulses is being created through domestic procurement by Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Co-operative Federation of India Limited (NAFED) and Small Farmers' Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) with support from Price Stabilization Fund.

Research and development under crop improvement programme

964. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative in the area of research and development under crop improvement programme in the States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether sufficient funds have been made available therefor, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has prioritized research and development programmes in field and horticultural crops. Research programmes are undertaken by 49 and 46 commodity/theme based research institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) under crop science and horticultural science, respectively, to develop varieties and matching production technologies as per the agro-ecological needs and farming community, spread across all the states. ICAR has initiated new consortia research platforms and incentivizing research projects to augment the research in niche areas.

The crop improvement programmes have led to development of 227 high yielding varieties/hybrids of different field and horticultural crops during the last two years (2014-15). A total of 13778 tonnes of breeder seeds of different field crops was also produced during the last two years.

(b) and (c) The details of the funds provided for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 to different States is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of budgetary allocation (₹ in lakhs) to support research and development under crop improvement in Crop Science and Horticulture Science

State	2014-15	2015-16
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	480.0	650.00
Andhra Pradesh	807.00	799.50

State	2014-15	2015-16
Assam	-	5.00
Bihar	220.0	340.0
Chhattisgarh	350.00	276.00
Gujarat	1835.00	2317.50
Haryana	2814.00	2539.00
Himachal Pradesh	1755.00	2095.69
Jammu and Kashmir	407.00	437.50
Jharkhand	294.33	300.00
Karnataka	4526.37	6489.50
Kerala	2843.00	3092.50
Madhya Pradesh	2690.36	3166.00
Maharashtra	2358.00	2710.50
New Delhi	7051.28	10777.00
Odisha	519.00	3940.00
Rajasthan	3255.00	4162.00
Sikkim	148.00	171.31
Tamil Nadu	1642.00	2219.50
Telangana	4736.99	5622.51
Uttar Pradesh	12208.67	13173.99
Uttarakhand	168.00	330.00
West Bengal	795.00	835.00

Production of pulses

965. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the post Green Revolution period, the production of most of the crops has increased but the production of pulses has remained almost stagnant for the past few years;

(b) whether the area under pulses has remained almost the same and there has been no major breakthrough in this crop and certified seeds are not available in adequate quantity; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to increase the per capita net availability of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Like other agricultural crops, production of pulses in the country has also been increasing. While there is no significant increase in the area coverage, total production of pulses in the country has now increased to more than 17 million tonnes from around 11 million tonnes in the post Green Revolution period.

Except for years of aberrant rainfall, weather conditions, the overall availability of certified/quality seeds of pulses in the country has been generally adequate to meet their requirement.

(c) In order to boost production and increase per capita net availability 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, 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 crop-specific All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), mostly situated in the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).

To encourage farmers to grow more pulses by ensuring remunerative prices, the

Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses have also been increased over the years. Further, for 2015-16, over and above MSPs, the Government has announced a bonus of ₹ 200/- per quintal for Kharif pulses and ₹75/- per quintal for Rabi pulses.

Production of pulses

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

- (a) the production of pulses during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, State-wise;
- (b) the per capita, per day availability of pulses during the above three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to increase the production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The State-wise details of production of pulses in the country during 2012-13 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The per capita, per day net availability of pulses from 2012 to 2014 (latest available) are as under:

Year	Per Capita Net Availability of pulses (Gram per day)
2012	41.7
2013	43.3
2014(P)	47.2

(P): Provisional

State-wise details of per capita, per day availability of pulses are not compiled by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

(c) 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, 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 crop-specific All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), mostly situated in the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs).

To encourage farmers to grow more pulses by ensuring remunerative prices, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses have also been increased over the years. Further, for 2015-16, over and above MSPs, the Government has announced a bonus of ₹ 200/- per quintal for Kharif pulses and Rs.75/- per quintal for Rabi pulses.

Statement

State-wise details of production of pulses during 2012-13 to 2014-15

States	Production ('000 tonnes)		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1623.0	1551.0	1213.0
Assam	84.4	104.3	111.0
Bihar	542.8	522.0	493.8
Chhattisgarh	648.7	482.1	736.5
Gujarat	572.2	729.0	574.5
Haryana	130.4	125.1	56.1
Himachal Pradesh	46.1	51.0	38.3

1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir	14.2	13.9	9.2
Jharkhand	609.3	578.6	597.1
Karnataka	1259.3	1600.5	1390.0
Kerala	3.2	4.0	1.4
Madhya Pradesh	5165.9	4644.3	4828.3
Maharashtra	2306.0	3169.0	2053.0
Odisha	424.4	419.3	439.3
Punjab	53.0	39.6	41.6
Rajasthan	1956.8	2490.9	1951.8
Tamil Nadu	209.9	613.8	753.2
Uttar Pradesh	2332.0	1697.5	1438.7
Uttarakhand	51.3	56.5	54.6
West Bengal	192.3	241.7	236.5
Others	117.4	120.0	132.4
ALL INDIA	18342.5	19254.1	17150.3

Crop Diversification Scheme in dry zones of the country

†967. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented Crop Diversification Scheme in various dry zones of the country;

(b) if so, State-wise details thereof and the funds allocated so far;

(c) the names of crops included under the scheme;

(d) whether Government has recently sanctioned to plant eucalyptus tree under the Scheme; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, on what basis eucalyptus has been included while more water is required to grow it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, is being implemented in original Green Revolution States of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh to promote diversification from water guzzling paddy crop to alternate crops, to restore soil fertility and arrest the depletion of ground water. CDP has been extended to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to divert tobacco area to alternate crops/cropping systems during 2015-16. The State-wise allocation from 2013-14 to 2015-16 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, maize, cotton and agro-forestry plantation are promoted in Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh to replace paddy. Agriculture and horticulture crops are promoted to replace tobacco in tobacco growing areas.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise details of allocation under Crop Diversification Programme from 2013-14 to 2015-16

(₹ in crore)				
Sl. No.	State	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Central Share)
1	2	3	4	5
A.	Crop Diversification Programme in original Green Revolution States			
1.	Punjab	249.50	250.00	75.00
2.	Haryana	110.50	124.00	49.75
3.	Western UP	138.50	75.00	68.02*

1	2	3	4	5
B. Crop Diversification Programme for replacing tobacco farming with alternate crops/cropping system				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	9.92
2.	Bihar	-	-	0.67
3.	Gujarat	-	-	7.54
4.	Karnataka	-	-	3.69
5.	Maharashtra	-	-	0.11
6.	Odisha	-	-	0.09
7.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	0.205
8.	Telangana	-	-	1.00
9.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	1.43
10.	West Bengal	-	-	0.70

*State implemented CDP from unspent balance of previous years.

Increasing production of pulses

968. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government is taking to increase production of pulses on the pattern of wheat and rice;

(b) whether there is any plan to build a buffer stock of one to two million tonnes of pulses to control the hike in their prices; and

(c) 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) Government is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase production of pulses. Financial assistance is provided to farmers for various interventions like demonstration of improved package of practices, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, micro-

nutrients, plant protection chemicals, soil amendments, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to create a buffer stock of pulses of 1.5 lakh tonnes to control fluctuation of prices of pulses. Government has engaged National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) and Food Corporation of India (FCI) to procure pulses for buffer stock. The progress of procurement of pulses by these agencies so far is as under:-

(Quantity in quintals)

FCI	NAFED	SFAC	Total
2,01,046.36	2,17,603.25	83,809.51	5,02,459.12

Use of organic and bio-fertilizers and pesticides

969. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to produce and supply organic and bio-fertilizers and pesticides to farmers across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the production and supply thereof during last five years;

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide financial support to Tamil Nadu to supply the essential organic and bio-fertilizers and pesticides to farmers at subsidized prices;

(d) the list of organic and bio-fertilizers, and pesticide manufacturers and suppliers from whom these fertilizers and pesticides are procured; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to encourage farmers to use organic and bio-fertilizers and pesticides instead of chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government is promoting production of organic and bio-fertilizer under various schemes and programmes of National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). The Government has revised package of Practices of 67 major crops and recommended therein the use of bio-pesticides apart from chemical

pesticides. This information can be viewed in <http://ppqs.gov.in>. The details of bio-fertilizer production in the last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Eco-friendly Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Scheme is being implemented in Tamil Nadu. The scheme promotes on-farm production of bio-control agents and also production of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *T. Viridi*. Between 2011-12 and 2015-16 180 MT was produced at the 12 bio-control production units under Government of Tamil Nadu and were supply to farmers.

(d) The list may be viewed at www.cibrc.nic.in

(e) Various measures taken by Government to encourage farmers to use organic and bio-fertilizers and pesticides are given as under:

- (i) National Central of Organic Farming Ghaziabad is organizing a 30 days certificate course on organic farming for skill development in organic agriculture sector for youth.
- (ii) Farmers are empowered to produce bio-control agents in their farm itself by implementing the scheme for establishment of eco-friendly IPM model village.
- (iii) Farmers are encouraged to adopt eco-friendly techniques *viz.* Adoption of Ecological Engineering based Plant Health Management (PHM) and Agro Eco System Analysis (AESAs) based IPM on sustained basis.
- (iv) Bio-control Agents are being distributed to farmer through various State and Centrally sponsored scheme at subsidized rate.
- (v) Grow Safe Food campaign is being run in all the States as one of the IPM programmes.

Statement

Zone-wise details of Bio-Fertilizer Production in India (2010-15)

Sl. No.	State	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	
						Carrier based (MT)	Liquid (KL)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
South Zone							
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0.0000	0.0000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Andhra Pradesh	999.6	1126.35	1335.74	2714.22	2668.8000	274.8560
3.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0.0000	0.0000
4.	Karnataka	6930	5760.32	7683.72	9907.337	16462.6200	23.0561
5.	Kerala	3257	904.17	1045.64	3520.66	4916.9700	10.5096
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0.0000	0.0000
7.	Puducherry	783	509.45	621	516.98	560.9500	1.4976
8.	Tamil Nadu	8691	3373.81	11575.7	14104.83	15373.2900	11.3017
TOTAL		20660.6	11674.1	22261.8	30764.027	39982.6300	321.2210

West Zone

1.	Chhattisgarh	0	276.34	501.63	712.07	1024.680	9.620
2.	Gujarat	6318	2037.35	978.48	6411.434	3667.929	2800.500
3.	Goa	443.4	0	370	66.26	802.520	0.000
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2455.57	2309.06	1408.08	4824.194	2637.990	119.216
5.	Maharashtra	2924.00	8743.69	5897.91	6218.607	14847.397	324.767
6.	Rajasthan	819.75	199.78	982	1315	599.898	0.000
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
TOTAL		12960.720	13566.220	10138.100	19547.565	23580.414	3254.103

North Zone

1.	Delhi	1205	1617	0	396	104.500	0.000
2.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
3.	Haryana	6.53	914.41	5832.61	1146.483	872.955	46.489
4.	Himachal Pradesh	9	1.29	0	26.147	0.768	33.070
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	45.26	0.000	0.000
6.	Punjab	2.5	692.22	2311.33	2124.852	6305.453	74.278
7.	Uttar Pradesh	1217.45	8695.08	1310.02	2682.221	4099.068	98.036
8.	Uttarakhand	45.00	263.01	2758.21	5493.851	2129.952	208.034

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
TOTAL		2485.480	12183.010	12212.170	11914.814	13512.696	459.907
East Zone							
1.	Bihar	136.26	75	52.4	52.4	64.90	0.00
2.	Jharkhand	0	8.38	35.3	14.2	9.08	0.00
3.	Odisha	357.66	590.12	407.1	1097.61	1074.46	4.70
4.	West Bengal	393.39	603.2	1110	1682.7076	2061.83	14.63
TOTAL		887.31	1276.7	1604.8	2846.9176	3210.27	19.33
North East Zone							
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	59	59.000	0.000
2.	Assam	130	68.33	89	149	88.000	0.000
3	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
4.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000
5.	Mizoram	2	0	0	4	3.600	0.000
6.	Nagaland	21.5	13	7.45	7.45	7.450	0.000
7.	Sikkim	0	0	9.5	10.1	12.400	0.000
8.	Tripura	850	1542.85	514	225	240.000	0.000
TOTAL		1003.50	1624.18	619.95	454.55	410.450	0.000
GRAND TOTAL		37997.61	40324.21	46836.82	65527.87	80696.45595	4054.563711

Source: Compiled by NCOF (Data Provided by Production Units/State Government/ RCOFs)

MT= Metric Ton

KL= Kilo litre

Support to Tamil Nadu to improve production

970. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects carried out to support and improve production of pulses, grains and essential edible oils in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of funds allocated, disbursed and expenditure incurred for the above purpose during the last five years;

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate financial, logistic and technical support to Tamil Nadu to improve production of pulses, grains and essential edible oils; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to support the revenue loss to farmers due to the natural calamities like heavy winds/rainfall and subsequent floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for improving production of rice, pulses, coarse cereals and National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) for oilseeds in Tamil Nadu and other States. Besides, Government of Tamil Nadu is also implementing schemes under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and State Plan to improve production of foodgrains and oilseeds. The details of funds allocated, disbursed and expenditure incurred under NFSM and NMOOP is given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(c) Under NFSM and NMOOP, assistance is being provided to the farmers for demonstration of improved technology, seed production, seed distribution, micro-nutrients, soil ameliorants, plant protection chemicals, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers. Technical support in the implementation of programmes is provided by State Agriculture University and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes.

(d) Government has extended support to the farmers whose crop was damaged 33% and above due to floods in 2015. The area damaged 33% and above is 4,50,613.58 ha for which an amount of ₹ 40,756.665 lakhs was extended to the affected farmers.

Statement-I

*Details of funds allocated, disbursed and expenditure incurred under
National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to Tamil Nadu from
2010-11 to 2015-16 (as on 01.03.2016)*

(₹ in lakhs)

Year	Funds Allocated	Disbursed	Expenditure incurred
2010-11	48.44	30.08	39.44
2011-12	36.58	34.54	33.09

Year	Funds Allocated	Disbursed	Expenditure incurred
2012-13	52.06	39.70	38.56
2013-14	65.63	37.65	51.56
2014-15	75.78	72.88	68.42
2015-16	35.75	35.32	14.90

Statement-II

Details of funds allocated, disbursed and expenditure incurred to the State Government of Tamil Nadu in the last five years in respect of ISOPOM Scheme during the year 2011-12 to 2013-14 and NMOOP for 2014-15 to 2015-16 (as on 29.02.2016)

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Year	Funds Allocated	Disbursed	Expenditure incurred
1	Tamil Nadu	2011-12	1268.00	1268.00	1104.83
		2012-13	821.94	821.94	1389.72
		2013-14	1206.45	1206.45	1022.82
		2014-15	1059.00	842.58	714.22
		2015-16	888.11	710.49	330.91

Utilization of USOF

971. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds accumulated in the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) through fees/cess levied on telecom operators, year-wise, since 2010;

(b) the amount and proportion of these funds that have been utilized each year since 2010; and

(c) whether a large portion of funds is unused, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) the amount of funds accumulated in the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) through Universal Access Levy (UAL) from telecom operators, year-wise since 2010 is as under:

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Year	UAL Collection (Booked figures as per DoT A/cs)
1.	2010-11	6114.56
2.	2011-12	6723.57
3.	2012-13	6735.46
4.	2013-14	7896.39
5.	2014-15	7538.70
6.	2015-16 (as on 31.01.2016)	5958.97
TOTAL		40967.65

(b) The utilization of USO Fund, year-wise since 2010 is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	UAL Collection (Booked figures as per DoT A/cs)	Fund allocated and disbursed through USOF
1.	2010-11	6114.56	3100.00
2.	2011-12	6723.57	1687.96
3.	2012-13	6735.46	625.00
4.	2013-14	7896.39	2163.45
5.	2014-15	7538.70	2086.98
6.	2015-16 (as on 31.01.2016)	5958.97	2161.25
TOTAL		40967.65	11824.64

(c) Since inception of USOF (*i.e.* from 2002-03), ₹ 72077.01 crore has been collected as UAL and ₹ 29144.72 crore (including ₹ 6948.64 crore for reimbursement of licence fees and spectrum charges to BSNL) has been disbursed under various schemes of USOF. The available balance is ₹ 42932.29 crore as on 31.01.2016. It is expected that amount accrued to the USO Fund would be utilized in the execution of the following Schemes *viz.* National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for NE Region amounting to ₹ 20,100 crore, ₹ 3,567.58 crore and ₹ 5,336 crore respectively.

Initiative to alleviate sufferings of farmers

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

(a) the details of policy initiative measures taken or proposed to be taken to alleviate the sufferings of farmers, particularly the small and marginal ones;

(b) whether Government has issued statutory powers to any commission so that they take decisions for arranging funds and providing it to the needy and poor farmers against nominal interest rates; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) To alleviate the sufferings of farmers including small and marginal farmers, Government had constituted the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan in 2004. The Commission submitted five reports to the Government. The major recommendations of the Commission contained in the five reports were included in the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the Commission itself in 2006. Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', the Government approved the National Policy for Farmers-2007, which aims to improve economic viability of farming and increase net income of farmers.

Policy provisions in NPF-2007 include, *inter-alia*, asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and farmer-friendly Insurance instruments; support services and inputs

like application of frontier technologies; agricultural bio-security system; use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiative for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc. The various schemes/programmes/missions adopted by the Ministry are based on the National Policy for Farmers-2007.

The Government has taken several measures to protect the small and marginal farmers by ensuring a fixed amount of allocation of funds for them or providing them higher subsidies, in its various schemes. Government is providing assistance to various categories of farmers, including small and marginal farmers through programmes like Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), Sub-Mission for Seed and Planting Material (SMSP), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), National Agroforestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. Support is provided to farmers on seeds, bio-agents, bio-fertilizers, planting material, other improved farm implements. Agriculture Credit etc. As per revised guidelines on Priority Sector Lending issued by RBI, focus is being given on credit to small and individual farmers. Besides, the Government has approved Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016.

(b) and (c) No such statutory powers has been issued to any Commission as agriculture is a State Subject. The Central Government, however supplement the efforts of the State Governments through appropriate budgetary and policy measures.

Risks to crops due to climate change

973. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any qualitative and quantitative assessment of

the nature of risks involved for major crops as a result of climate change/global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including major crops classified as risk prone crops, region-wise;

(c) whether crop insurance schemes would be reviewed and tuned in line with the nature of risks involved for the farmers due to natural calamities; and

(d) 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) 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 Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA)" in 2011 to enhance resilience of Indian agriculture to climate change through strategic research, technology demonstrations and capacity building.

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 yields were projected to be 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 coconut yields are projected to reduce in east coast regions while increase in west coast regions. Whereas, simulation and field studies show that the adaptation strategies could improve yields by 8 to 25% at all Indian level.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government has already reviewed the existing two schemes of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS and recently launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to tune in with the nature of risk involved for the farmers due to natural calamities. PMFBY aims at providing financial support

to farmers suffering crop damage from unforeseen events and production risks. The scheme covers risks that leads to losses due to prevented sowing/planting risks, non-preventable risks (*viz.* drought, dry spells, flood, inundation, pest and diseases, landslides, natural fire and lighting, storms, hailstorms, cyclone, typhoon, tempest, hurricane and tornado etc.), post harvest losses and localized calamities of hailstorms, frost, landslides and inundations etc. to food, oilseed, commercial and horticultural crops. The details of PMFBY are available at www.agricoop.nic.in.

Promoting organic farming

974. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for promoting organic farming and marketing of organic products on a large scale, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of funds allocated and released to farmers for encouraging organic farming and the benefits accrued to them during last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government has formulated a scheme for promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes under the National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) such as Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)/ and "Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region", Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP). The pattern of assistance is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Realizing the potential of organic farming in the North Eastern Region of the country Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a Central Sector Scheme entitled "Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region" for implementation in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura, during 2015-16 to 2017-18.

The details of funds allocated and released to States under PKVY Scheme is given in Statement-II (*See below*). The details of funds released under various NMSA, RKVY, MIDH is given in Statement-III.

Statement-I*Details of Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming*

Sl. No.	Component	Pattern of assistance
NMSA		
1.	Setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit.	100% assistance to State Government/Government agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh / unit and 33% of cost limited to ₹63 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for 3000 Total Per Annum (TPA) production capacity.
2.	Setting up of state of art liquid/ carrier based Bio-fertilizer/ Bio-pesticide units	100% assistance to State Government/Government agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 160.00 lakh / unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹40 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through national bank for agriculture and rural development (NABARD) as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity.
3.	Setting up of Bio-fertilizer and Organic fertilizer testing Quality Control	Assistance up to maximum limit of ₹ 85 lakh for

Sl. No.	Component	Pattern of assistance
	Laboratory (BOQCL) or Strengthening of existing Laboratory under FCO.	new laboratory and up to a maximum limit of ₹ 45 lakh for strengthening of existing infrastructure to State Government Laboratory under Agriculture or Horticulture Department.
4.	Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid/solid, waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha. and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha. area.
5	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. 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 lakh for farmer members and ₹ 4.95 lakh for mobilization and Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Certification.
6.	Support to research for development of organic package of practices specific to State and cropping system.	Against specific proposal.

7. Setting up of separate organic agriculture research and teaching department.

Against specific proposal.

MIDH

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'x4'x2'), 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.

Statement-II*Details of funds allocated and released to States under PKVY Scheme*

(A) *Details of differential amount of funds to be released to the States under PKVY during 2015-16. (60:40 ratio of Central: State Share).*

(₹ in Lakh)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Clusters	Total outlay (₹ in lakhs)	Centre share	Funds release as 1st installment
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	411	2933.75	1760.25	1100.15
2.	Bihar	327	2336.15	1401.69	728.98
3.	Chhattisgarh	188	1341.96	805.18	603.88
4.	Goa	4	28.55	17.13	7.14
5.	Gujarat	100	713.81	428.28	178.45
6.	Haryana	20	142.76	85.65	53.53
7.	Jharkhand	100	713.8	428.28	321.21
8.	Karnataka	545	3890.26	2334.15	1750.61

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Kerala	119	849.38	509.63	382.22
10.	Madhya Pradesh	880	6281.5	3768.9	2826.67
11.	Maharashtra	932	6929.36	4157.62	2598.51
12.	Odisha	320	2284.19	1370.51	1027.88
13.	Punjab	50	356.9	214.14	160.6
14.	Rajasthan	755	5274.86	3164.92	2373.69
15.	Tamil Nadu	112	799.46	479.68	299.8
16.	Telangana	300	2141.42	1284.85	963.64
17.	Uttar Pradesh	575	4104.39	2462.63	1534.68
18.	West Bengal	120	856.57	513.94	214.14
TOTAL		5858	41979.07	25187.43	17125.78
19.	Andaman and Nicobar (100% financial assistance)	68	485.38	*	*

*(B) Details of Annual Action Plan (PKVY) and Funds released to NE States
2015-16 (90:10 ratio of Central: State Share)*

₹ in lakhs

Sl. No.	State	No. of Clusters	Total outlay	Centre share	Funds release as 1st install- ment
1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Assam	220	1552.42	1397.19	576.39
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	19	137.08	123.37	51.4
22.	Mizoram	34	237.54	213.79	89.08
23.	Manipur	30	214.14	192.73	53.53
24.	Nagaland	24	171.31	154.18	64.24

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Sikkim	150	818.21	736.39	306.83
26.	Tripura	50	356.9	321.21	133.84
TOTAL		527	3487.6	3138.86	1275.32

(C) *Details of Annual Action Plan (PKVY) and Funds released to Hilly States
2015-16 90:10 ratio of Central: State Share)*

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Clusters	Total outlay	Centre share.	Funds release as 1st install- ment
27.	Himachal Pradesh	110	768.52	691.67	288.19
28.	Jammu and Kashmir	28	199.87	179.88	74.95
29.	Uttarakhand	550	3925.94	3533.35	981.485
TOTAL		688	4894.33	4404.9	1344.625
GRAND TOTAL ALL INDIA		7141	50846.38	32731.19	19745.73

*Funds release under process

Statement-III

*Details of funds released for promotion of organic farming during the last three
years and current year under the various schemes*

(₹ in lakhs)

States	NMSA (CISS*/organic component of SHM (Soil Health Management))				
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	20.00	20.00	13.74	76.50	-
Telangana	-	-	-	218.65	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
Assam	22.32	0.75	35.10		
Bihar	5.25	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	94.40	
Goa	-	-	-	17.50	-
Gujarat	-	2.03	40.00	36.85	-
Haryana	-	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	12.00	-
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	76.50	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	-	-	124.27	-	-
Kerala	6.78	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	2.26	-	-	-
Maharashtra	43.08	23.01	11.22	-	-
Manipur	-	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-
Nagaland	-	-	-	40.00	-
Odisha	-	-	-	-	-
Punjab	14.04#	-	18.76#	105.00	-
Rajasthan	21.34	-	-	-	-
Sikkim	-	-	-	580.50	-
Tamil Nadu	-	-	98.34	185.00	-
Tripura	20.00	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	3.3	-	-	167.50	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	
West Bengal	-	-	-	78.75	
TOTAL	156.11	48.05	341.43	1651.90	
(₹ in lakhs)					
States	MIDH (NHM & HMNEH)				
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	7	8	9	10	11
Andaman and Nicobar	-	5	1.5	3.5	9.5
Andhra Pradesh	416.50	250	0	130.6	0
Telangana	-	0	0	123.63	604
Arunachal Pradesh	123.48	-	-	344	214.2
Assam	35.60	-	-	350	316
Bihar	6.38	100	68	85	40
Chhattisgarh	1462.72	1	173.82	219.51	1515.25
Goa	2.55	0	10	0	8
Gujarat	63.80	120	42.5	0	8
Haryana	36.86	0	5.1	26.35	43.2
Himachal Pradesh	398.21	-	-	154.6	75
Jammu and Kashmir	117.10	-	-	367.7	211.31
Jharkhand	63.75	245	324.79	205.64	450.12
Karnataka	237.15	20	0	31.45	24.5
Kerala	216.75	145	89.25	119	265
Madhya Pradesh	-	0	0	0	80
Maharashtra	-	0	17	-	70
Manipur	110.00	-	-	84.4	167

1	7	8	9	10	11
Meghalaya	0.00	-	-	82.5	93.5
Mizoram	16.50	-	-	43.5	12.5
Nagaland	123.0	-	-	66.8	54
Odisha	76.50	355	412.3	1326	440
Punjab	67.36	0	0	0	64
Rajasthan	48.88	30	201	76.5	36
Sikkim	492.50	-	-	671	466
Tamil Nadu	21.25	40	51	59.5	0
Tripura	79.40	-	-	255.4	0
Uttar Pradesh	73.11	0	0	139.81	258
Uttarakhand	53.60	-	-	83	55
West Bengal	-	0	0	42.56	108.8
TOTAL	4342.95	1311	1396.26	5091.41	5688.88

(₹ in Crore)

States	RKVY**				
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1	12	13	14	15	16
Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	-	
Andhra Pradesh		15.00	16.00	9.47	
Telangana	-	-	-	5.00	
Arunachal Pradesh	-	2.99	-	-	
Assam	9.00	11.57	11.88	11.00	
Bihar	101.05	-	-	-	
Chhattisgarh	-		1.26		
Goa	0.18	-	-	-	

1	12	13	14	15	16
Gujarat	108.16	11.63	22.55	-	
Haryana	1.51	3.38	2.00	-	
Himachal Pradesh	10.05	10.50	7.50	8.00	
Jammu and Kashmir	0.79	2.37	1.64	3.02	
Jharkhand	1.58	4.00	-		
Karnataka	33.00	21.00	14.40	12.45	
Kerala	1.23	1.44		1.40	
Madhya Pradesh	4.40	5.69	3.00	-	
Maharashtra	-	-	4.88	3.10	
Manipur	2.82	0.75	0.29	3.67	
Meghalaya	-	-	-		
Mizoram	-	-	0.05	-	
Nagaland	1.50	3.00	0.60	1.00	
Odisha	-	-			
Punjab	-	-	-	-	
Rajasthan	3.67	0.70	-	4.77	
Sikkim	2.50	1.20			
Tamil Nadu	-	6.60	-		
Tripura	-	-	-	-	
Uttar Pradesh	16.56	28.18	95.03		
Uttarakhand	13.31	9.44	19.42	13.94	
West Bengal	-	6.11	-	-	
TOTAL	311.31	145.55	200.50	76.82	

* Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) through NABARD

** Cost of project approved by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC)

Punjab and Haryana MIDH includes (NHM and HMNEH)

Use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides

975. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers it important to minimise the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides on the soil; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The Government is promoting soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and locally available organic manures like Farm Yard Manure, compost, Vermi Compost and Green manure to maintain soil health and its productivity.

'Soil Health Card' (SHC) scheme has been launched in February 2015 to assist State Governments to evaluate fertility in all 14 crore farm holdings and issue soil health cards to farmers regularly in a cycle of 2 years. Soil health cards provide information to farmers on nutrients status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.

In order to reduce use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers in the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is recommending Integrated Pest Management (through a combination of agronomic, chemical and biological methods) and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) envisaging conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of nutrients. Besides, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, inclusion of legumes in cropping system, adoption of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) and fertigation are also being advocated. ICAR also imparts training, organizes Front Line Field Demonstrations to educate farmers on all these aspect.

Under the scheme 'Strengthening and Modernisation of Pest Management Approach in India' farmers are educated to adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as cardinal principle and main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of (IPM) programme, the Government of India has established 31 Central IPM Centres which conduct Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) to educate farmers about mechanical, cultural and biological control measures including use of biopesticides against different crop pests and weeds and judicious use of chemical pesticides as a measure of last resort.

The Insecticides Act 1968 and the Rules framed thereunder mandate that pesticides are registered for use in agriculture in India only after a detailed evaluation of safety. Once registered, a pesticide is legally obligated to display and carry approved labels and leaflets containing critical information on safe use of pesticides for the benefit of farmers and extension functionaries etc. Application of pesticides in accordance with instructions on the label and leaflets is not likely to cause any harm to human health.

Improving living standard of fishermen

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

- (a) the details of average per capita income of fishermen in various States, including Gujarat; and
- (b) whether Government has any plan to improve the livelihood and living standards of fishermen in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries does not maintain data regarding per-capita income of fishermen in the country.

(b) For improvement of livelihood and living standards of fishermen, the Government has recently accorded approval to the restructured Central Sector Scheme " Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries " by merging the existing schemes of fisheries of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, with the following broad components:- National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and its activities, Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture, Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations, Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System of the fisheries sector and National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, with an overall objective to enhance fish production and productivity.

Agricultural growth rate

977. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the agricultural growth rate for the last five years;
- (b) whether agricultural growth dips into negative this year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the growth rates in Gross Value Added (GVA) of agriculture and allied sector during the last five years i.e. 2010-11 to 2014-15 are given below:

Year	Growth rate in GVA of agriculture and allied sector (%)
at 2004-05 constant prices	
2010-11	8.6
2011-12	5.0
at 2011-12 constant prices	
2012-13	1.5
2013-14	4.2
2014-15	-0.2

(b) and (c) As per Advance Estimates released by CSO, the growth rate of Agriculture and Allied Sector for the current year *i.e.* 2015-16 is estimated at 1.1%.

Decrease in grain producing area

978. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of grain producing land in the country for the last ten years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the reasons for decrease in the grain producing area in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) State-wise details of area under foodgrains in the country during the last 10 years *i.e.* 2005-06 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Depending upon the weather and rainfall situations, availability of water in reservoirs, irrigation facilities and inter-crop shift of area, etc, the total area under foodgrains in the country has been fluctuating in the range of around 120 to 127 million hectares.

Statement

State-wise details of area under foodgrains in the country from 2005-06 to 2014-15

State/UT	Area Under Foodgrains ('000 Hectares)									
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Andhra Pradesh	7167.7	7274.0	7387.0	7442.0	6666.0	8029.8	7289.0	6990.0	7390.0	3963.0
Assam	2597.5	2380.0	2518.0	2670.8	2695.6	2766.5	2736.2	2691.5	2660.0	2700.5
Bihar	6548.4	6702.4	7028.6	6919.7	6634.1	6235.8	6695.9	6736.1	6396.0	6725.4
Chhattisgarh	5145.9	5056.0	5084.0	4963.3	4863.7	4955.4	4964.6	5076.2	4982.4	5058.2
Gujarat	3967.0	4568.0	4481.0	4063.0	3694.0	4525.0	4736.0	3582.0	4378.0	3527.0
Haryana	4268.8	4351.0	4476.0	4610.2	4540.0	4716.4	4630.0	4398.9	4403.6	4445.2
Himachal Pradesh	798.1	806.4	812.4	797.4	784.1	795.3	790.5	800.6	778.9	755.2
Jammu and Kashmir	881.9	907.5	918.6	929.9	935.6	928.2	938.8	933.6	928.6	957.3
Jharkhand	1926.6	2379.1	2436.4	2434.8	1618.3	1492.7	2321.9	2430.0	2266.7	2552.5
Karnataka	7596.0	7446.0	7871.0	7461.0	7955.0	8239.1	7425.0	7299.0	7538.0	7193.0
Kerala	287.6	274.8	243.0	245.2	247.3	219.6	212.3	201.0	202.5	199.7

Madhya Pradesh	11678.1	11777.2	11288.9	11913.3	12459.4	12862.8	13503.5	14136.5	14332.9	15462.2
Maharashtra	12746.0	13452.0	13207.0	11417.0	12112.7	13029.0	10857.0	10575.0	11471.0	11450.0
Odisha	5456.7	5403.7	5489.0	5427.4	5406.1	5318.9	4922.1	5030.8	5143.3	5166.0
Punjab	6317.6	6301.9	6302.7	6460.0	6503.3	6510.2	6506.0	6566.4	6551.2	6585.2
Rajasthan	12448.6	12698.0	13607.4	13205.5	13271.8	15069.2	14440.8	12411.2	13417.1	12834.8
Tamil Nadu	3316.9	3166.1	3097.5	3191.9	3032.9	3173.9	3210.4	2625.1	3439.5	3538.1
Telangana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2613.0
Uttarakhand	1030.0	986.0	1006.0	1029.0	1009.0	986.4	952.0	931.6	890.6	897.6
Uttar Pradesh	19640.9	20039.6	19084.0	19757.5	19322.0	19804.0	20133.0	19960.0	20142.0	20078.0
West Bengal	6442.2	6362.8	6355.8	6535.4	6242.3	5561.1	6044.0	6089.0	6275.8	6128.2
Others	1317.1	1353.9	1354.6	1337.9	1340.4	1452.0	1446.0	1314.3	1453.9	1469.9
ALL INDIA	121579.6	123686.4	124048.9	122812.2	121333.6	126671.4	124754.9	120778.7	125042.0	124300.0

NA: Not Applicable

Written Answers to

[4 March, 2016]

Unstarred Questions

115

MSP for onion, tomato and potato

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

(a) whether Government is aware that onion, potato and tomato growing farmers are compelled to sell their produce at rate lower than the cost of production, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government would provide for Minimum Support Price (MSP) for onion, tomato and potato and assured procurement by Government agencies in view of large scale suicide by farmers and their miserable condition; and

(c) 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) As per the latest data available for cost of cultivation, a comparison of the cost of cultivation and the average wholesale price of Onion and Potato in the major producing States is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Government provides Minimum Support Price for major food grains required for national food security and for important commercial crops. There is no MSP for onion, potato and tomato. However, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are generally perishable in nature. The basic objective of MIS is to provide remunerative prices to the farmers in case of glut in production and fall in prices. The MIS is implemented on the specific request of the State Government/UT Administration willing to share loss with the Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North Eastern States).

Statement

(A) *Comparative position of onion in major producing States for the year 2012-13*

(₹ Per Quintal)

Sl. No.	State	Cost of Production	Wholesale Price (Average)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	630.02	1111.46
2.	Gujarat	692.47	771.25
3.	Karnataka	962.04	903.60
4.	Maharashtra	485.86	773.12

*(B) Comparative position of potato in major producing States for the year
2012-12*

(₹ Per Quintal)

Sl. No.	State	Cost of Production	Wholesale Price (Average)
1.	Bihar	405.69	966.67
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1237.17	1263.07
3.	Uttar Pradesh	492.52	857.52
4.	West Bengal	469.13	1210.30

Blue revolution

980. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has planned for a Blue Revolution in fish production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Foreseeing the potential in the fisheries sector, the Government has envisaged a revolution in the sector naming it "Blue Revolution". The Blue Revolution, with its multi-dimensional activities, focuses mainly on increasing fisheries production and productivity from aquaculture and fisheries resources, both inland and marine. The Government has accordingly in December, 2015 approved a Central Sector Scheme on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries" with the following components:

- (a) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and its activities,
- (b) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture,
- (c) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations,
- (d) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System of the Fisheries Sector,
- (e) Institutional Arrangement for Fisheries Sector,

(f) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and other need-based Interventions,

(g) National Scheme on Welfare of Fishermen.

Crop insurance scheme

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing Crop Insurance Scheme keeping in view the farmers' interests, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of amount to be provided to farmers under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Government of India is implementing National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with its three component schemes viz. Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to provide comprehensive risk coverage against crop loss due to natural calamities, pests and diseases and adverse weather conditions in respect of notified crops and notified areas. Claims under these schemes are worked out and paid as per provisions of the respective schemes.

(b) The Sum Insured (SI) is linked to scale of finance and may extend to the value of the threshold yield of the insured crop. In case of Loanee farmers the Sum Insured is at least equal to the amount of crop loan advanced. If the 'Actual Yield' (AY) per hectare of the insured crop for the defined area [on the basis of requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs)] in the insured season, falls short of the specified 'Threshold Yield' (TY), all the insured farmers growing that crop in the defined area are deemed to have suffered shortfall in their yield. Similarly under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), deviation from the prescribed weather parameters is paid under the scheme.

Loss of crop due to drought

†982. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial loss suffered by agriculture due to drought;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of States and the amounts demanded by them from the Centre to deal with the situation of drought and the amounts received by them, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the alternatives available with Government to deal with the situation of drought and to what extent it will be effective in adverse circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) During the year 2015-16, Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan, had submitted Memoranda seeking financial Assistance from NDRF for the loss suffered by Agriculture due to drought. The State-wise details regarding the amounts demanded from the Centre and the amounts approved are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Besides the above various other measures have been taken to deal with the situation of drought:

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

- 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.
- Further, in order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the National Crop Insurance Programme (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. These schemes have been recently reviewed and a scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 season.

Statement

Details of assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought during 2015-16

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Calamity	Assistance Sought by the State Government	Central Assistance approved by Gol (under NDRF)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Karnataka	Drought-K	3830.84	1540.20
2.	Karnataka	Drought-R	1416.93	*
3.	Chhattisgarh	Drought-K	6093.79	1276.25
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought -K	4821.64	2032.68
5.	Maharashtra	Drought -K	4002.82	3049.37
6.	Odisha	Drought-K	2217.08	815.00
7.	Telengana	Drought-K	2601.17	791.21

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought-K	2057.79	1304.52
9.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought-K	2000.56	433.77
10.	Jharkhand	Drought-K	2142.78	336.94
11.	Rajasthan	Drought-K	10537.02	1193.41

* IMCT Report awaited.

K-Kharif

R-Rabi

Controlling prices of essential items

983. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken some steps to control the prices of essential items, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the rate of inflation in December, 2014 and the rate of inflation in December, 2015; and

(c) whether Government has considered measures to check the inflation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The requisite details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The requisite information based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is given below:-

Month/Year	Rate of Inflation (%)
December, 2014	-0.5
December, 2015	-0.7

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

(c) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

General Measure:

1. 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 onion under control.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Higher MSP has been announced so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
5. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.

Specific Measures:**Onion**

6. Export of onion were restricted through imposition of Minimum Export Price (MEP) when prices were ruling high and import is allowed at zero duty.
7. Retail sale of onion was undertaken from the stock held by SFAC and NAFED.
8. Imported 2000 MT of onion from Egypt and China through MMTC. As no demands from State were received, the onion were disposed off through tender in the open market.
9. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by one more year *i.e.* up to 2nd July, 2016 under the Essential Commodities Act.
10. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.

Pulses

11. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
12. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
13. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
14. Government imported 5000 MT of Tur from Malawi/Mozambique and allocated it to States for retail sale to consumers to improve availability and to moderate prices.
15. MSP (including bonus) raised for kharif pulses for Tur and Urad and Moong. MSP also raised for rabi pulses for Gram and Masoor.
16. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention.

Edible Oils

17. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
18. MSP increased for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.

Financial assistance from NDRF

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

(a) whether Government has received memoranda from State Governments seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought affected Rabi crops in the current year 2015-16;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of funds sought by each of them, State-wise;

(c) whether the Central Team has visited the said States, so far; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the funds sanctioned/released so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) Government

has received memoranda from State Government of Karnataka seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought affected Rabi crops in the current year 2015-16. The Government of Karnataka has declared drought in 12 districts and sought financial assistance of ₹ 1416.93 crore from NDRF. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has visited the State from 23.02.2016 to 26.02.2016 to carry out an assessment of the drought situation to suggest the quantum of assistance to be made available to the State by way of relief.

Reducing dependence on monsoon for farming

985. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of change in pattern of monsoon in past few years and its effect on crop growth across the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government has taken to provide modern irrigation facilities and reduce dependence on monsoon for farming the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in July 2015 with the vision of extending the coverage of irrigation 'Har Khet ko Pani' and improving water use efficiency 'More crop per drop' in a focused manner and to expand cultivable area under assured irrigation and improving water use efficiency. Besides, the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) addresses the issues of climatic variabilities in agriculture and allied sectors. NMSA envisages Rainfed Area Development through Integrated Farming System approach, On-farm Water Management and Soil Health Management. DAC&FW is also promoting climate resilient varieties identified/released by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the ongoing crop development programmes.

Shortage of pulses for meeting the demand

986. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has a shortfall of the supply of pulses for meeting the demand;

(b) the quantity of pulses produced in 2014 and 2015 and the area in hectares used for sowing of pulses; and

(c) the shortfall of pulses in 2015 and the details of the pulses imported to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes Sir. On account of cultivation of pulses on marginal land under rainfed conditions, low area coverage due to risk of pests and diseases, higher profitability of other competing crops etc., total production of pulses in the country has not been sufficient to meet their demand.

(b) The details of area coverage and production of pulses during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as under:

Year	Area (000 Hectare)	Production (000 Tonnes)
2014-15	23554.0	17150.3
2015-16*	24893.6	17329.8

*As per the Second Advance Estimates

(c) Annual production of pulses in the country has been generally lower by 4-5 million tonnes than their requirement. During 2015-16 (April-December) 4.41 million tonnes of pulses have been imported.

Production of wheat

987. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing inadequacy of wheat and the production has declined in 2015, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the production of wheat in the country in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to augment the production of wheat?

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

details of estimated production of wheat in the country during 2013-14 to 2015-16 are as under:

Year	Production (million tonnes)
2013-14	95.85
2014-15	86.53
2015-16*	93.82

* As per the Second Advance Estimates 2015-16.

The production of wheat in the country during 2014-15 suffered due to untimely rains/ hailstorm in some major wheat growing States during Feb-March 2015. However, the current estimated production levels of wheat in the country are adequate to meet its requirement.

(c) In order to augment production of foodgrains including wheat, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM) - Wheat, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, 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 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.

Production of pulses

988. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the fact that pulses constitute an integral accompaniment to rice and wheat in Indian diet, Government has been neglecting cultivation of pulses which are now confined to marginal and unirrigated lands with low fertility; and

(b) whether with the current production of pulses stagnating at around 17 million tonnes against a total projected demand of 23.00 million tonnes, Government would enhance the pulse acreage to more irrigated lands with the availability of quicker maturing and high-yielding varieties, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government is promoting pulses production through National Food Security Mission (NFSM). More than 50 per cent fund under NFSM is allocated for pulses. Financial assistance is provided to farmers for various interventions like demonstration of improved package of practices, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, micro-nutrients, plant protection chemicals, soil amendments, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers.

Under NFSM, various initiatives like planting of pigeon pea on rice bunds, pulses as intercrop with oilseeds, cereals, commercial crops, cultivation of pulses in summer season and cropping based approach to cultivate pulses as a second crop after rice etc. are being promoted to increase acreage of pulses in irrigated areas.

Suicide by farmers

†989. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in the country are resorting to suicide as farming is turning unprofitable, farmers are indebted and they are left with no other option but to commit suicide;

(b) if so, the initiatives taken by Government in this direction, so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons for which farmers in States like Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat, are committing suicide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Agriculture sector had registered an average growth rate of 4.1 % during Eleventh Plan period as compared to 2.5% and 2.4% during 9th and 10th Plan respectively. A target of 4% growth in Agriculture and allied sector has been envisaged during Twelfth Plan Period. In order to achieve this growth rate farmers need assistance for better planning, cultivation and marketing of agricultural produce as well as, for mobilizing finances for agricultural purposes.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicide compiled on an annual basis, upto the year 2014 are available at its website. These Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have yet not been published. As per ADSI Reports for the years, 2013 and 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have been given in the Statement-I (*See* below). As may be seen from this Statement, during the year 2014, it was for the first time that the suicides of farmers were delineated, as that of farmers and agricultural labourers. In so far as the data for the year 2015, the data as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides, due to agrarian reasons, have been compiled and given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

Although, Agriculture is a State subject and the State Governments take up several schemes and programmes in accordance with the agro-climatic conditions, needs of the State concerned and for development of Agriculture and increasing the income of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. Some of these schemes and policy measures are:

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. 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 reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote 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 being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) Government has also recently approved a new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season.

PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances. Some salient features are:

- (a) Farmers have to pay the lowest ever premium rate.
 - (b) There will be a uniform premium rate for farmers for entire country - 2% maximum for Kharif food and Oilseed crops, 1.5% maximum for Rabi food and Oilseed crops and 5% maximum for Annual Horticultural/Annual Commercial crops.
 - (c) The remaining financial burden will be borne by the Government.
 - (d) Farmers will get full insurance cover - there will be no "capping" of the Sum Insured and consequently, claim amount will not be cut or reduced.
 - (e) For the first time, inundation has been included under localized risk cover, in addition to hailstorm and landslide. Individual farm level assessment of crop loss will be done for this.
 - (f) For the first time, post harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains throughout the country have been covered.
 - (g) For the first time, emphasis has been given to mobile and Satellite Technology to facilitate accurate assessment and quick settlement of claims.
 - (h) Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for better administration, co-ordination, dissemination of information and transparency.
 - (i) Coverage of areas to be increased from 23%, at present to 50% in 2 to 3 years.
- (vi) The Government also undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its '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, 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.

This Department has also taken measures to tackle the crisis that has arisen in the

country due to second consecutive year of drought. The Government is committed to stand by the farmers in this crisis situation. During Kharif 2015, Government of India under the NDRF has approved higher assistance to the States than in the previous years.

Further, the norms under NDRF have also been revised comprehensively with relief in the form of Input Subsidy which is now admissible for 33% or more crop loss, as against 50% loss earlier; financial assistance admissible up to 2 hectare against earlier limit of 1 hectare; in assured irrigated areas, the financial assistance has been increased from ₹ 9,000 per hectare to ₹ 13,500 per hectare. In case of perennial crops, the quantum of input subsidy has been increased from ₹ 12,000/- to ₹ 18,000/- per hectare.

(c) Reasons of suicide by farmers as reported by State Governments, are manifold which, *inter-alia*, include crop failure, indebtedness, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons.

Statement-I

*Details of number of suicides under subhead "Self-employed Persons"
(Farmers) for various reasons*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2013	2014	
		Farmers & Labourers	Farmers	Labourers
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh		160	472
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2014	0	3
3.	Assam	37	21	38
4.	Bihar	305	0	10
5.	Chhattisgarh	127	443	312
6.	Goa	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	1	45	555
8.	Haryana	582	14	105
9.	Himachal Pradesh	374	32	31
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	33	12	25

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Jharkhand	18	0	4
12.	Karnataka	142	321	447
13.	Kerala	1403	107	700
14.	Madhya Pradesh	978	826	372
15.	Maharashtra	1090	2568	1436
16.	Manipur	3146	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	0	2
18.	Mizoram	5	0	5
19.	Nagaland	6	0	0
20.	Odisha	2	5	97
21.	Punjab	150	24	40
22.	Rajasthan	83	0	373
23.	Sikkim	292	35	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	35	68	827
25.	Telangana	105	898	449
26.	Tripura	Na	0	32
27.	Uttar Pradesh	56	63	129
28.	Uttarakhand	750	0	0
29.	West Bengal	15	0	230
TOTAL (STATES)		0	5642	6694
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11744	8	0
31.	Chandigarh	5	0	.0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	15	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	8	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	16
TOTAL (UTs)		0	8	16
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		28	5650	6710
		11772	12360	

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Statement-II

Details of Number of Suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Governments

Sl. No.	State/ UT	2015
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	0
4.	Bihar	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	3
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	3
8.	Haryana	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR
11.	Jharkhand	NR
12.	Karnataka (F/Y)	107
13.	Kerala	1

Sl. No.	State/ UT	2015
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0
15.	Maharashtra	1841
16.	Punjab #	449
17.	Telangana *	342

NR - Not reported,

includes suicides of farmers and also labourers, due to various reasons.

* includes suicides during the year 2014.

Horticulture production outpacing production of foodgrains

990. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's horticulture output has outpaced the production of foodgrains third year in a row in 2014-15, despite deficit monsoon, unseasonal rains and hailstorms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that besides horticulture production has shown continuous increase in the foodgrains output has reported a decline in 2014-15 as compared to 2013-14; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the continued support extended by Government of Tamil Nadu, the State has become the top flower producing State in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Despite the deficit monsoon, unseasonal rains and hailstorm in the major part of the country, the production of horticulture crops have outpaced the production of foodgrains since 2012-13 as may be seen in the table below:

Year	Production (In Million Tonnes)	
	Total Horticulture*	Total Foodgrains**
2012-13	268.85	257.13
2013-14	277.35	265.04
2014-15	280.99	252.02

Source: * Horticulture Statistics Division, DAC&FW.

** Directorate of Economics and Statistics.

(b) Yes, Sir. There has been an increase of 1.3% in horticulture production and reduction of 4.9% in foodgrain production in 2014-15 as compared to 2013 -14.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per 2014-15 final estimates. Tamil Nadu is the leading flower producing state in the country.

Decrease in agricultural production despite increasing loan

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

(a) whether loan amount given to agriculture sector during the last two years is constantly being increased;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in such loan amount provided to agriculture sector during each year of the last two years;

(c) whether there has been no increase in agricultural production during consecutive years despite making or increasing availability of loan; and

(d) if not, the percentage of increase in agricultural production recorded during each year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The percentage increase in agriculture credit for the last two years 2013-14 and 2014-15 in comparison to the respective previous years is 20.20% and 15.78% respectively.

(c) and (d) The percentage change in agriculture production during the last two years 2013-14 and 2014-15 in comparison to the respective previous years is as under:-

Crop	% change in 2013-14	% change in 2014-15
Foodgrains	3.07	(-)4.91
Oilseeds	5.83	(-)16.00
Cotton	4.91	(-)3.05
Jute & Mesta	6.95	(-)4.82
Sugarcane	3.20	2.89

Assessment of demand and supply of agricultural produces

992. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to make an advance assessment of expected demand and supply of various agricultural produces so that excess production and acute shortage is prevented;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the mechanism has been successful in percolating such information to the farmers to grow crops as per requirement thereby making farming profitable as well as taming the demand-supply mismatch; and

(c) the fresh initiatives of the Government to fine tune such advance assessment and to sensitize farmers well in advance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The Working Group on Crop Husbandry Demand and Supply Projections, Agricultural Inputs and Agricultural Statistics constituted as a part of the formulation of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) projected demand and supply for different agricultural crops till 2016-17.

The Working Group estimated demand and supply on the basis of various approaches of supply and demand projection methods. The detailed demand projections and actual production in recent years is given in the Statement (*See* below). The relevant information on various aspects, such as prices, production, supply etc., of agricultural commodities is extensively disseminated to farmers through agricultural extension services, Kisan Call Centres, farmers portal and m-Kisan portal under National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A) to help in their farming/cropping decision which are profitable to them.

Government has taken a number of initiatives to improve quality of statistical inputs used for demand and supply projections through improved survey methodology on Household Consumer Expenditure Surveys of National Sample Survey Office as well as use of modern techniques/technologies such as remote-sensing, etc., in Crop Cutting Experiments for assessment of yield/production, besides thorough scrutiny of data on production reported by State Governments.

Statement*Details of Projected Demand and Supply of Food
Commodities during Twelfth Plan**(Million Tonnes)*

Crop/Group of Crops	Projected	Projected	Actual Production				
	Demand	Supply					
	Terminal	Terminal					
	Year	Year					
	Twelfth	Twelfth					
	Plan	Plan					
	2016-17	2016-17	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*
Rice	110	198-106	105.30	105.24	106.65	105.48	103.61
Wheat	89	93-104	94.88	93.51	95.85	86.53	93.82
Coarse Cereals	36	42-48	42.01	40.04	43.29	42.86	38.40
Total Cereals	235	240-251	242.20	238.79	235.79	234.87	235.83
Pulses	22	18-21	17.09	18.34	19.25	17.15	17.33
Foodgrains	257	258-272	259.29	257.13	265.04	252.02	253.16
Oilseeds	59	33-41	29.80	30.94	32.74	27.51	26.34
Sugarcane	279	365-411	361.04	341.2	352.14	362.33	346.38
Vegetables	161	NA	156.33	162.19	162.90	169.48	168.51**
Fruits	97	NA	76.42	81.29	88.97	86.60	89.02**

*2nd Advance Estimates

** 1st Estimates

Ability of Bt. Cotton seeds to fight with 'rose insect' or 'pink insect'

993. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry that the potential and ability of Bt. Cotton seeds to fight with 'rose insect' or 'pink insect' has been coming down;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there was focus on the above issue in the meeting recently held in the National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM); and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Ministry to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) ICAR-Central Institute on Cotton Research, Nagpur (CICR) undertakes regular insect resistance monitoring programme on cotton across the country. Based on its survey of during 2014-15 and 2015-16, break down of Bollgard II resistance in cotton against pink bollworm in some parts of Gujarat, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh has been reported.

(b) A meeting was held at National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM) on 13th December, 2015 coordinated by Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad and the strategy to manage the pink bollworm was discussed.

(c) Following efforts are being made:

1. ICAR-CICR advised the use of the parasitoid *Trichogramma bactriae* in bt cotton fields for pink bollworm management.
2. Recommended planting of Desi cotton/conventional non-bt *G. hirsutum* cotton and late planted bhendi as refugia crops to counter build up of resistance.
3. Timely sowing of short duration/ early maturing hybrids for escape of pink bollworm.
4. Avoiding use of synthetic pyrethroids.
5. Termination of crop by December/January.
6. Weekly advisory issued on ICAR-CICR website at http://www.cicr.org.in/weekly_advisory.htm. Also Instructions are being offered weekly to the cotton growing farmers.

Indebtedness among cotton growing farmers

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

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

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

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government to study, prevent and compensate the loss occasioned to such farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no evidence that spread of cultivation of Bt. Cotton in itself has led to an increase in indebtedness among the cotton growing farmer and in any case adoption of Bt. Cotton by farmers is based on market forces and not due to any promotion by Government.

The rapid voluntary adoption of Bt. Cotton hybrids by the farmers resulted in expansion in area under Bt. Cotton cultivation from 29,000 ha in 2002-03 (0.38% of total cotton area) to about 118.35 lakh ha in 2014-15 (92% of total cotton area). The productivity of cotton in the country increased by almost 3.5 times by adoption of GM cotton hybrids. Cotton production over all increased from 86.24 lakh bales in 2002-03 to 348.05 lakh bales in 2014-15. India is the 2nd largest producer, consumer and exporter of cotton in the world.

The increasing trend towards use by Bt. Cotton seed indicate that there is no significant relation between indebtedness with Bt. Cotton cultivation.

(c) Question does not arise.

Report on decline in production of rice, maize and jawar

†995. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decline in the yield of rice, maize and jawar has been indicated in the report "Climate Change and India: A 4X4 Assessment-A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030" issued by Government of India in 2010, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action plan formulated by Government for checking the decline in yield of rice, maize and jawar and increasing the production of these crops, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The report, "Climate Change and India A 4X4 Assessment-A Sectoral and Regional Analysis for 2030" presents an assessment of the impact of climate change in the 2030s on four key sectors of the economy including agriculture. Four cereal crops of rice, maize, sorghum and wheat besides plantation crop coconut were studied. Depending upon the intensity of change

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in climate attributes across the regions, an average decline in yield of irrigated rice by 4 to 20%, rainfed rice by 10-35%, maize and sorghum by 15 to 50% is projected for 2030. However, yield in some small pockets may get benefitted due to improvement in seasonal conditions.

(b) Government is supporting area expansion and yield enhancement of crops including rice, maize and jowar under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) since 2007-08 through demonstrations, distribution of quality seeds and subsidies for inputs, farm machinery and equipments. Besides, recognizing likely impact of climate change on crops and allied sectors, Government through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has initiated network project, National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) during 2010-11. It encompasses multi-pronged strategic research, technology development, capacity building of stakeholders and technology demonstrations at farmer's fields. Government is also addressing the issues of climate change through National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). The NMSA as programmatic intervention aims at making location specific, integrated/composite farming system; soil and moisture conservation measures; comprehensive soil health management, efficient water management practices and mainstream rainfed technologies. Besides, climate resilient interventions have been embedded and mainstreamed into Missions/Programmes/Schemes of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW) through a process of restructuring and convergence.

Decline in farm sector

996. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's farm sector shrank for the first time in last five years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the total foodgrains production during the last 11 months ending 28th February, 2016 and how much the production has declined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As per estimates released by the Central Statistics Organisation (CSO), the growth rates in Gross Value Added (GVA) of agriculture and allied sector during the last five years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2014-15 are given below:

Year	Growth rate in GVA of agriculture and allied sector (%)
at 2004-05 constant prices	
2010-11	8.6
2011-12	5.0
at 2011-12 constant prices	
2012-13	1.5
2013-14	4.2
2014-15	-0.2

As per Advance Estimates released by CSO, the growth rate of Agriculture and Allied Sector for the current year *i.e.* 2015-16 is estimated at 1.1 %.

Growth of the above sector during the last year and current year has declined due to deficiency of rainfall and moisture stress affecting production of Kharif and Rabi crops.

(c) Production estimates of major agricultural crops including foodgrains are prepared for an agricultural year (July to June). As per 2nd Advance Estimates, total foodgrains production during 2015-16 (July 2015 to June 2016) has been estimated at 253.16 million tonnes.

Except for the years of unfavourable rainfall, weather, temperature conditions, etc. the production of foodgrains in the country has followed an increasing trend.

Compensation for spoiled cultivation

997. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to provide compensation to farmers, if the cultivation spoiled during any natural calamities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to provide such type of compensation to farmers, so that the compensation reaches to the beneficiaries directly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) In order to protect

farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India had introduced the National Crop Insurance Programme (NOP) from Rabi 2013-14 season 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 NOP from Rabi 2013-14, has been extended further. These schemes have been recently reviewed and a scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 season.

Financial assistance from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)/National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) is also provided as immediate relief and not as compensation to farmers where crop loss is 33% and above due to notified natural calamities. The norms of relief under SDRF/NDRF are ₹ 6800/- per ha for rainfed areas, ₹ 13500/-per ha for assured irrigated areas and ₹ 18000/-per ha for all types of perennial crops.

(b) Crop insurance is a financial tool to insure the crop losses on payment of admissible premium to the insurance company. Further under the crop insurance schemes, claims (not assistance or compensation) are paid to only those farmers who insured their crops and paid premium under any of the notified crop insurance schemes in the area notified by the State Government. Admissible claims are worked out and paid as per the provisions of the respective schemes.

Under crop insurance schemes, claims are credited in Farmers' account only.

The State Governments are to take utmost care and ensure that all individual beneficiary-oriented assistance from SDRF/NDRF is necessary/mandatory disbursed through the bank account (*viz*; Jan Dhan Yojana etc.) of the beneficiary.

Subsidy for various types of cultivation

998. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to give subsidy to farmers for various types of cultivation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to give such type of subsidy to farmers, so that they reach to the beneficiaries directly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Agriculture is a State Subject.

However, the Government of India supports the State Government through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, for which financial assistance is provided. Under the schemes, funds are released to the State Governments who in turn provide subsidy to the beneficiaries as per approved norms.

(b) To ensure greater and universal impact on efficiency in delivery of benefits and in order to ensure reaching of benefits of financial assistance to the beneficiaries, the State Governments and institutions are being constantly advised to ensure that the cash component under the schemes is transferred electronically to each beneficiary (individual or institution) from the year 2015-16. Further, the Government has also introduced Central Public Financial Management System (PFMS) to ensure that the benefits reach the targeted beneficiaries in a transparent and speedy manner and also in time.

Subsidy for purchasing combine harvester

999. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is extending subsidy to farmers for purchase of combine harvester; and

(b) 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization being implemented by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, subsidy @ 40% of the project cost limited to a maximum of ₹ 24 lakhs, whichever is less, is extended to the rural entrepreneurs, progressive farmer and self help groups for establishment of farm machinery banks for custom hiring comprising of various agricultural machinery and equipment including combine harvester.

Development of new variety of Arhar

1000. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IARI has recently developed new Super Arhar pulse variety that matures within two months and can be grown in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has prepared any action plan to provide drip irrigation facilities to grow the Super Arhar to get bumper harvest; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi has not developed any super early variety of arhar maturing in two months. However, short duration arhar varieties maturing in 130-140 days have been developed and released for cultivation in different states including Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Arhar is mainly grown under rainfed condition and one or two protective irrigations are required, if there is a long dry spell. Drip irrigation is being used by the farmers to raise the arhar crop. The Central Government is providing assistance in the range of 21-54% of the cost of installation of drip irrigation system.

Functioning of KVKs

1001. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our farmers are not enlightened to take care of weather fluctuations and uncertainties resulting in crop losses;

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

(c) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) working in districts have not come forward in time to assist the farming community; and

(d) whether Government has warned the KVKs to improve their functioning and if so, the results obtained in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Farmers are regularly informed about weather fluctuations and uncertainties to minimize the yield losses in various crops. The measures taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) include creating a network of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) in Agricultural Universities(AUs) and selected KVKs; hosting of a dedicated website (www.aicrpam-nicra-aws.in) for continuous online monitoring of instant weather data across the locations; preparation and dissemination of micro level weather based agro-advisories to farmers by 25 centres of All India Coordinated Research Project on Agro- Meteorology (AICRPAM) located in 25 Agricultural Universities. Besides, weather information and

related agro-advisories are provided to farmers by KVKs through Kisan Mobile Advisory messages, Radio and TV programmes and newspapers. Further, India Meteorological Department also issues weather forecasts at district level.

(c) In addition to the mandated activities like assessment and demonstration of various technologies in farmer's field, the KVKs stand by the farming community for providing technological backstopping and timely agro-advisories. In times of adverse climatic conditions like drought or long dry spells, floods or heavy rainfalls/unusual rains, speedy winds etc., the KVKs suggest farmers for adopting alternative technologies and practices. For this purpose district specific contingency plans have been prepared for 580 districts of the country to cope up with such situations.

(d) The ICAR has put in place a mechanism for improving the functioning of KVK through regular monitoring and review by holding of Scientific Advisory Committee meetings, mid-term and annual zonal workshops and visits to KVKs by senior officers from Zonal Offices, Directorates of Extension Education of Agricultural Universities and ICAR Headquarters. The functioning of KVKs is also reviewed by Quinquennial Review Teams. Based on the reviews, the KVKs are advised and directed for adhering to the administrative decisions of ICAR from time to time. The KVK-wise status in this regard is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of KVK-wise status for Adhering to administrative decisions of ICAR

1. **KVK Guntur (Andhra Pradesh):** It was found that functioning of KVK, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh has been affected due to dispute amongst the management of the Host Organization which is sub-judice.
2. **KVK, Nanded (Maharashtra):** The KVK, Nanded, Maharashtra had some administrative issues concerning use and maintenance of KVK infrastructure, holding of scientific advisory committee meetings regularly and made procedural lapses in maintenance of records for which corrective measures were suggested and the same have now been followed.
3. **KVK, Unnao (Uttar Pradesh):** Complaints have been received alleging irregularities related to ownership of land, recruitment of staff and functioning of KVK, Unnao, Uttar Pradesh. It was decided that KVKs under NGOs established *w.e.f.* 13.01.2005 will have to mortgage their land in favour of ICAR. However, the KVK Unnao was established in 1999 and there was no such clause in the MoU signed between the

NGO managing the KVK and the ICAR. Therefore, mortgage of land of the KVK cannot be enforced. Further, a committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Director, IISR, Lucknow to fill up all the vacancies of KVK Unnao.

4. **KVK, Jamui (Bihar):** As regards to KVK at Jamui district of Bihar, there was a dispute regarding ownership of the land between the two related organizations and a committee was constituted for investigating the issue. Based on the recommendations of the Committee it has been decided to continue with the ownership of the KVK with the existing NGO (Shrambharti Khadigram).
5. **KVK, Thanjavur and KVK, Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu):** There were also complaints regarding irregularities in KVK Thanjavur and KVK Tirunelveli of Tamil Nadu related to construction and unauthorized use of buildings, appointment of staff, payment of salary to employees and diversion of funds. The matter has been investigated by a committee. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, inadmissible expenditure at the KVK, Thanjavur has been worked-out and legal advice sought for further course of action. The case of KVK, Tirunelveli is sub-judice.

Increase in premium for weather based crop insurance scheme

1002. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the weather based crop insurance scheme premium payable by the farmers has been increased by Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide impetus to agriculture and incentives to farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir. Actuarial rates of premium with subsidy upto 50% of premium subject to maximum premium of 6% payable by farmers are charged under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). However, the existing crop insurance schemes has recently reviewed by the Government and premium payable by farmers has been substantially reduced and simplified and there is One premium rate on pan-India basis for farmers which would be maximum 1.5%, 2% and 5% for all Rabi, Kharif and annual horticultural/commercial crops, respectively under re-restructured WBCIS from Kharif 2016 season.

(b) Government has taken several steps like introduction of (a) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana to provide comprehensive risk coverage of entire crop cycle from pre-sowing to post harvested risks at lowest premium rate payable for farmers; (b) Effective policy decisions for sugarcane farmers to reduce arrears from ₹ 21000 crores to ₹ 2500 crores, increase in Import duty, hike of Ethanol blending percentage from 5% to 10%; (c) Change in Natural disaster relief criteria through which compensation has been raised by one and a half times, eligibility criteria reduced from 50% to 33%, Relaxation in standards for procurement under MSP, Relaxation in timeline for loan repayment, subsidy in diesel along with increase in Seed subsidy by 50%; to enhance accessibility to credit for farmers, agricultural loan limit has been increased to ₹ 8.5 lakh crores for the year 2015-16 and 9 lakh crores for 2016-17; (d) in World Trade Organization long term interests of farmers have been protected; (e) introduction of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana; (f) Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana for creation of a separate feeder for supply of power for agriculture and villages (g) issuance of Soil Health Card (SHC); (h) Neem coated urea for increasing the efficacy of fertilizers and inhibit its use in other sectors; (i) New fertilizer policy to increase fertilizer production to avoid any shortage of fertilizer and ensuring full availability; (j) Development of National Agricultural Market in association with States - to establish an e-platform and Kisan TV -Launch of 24 X 7 channel to help farmers to get information on weather, mandis and other information etc. to provide impetus to agriculture and incentives to farmers in the country etc.

Suicide by farmers

†1003. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have committed suicide in various States of the country from June, 2013 to December 2015, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the names of programmes started for the welfare of farmers, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of farmers who have benefited so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicide compiled on an annual basis, upto the year 2014 are available at its website. The Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have yet not been published. As per ADSI Reports for the years 2013 and 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have been given in the Statement-I. [Refer to the Statement-I appended to the Answer to USQ No. 989, part (a) & (b)]. As may be seen from this Statement, during the year 2014, it was for the first time that the suicides of farmers were delineated, as that of farmers and agricultural labourers. In so far as the data for the year 2015, the data as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides, due to agrarian reasons, have been compiled and given in the Statement-II [Refer to the Statement-II appended to the Answer to USQ No. 989, part (a) and (b)]

Agriculture, including agricultural indebtedness, being a State subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture in the State, including payment of compensation to the bereaved families of suicide victims. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. Some major schemes being implemented for the welfare of farmers are as follows:

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. 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 reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote 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 being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) Government has also recently approved a new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season.

PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances. Some salient features are:

- (a) Farmers have to pay the lowest ever premium rate.
 - (b) There will be a uniform premium rate for farmers for entire country - 2% maximum for Kharif food and Oilseed crops, 1.5% maximum for Rabi food and Oilseed crops and 5% maximum for Annual Horticultural/Annual Commercial crops.
 - (c) The remaining financial burden will be borne by the Government.
 - (d) Farmers will get full insurance cover - there will be no "capping" of the Sum Insured and consequently, claim amount will not be cut or reduced.
 - (e) For the first time, inundation has been included under localized risk cover, in addition to hailstorm and landslide. Individual farm level assessment of crop loss will be done for this.
 - (f) For the first time, post harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains throughout the country have been covered.
 - (g) For the first time, emphasis has been given to mobile and Satellite Technology to facilitate accurate assessment and quick settlement of claims.
 - (h) Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for better administration, co-ordination, dissemination of information and transparency.
 - (i) Coverage of areas to be increased from 23%, at present to 50% in 2 to 3 years.
- (vi) The Government also undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its '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, 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.

This Department has also taken measures to tackle the crisis that has arisen in the country due to second consecutive year of drought. The Government is committed to stand by the farmers in this crisis situation. During Kharif 2015, Government of India

under the NDRF has approved higher assistance to the States than in the previous years.

Further, the norms under NDRF have also been revised comprehensively with relief in the form of input subsidy which is now admissible for 33% or more crop loss, as against 50% loss earlier; financial assistance admissible up to 2 hectare against earlier limit of 1 hectare; in assured irrigated areas, the financial assistance has been increased from ₹ 9,000 per hectare to ₹ 13,500 per hectare. In case of perennial crops, the quantum of input subsidy has been increased from ₹ 12,000/- to ₹ 18,000/- per hectare.

Farmers suicide

1004. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state the steps taken to boost agricultural productivity and income of farmers to prevent farmers' suicide epidemic in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): The Government has taken several new initiatives to promote agricultural activities. The strategy is to focus on farmers' welfare by making farming viable. Farm viability is possible, when cost of cultivation is reduced, yields per unit of farm are increased and farmers get remunerative prices on their produce. The Department is implementing various schemes to meet this objective, *viz.*

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. 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 reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote 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 being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.

- (v) Government has also recently approved a new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.

Reforms in agricultural marketing

1005. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural markets in the country are not keeping pace with the changes in production and demands of the country if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government is contemplating to bring in urgent reforms in agricultural marketing of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and current status thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/being taken to enable farmers to receive a large proportion of the price paid by the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) To address the demands for marketing of increased and diversified agricultural marketable surplus there is a need to strengthen the network of regulated markets and augment it with alternative marketing channels. As per the recommendation of the National Farmers Commission (2004), that a regulated market should be available to farmers within a radius of 5 Km. (corresponding market area of about 80 square km.). However, presently all-India average area served by a regulated market is 487.40 square km. The number of commodity specific markets with requisite infrastructure are also limited.

Agriculture Marketing is governed by the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts, which are administered by respective State Governments. Some State Governments have ushered reforms in their marketing sector to meet the challenges.

(b) to (d) In order to keep pace with the changing production pattern and growing

marketable surplus, the Government advocates development of adequate number of markets equipped with modern infrastructure, with increased private sector participation and development of other marketing channels like direct marketing and contract farming etc. The Government is actively pursuing with States to amend their marketing laws to provide suitable legal framework and policy atmosphere to usher such developments. The reform agenda of the Government focuses on 7 vital areas for reforms. State-wise progress is given in the Statement (See below).

Further, as a part of reforms, Government announced a scheme for setting up of National Agriculture Market (NAM). Under NAM, a common e-market platform is to be deployed for on-line trading across the States/ Country. It is expected that NAM would address the marketing constraints of fragmentation, lack of transparency in bidding, poor price discovery, information asymmetry between sellers and buyers and provide farmers with a larger share of the consumer rupee.

Statement

*Details of status of Marketing Reforms with reference to 7 key areas vis-a-vis
Model APMC Act as updated on 25/02/2016*

Sl.No.	Area of Reforms	States adopted the suggested area of marketing reforms
1	2	3
1.	Establishment of private market yards/ private markets managed by a person other than a market committee.	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha (excluding for paddy / rice), Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Punjab, UT of Chandigarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, West Bengal.
2.	Establishment of direct purchase of agricultural produce from agriculturist (Direct Purchasing from producer)	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana (for specified crop through

1	2	3
		establishment of Collection Centres) Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Punjab (only in Rule), UT of Chandigarh (only in Rule), Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. U.P. (Only for bulk purchase under executive order issued time to time)
3. To promote and permit e-trading,		Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Haryana, H.P., Karnataka, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra (has granted license to Commodity Exchanges registered under FMC), Mizoram, Telangana, Uttarakhand.
4. Establishment of farmers/ consumers market managed by a person other than a market committee (Direct sale by the producer)		Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.
5. Contract Farming Sponsor shall register himself with the Marketing Committee or with a prescribed officer in such a manner as may be prescribed.		Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha,

1	2	3
		Punjab (separate Act), Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand.
6. Single point levy of market fee		Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat (for processor, grader, packer, value addition and exporter), Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Jharkhand, Sikkim, UT of Chandigarh, Punjab, Mizoram, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
7 Single registration/ license for trade/ transaction in more than one market		Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka (in Rules only), Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Telangana ((in Rules only), Sikkim.

Extending support to farmers in case of crop failure

1006. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is willing to consider extending guarantee for the loan taken by farmers for agricultural purposes in order to ensure that they do not commit suicide in case of crop failure for which they had availed the loan; and

(b) whether Government would consider, as a second option, to go for the insurance cover up, purchase the crop of the farmer in advance and claim compensation from the insurance company, in case the crop fails so that the life of the farmer is protected in any eventuality?

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

are indebted to both institutional and non-institutional sources of credit. However, borrowing from non-institutional sources is the major reason for debt-related farmers' distress which is one of the reported reasons for farmers' suicide in the country. In order to reduce the dependence of farmers on private money lenders for meeting their credit needs and for providing relief to the indebted farmers, Government has already taken several measures which include the following:

Financial Institutions (Commercial Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks) have been directed to provide short term crop loans and medium/ long term loan to farmers for various agricultural activities. Short term crop loan of upto ₹ 3.00 lakh is provided to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum. Farmers, who promptly repay their crop loans as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, get the benefit of interest subvention of 3%. Thus, the effective interest rate for the short term crop loan is 4% per annum.

The limit of collateral free farm loan has been increased from ₹ 50000 to ₹ 100000.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, which enables the farmers to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. and to draw cash to satisfy their consumption needs. The KCC Scheme has since been simplified and converted into ATM enabled debit card (Rupay KCC- RKCC).

Reserve Bank of India has allowed State Level Bankers' Committee/ District Level Consultative Committees/ Banks to take a view on rescheduling of loans if the crop loss is 33% or more. Banks have been advised to allow maximum period of repayment of upto 2 years (including the moratorium period of 1 year) if the crop loss is between 33% and 50%. If the crop loss is 50% or more, the restructured period for repayment is extended to a maximum of 5 years (including the moratorium period of 1 year).

To provide financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of crops as a result of natural calamities, Government is implementing crop insurance schemes since 1985. At present, two Crop Insurance Schemes namely, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and National Crop Insurance Schemes (NCIP) with three component schemes namely, Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) are under implementation in the country.

Under the crop insurance schemes, claims are paid to the insured farmers under any of the notified crop insurance scheme in the area notified by the State Government.

Admissible claims are worked out and paid as per the provisions of the respective schemes. As an incentive to the farmers, premium subsidy @ 10% to small and marginal farmers under NAIS, upto 75% under MNAIS, upto 50% under WBCIS and upto 75% under CPIS is provided to all participating farmers and the financial liabilities under the aforesaid schemes are equally shared by the Central Government and the concerned State Government.

These crop insurance schemes have recently been reviewed in consultation with various stakeholders including States/ UTs and a new scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 season along with pilot Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) and the restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). Under the PMFBY, a uniform maximum premium of only 2% will be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops. In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the maximum premium to be paid by farmers will be only 5%. The premium rates to be paid by farmers are very low and balance premium will be paid by the Government to provide full insured amount to the farmers against crop loss on account of natural calamities. There is no upper limit on Government subsidy. Earlier, there was a provision of capping the premium rate which resulted in low claims being paid to farmers. This capping was done to limit Government outgo on the premium subsidy. This capping has now been removed and farmers will get claim against full sum insured without any reduction. The use of technology will be encouraged to a great extent. Smart phones will be used to capture and upload data of crop cutting experiments to reduce the delays in claim payment to farmers. Remote sensing will be used to rationalize the number of crop cutting experiments.

Dependence on monsoon for production of pulses

1007. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons that nearly 90 per cent of production of pulses still remain dependent on monsoon;
- (b) whether it is a fact that production of pulses has come down from 18.2 million tonnes in 2011-12 to 17.2 million tonnes in 2014-15;
- (c) the tentative expectation of production of pulses in 2015-16;
- (d) the reasons that Government is giving little importance to production of pulses; and

(e) the efforts being made to ensure that there is less dependence on monsoon for production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) About 84% of area under pulses is rainfed. Low productivity, more risk and lack of assured market are the major reasons for which farmers do not prefer to grow pulses in irrigated areas. The farmers prefer to grow rice, wheat, cash crops or vegetable crops instead of pulses in irrigated areas.

(b) The production of pulses in 2011-12 was 17.09 million tonnes and 17.15 million tonnes in 2014-15.

(c) The production of pulses is expected to be 17.33 million tonnes in 2015-16 (as per the 2nd Advance Estimates).

(d) In fact, Government of India has taken all measures to increase production of pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Government of India is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in 622 districts of 27 states. Financial Assistance is provided to farmers for various interventions like demonstration of improved package of practices, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, micro-nutrients, plant protection chemicals, soil amendments, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers.

(e) Under NFSM, assistance is being provided to farmers for efficient water application tools like water carrying pipes, mobile raingun, sprinkler set and pump set to provide protective irrigation to pulses.

Industrial status to agriculture

1008. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long pending demand of farmers across the country to provide industry status to agriculture;

(b) whether it is a fact that agricultural activities are showing a declining trend in the country for quite some time now;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has received many proposals in this regard from many corners; and

(d) whether finally Government is considering to grant industrial status to agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a), (c) and (d) Government has been receiving suggestions from various quarters to accord status of industry to agriculture. However, Government seeks to bestow on the agriculture sector as many benefits as available to those in the manufacturing sector, such as, easy availability of credit and other inputs and infrastructure facilities for development of agriculture sector including marketing and post harvest management. Further, Government has launched a comprehensive crop insurance scheme called 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' (PMFBY) which cover the risks- and uncertainties that the farm sector is exposed to.

(b) Yes, Sir. There has been a decline in the percentage share of Agriculture and Allied Sector in the Gross Value Added (GVA) (earlier referred as Gross Domestic Product) from 18.5% in 2011-12 to 16.3 % in 2014-15 (advance estimate released on 08.02.2016) at constant (2011-12) prices. The falling share of Agriculture and Allied sector is an expected outcome in structurally changing economy. The Government has taken several new initiatives to promote agricultural activities. The strategy is to focus on farmers' welfare by making farming viable. Farm viability is possible, when cost of cultivation is reduced, yields per unit of farm are increased and farmers get remunerative prices on their produce.

Decline in production of rice

1009. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of rice in the country has gone down considerably this year, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to handle the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per Second Advance Estimates for 2015-16, the production of rice in the country is estimated at 103.61 million tonnes which is lower by 1.87 million tonnes than the rice production of 105.48 million tonnes during the last year. The production of the rice in the country during the current year has declined mainly on account of shortfall in area coverage due to higher deficiency of 14% in the rainfall during monsoon, 2015 as compared to rainfall deficiency of 12% during monsoon 2014.

(b) In order to increase production and productivity of rice in the country, Government of India has been implementing various Crop Development Schemes / Programmes such as National Food Security Mission on Rice (NFSM-Rice), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) as a sub-scheme of RKVY, etc.

To improve productivity of rice, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting basic and strategic research related to different aspects of crop improvement, crop production and crop protection through Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack and all India Coordinated Research Project (AIRCP) on Rice coordinated by Directorate of Rice Research (DRR), Hyderabad. Through research initiatives of ICAR, improved rice varieties and hybrids are being developed with higher yield, stress tolerance, good cooking qualities etc. Special emphasis is given to develop rice varieties which are climate resilient in view of the predicted adverse effect of climate change on rice production in the years to come and also on conservation agricultural practices to bring down the cost of cultivation.

In addition, Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) on new varietal and crop management technologies under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) are conducted to popularize new varieties of paddy developed by research institutes. Besides, demonstrations on improved technologies/package of practices including varieties are conducted under "Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)" Programme in eastern states of the country where ICAR is providing technical back stopping.

Adoption of low carbon agriculture techniques

1010. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the likely impact of climate change on Indian agriculture and food security, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has undertaken measures to promote climatic resistant crop varieties, if so, the details thereof, measures through which the same has been undertaken and coverage of programme and such crops; and

(c) whether Government has taken initiatives/plans to take initiatives to encourage farmers to adopt low carbon agriculture techniques, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is 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. Studies also projected a fall of 6 mt wheat production and 14% rice production with every 1°C rise in temperature. The crop yields 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.

(b) ICAR undertakes comprehensive assessment of crops and traits on a regular basis as part of the ongoing programmes of its institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects on different crops for which development of high yielding varieties suitable for biotic and abiotic stresses including deficit rainfall/drought is one of the major objectives. Short duration varieties have also been released to escape or overcome the vagaries of weather condition and the details are given in the Statement (*See below*). The DAC&FW is promoting these identified/released climate resilient varieties through various on-going schemes.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has initiated network project called National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) during 2010-11. Under NICRA, climate resilient interventions are implemented by taking one representative village in each of 130 vulnerable districts. Major interventions on low carbon agriculture techniques implemented under the scheme include efficient management of natural resources, adoption of resilient agronomic practices, adoption of stress tolerant varieties, efficient management of livestock, poultry and fisheries and strengthening local institutions. Government is also addressing the issues of climate change through National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and promoting low carbon agriculture techniques/interventions like micro-irrigation system, development of degraded land, agro-forestry systems, organic farming including integrated nutrient management, System of rice intensification (SRI), direct seeded rice (DSR), Zero tillage etc. Besides, climate resilient interventions have been embedded and mainstreamed into Missions/Programmes/Schemes of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW).

Statement-I

Details of high yielding climate resilient crop varieties that can withstand severe change in weather pattern including deficient rainfall/drought and suitable for biotic and abiotic stresses

Food Crops

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
Rice		
Hybrid 6129	Resistant to Blast, brown spot and brown plant hopper	Irrigated areas of Punjab & Tamil Nadu
Improved Samba Mahsuri	Resistant to bacterial blight	Irrigated/shallow lowlands of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra
Improved Pusa Basmati 1	Resistant to blast	Basmati-growing areas of Delhi, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand
Sahabhagi Dhan, Vandana, Anjali, Satyabhama, DRR Dhan 42, Birsa Vikas Dhan 203, Birsa Vikas Dhan 111, Rajendra Bhagwati, Jaldi Dhan 6, IR64 Drt I	Drought tolerance	Upland rice areas

CSR 27, CSR 30, CSR 36, Narendar Ushar, Shankar Dhan 3, Lunishri	Salinity stress tolerance	Inland Saline areas
CR Dhan 402, CR Dhan 403	Salinity stress tolerance	Coastal areas
Swarna Subl, Savitri Subl, CR Dan 401 and Chakaakhi	Submergence tolerance (can sustain flood and flash flood upto 7-12 days)	Flood prone shallow lands areas
CR Dhan 500, Varshadhan, Hanseswari, CR Dhan 505, Jayantidhan, Jalamani and Durga	Waterlogging condition upto 75- 100 cm	Flood prone shallow lands areas
CR Dhan 201	Moderately resistant to leaf blast, sheath rot, stem borer, leaf folder, whorl maggot and rice thrips	Chhattisgarh & Bihar under aerobic condition
CR Dhan 202	Moderately resistant to stem borer, leaf folder, whorl maggot and rice thrips	Jharkhand and Odisha under aerobic condition
CR Dhan 407	Moderate resistance to BLB, Leaf Blast	Odisha and West Bengal under rainfed shallow lowlands
CR Dhan 505	Moderately resistant to leaf blast, sheath rot, sheath blight & rice tungro virus.	Odisha and Assam under deep water condition

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
Pusa Basmati 1509	Improved short duration basmati	Western Uttar Pradesh and Delhi under irrigated transplanted condition
Wheat		
PBW550	Resistant to yellow rust	Punjab, Haryana, West Uttar Pradesh (except Jhansi division)
VL 892	Medium fertility and restricted irrigation condition	Hills of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand
HI 1544	High fertility and irrigated conditions	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan (Kota and Udaipur divisions) and Gujarat
PBW 527	Drought tolerance	North west plains
HI 1531, HI 1500, HI 8627	Drought tolerance	Central Zone
HD2888	Drought tolerance	Eastern India
HPW 349, PBW 644, WH 1080, HD 3043, PBW 396, K 9465, K 8962, MP 3288, HD 4672, NIAW 1415, HD 2987	Drought tolerance	Northern and central wheat growing areas
NIAW 34	High temperature stress tolerance	Peninsular zone late sown conditions

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Raj 3765	High temperature stress tolerance	North western plain for late sown conditions
Raj 4037	High temperature stress tolerance	Peninsular India for normal sown conditions
KRL 14, KRL 19, KRL 210, KRL 213	Salinity stress tolerance	Inland saline areas
HD 2967	Rusts resistance	North Western Plain Zone and North Eastern Plain Zone
Narendra Wheat 4018	Resistant to brown rust and leaf blight	Uttar Pradesh
Maize		
QPM Hybrid HQPM7	Quality protein single-cross hybrids	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra
QPM Vivek 9	Early maturing and quality protein	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Andhra Pradesh
Buland	High temperature stress tolerance	Northern parts of India
PMH 1	High temperature stress tolerance	Irrigated areas of Punjab
PMH 3	High temperature stress tolerance	Northern parts of India
HM 9	High temperature stress tolerance	Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
Pusa hybrid Makka 1	Drought tolerance	Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh
HM 4	Drought tolerance	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Goa
Pusa hybrid Makka 5	Drought tolerance	Whole of India
DHM 121 (BH 41009)	Medium maturity, yellow, semi-dent and tolerant to moisture stress conditions	Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh in kharif season
HM-5, Seed Tech-2324, HM-10, PMH-2	Deep water/submergence/water logging tolerance	Maize growing areas
Sorghum		
CSH 25	Dual purpose and tolerant to grain mold diseases	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat
CSH 19 R, CSV 18	Drought tolerance	All rabi sorghum area
CSH 15 R	Drought tolerance	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

Millets

(i) Pearl Millet

HHB 67 improved, GHB 757, GHB 538,
GHB 719, Dhanshakti, HHB 234,
Mandor Bajra Composite 2, HHB-226,
RHB-177, Pusa Composite 443

Drought tolerance

All dry areas of Western Rajasthan and
Gujarat

(ii) Finger Millet

GPU 67, DHRS 1, PRM-2, KMr-301, VL
Mandua 347, Indira Ragi-1, Dapoli safed-1,
HIMA, KMR 204, VL Mandua-352 (VL352),
Phule Nachani-1 (KOPN-235)

Drought tolerance

Millets growing dry regions

(iii) Foxtail Millet

Sia 3085, Sia 3156

Drought tolerance

Millets growing dry regions

(iv) Barnyard Millet

CO(KV)2

Drought tolerance

Millets growing dry regions

(v) Kodo Millet

Indira Kodo-1

Drought tolerance

Millets growing dry regions

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
Barley		
RD 2660, K603	Drought tolerance	North west plains region
Pulses		
Chickpea		
Karnal Chana	Tolerance to salinity	North West Plain Zone
CO1, ICCV 10	Drought tolerance	Southern Zone
Vijay, Vikas	Drought tolerance	Central Zone
RSG 14, RSG 888	Drought tolerance	North West Plain Zone
PKV Kabuli 4, IPCK 2004-29, Phule G0517	Extra large seeded Kabuli	Central Zone
MNK 1	Extra large seeded Kabuli	South Zone
JG 6,JG 14	Resistance to wilt	Central Zone
DCP 92-3	Lodging tolerance	Central Zone
GNG 16	Lodging tolerance	North West Plain Zone

Pigeonpea

BSMR 736, BSMR 175, Asha

Wilt/Sterility mosaic disease tolerance

Central Zone

NDA 1, MAL 13

Wilt/Sterility mosaic disease tolerance

North East Plain Zone

Pusa 992, PA 291.PAU 881

Short duration suitable for multiple cropping

North west plain Zone

Mungbean

HUM 1

Yellow mosaic virus tolerance

Central and Southern Zone

C06

Yellow mosaic virus tolerance

South Zone

IPM 02-3

Yellow mosaic virus tolerance

North East Plain Zone

Samrat, IPM 2-3, Meha, SML 668

Early maturing suitable for spring/summer

North west plain zone and North East Plain Zone

IPM2-14, TM96-2, LGG 460, LGG 410

Resistant to powdery mildew suitable for rabi/spring

South Zone

Urdbean

WBU109, Pant U31, Azad Urd 1

Short duration suitable for multiple cropping

North East Plain Zone

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
IPU-02-43, LBG 625, Vamban 4, WBG 26	Resistant to powdery mildew suitable for rabi/spring	South Zone
Lentil		
HUL57, KLS218, PL8	Resistance to rust	North East Plain Zone
DPL 62, PL 6, PL7, IPL 406, LPL 315, LPL316	Large seeded	Central Zone and North Western plain Zone
Oilseeds		
Castor		
DCH 519	Resistance to wilt and leaf hoppers	All castor growing zones
GC 3	Resistant to wilt	Gujarat
Jwala	Tolerance to salinity and resistance to wilt	All castor growing zones
Rapeseed Mustard		
NRCDR 2	High temperature tolerance	North West Plain Zone

LET-18, Pusa Mustard 21, Pusa Mustard 24, RLC1

Low erucic acid

North West Plain Zone

NRCDR 601

High temperature and salinity tolerance

North West Plain Zone

VL toria 3

Tolerance to cold

North Hill Zone

Soybean

JS97-52

Resistance to Yellow mosaic virus and collar rot

Central Zone and North Eastern Zone

NRC7

Pod shattering resistance

All soybean growing zones

SL668, JS 97-52

Yellow mosaic resistance

All soybean growing zones

NRC-7, JS 71-05

Pod shattering and drought tolerance

All soybean growing zones

NARI 38, SSF 658

Resistant to wilt

All castor growing zones

JS 97-52, JS 20-38 and PK 472

Suitable for water logging condition.

Soybean growing zones

NRC 7, JS 95-60

Drought tolerance

Soybean growing zones

Groundnut

Ajiya, Girnar1, TAG-24, GG20, Kadiri 6, ICGV9 1114

Drought Tolerance

Central and South zone

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
Girnar2, Kadiri9, Kadiri,Haritandhra, Greeshma	Short duration suitable for rabi/spring	South Zone
Commercial Crops		
Cotton		
HD 324	Tolerance to Fusarium wilt and Leaf curl virus	North Zone
Hybrid Kalyan	Tolerant to Cotton Leaf curl virus	North Zone
G.Cot.Hy 12	Tolerant to aphids and jassids	Central Zone
LRA5166	Tolerance to drought	Central Zone
K C3	Tolerance to drought	South Zone
Kanchana, L - 604	Resistance to whitefly	South Zone
MCU 5 VT, Surabhi	Resistance to verticillium wilt	South zone
Suraj	Long staple with jassid tolerance	South and Central Zone irrigated conditions

HD 324, CICR-1, Raj DH 7, Jawahar Tapti, PratapKapi, Suraj, Surabhi, Veena, AK 235	Drought Tolerant	Cotton growing areas
Sugarcane		
Co 94008 (Shyama)	Tolerant to drought and salinity	Peninsular Zone
Co 2001-3 (Sulabh)	Moderately resistant to red rot, smut and wilt	Peninsular Zone
Co 98014 (Karan-1)	Tolerant to drought, water-logging	North West Zone
CoS 96268 (Mithas)	Moderately resistant to red rot and good ratooner	North West Zone
CoSe 6436 (Jalpari)	Tolerant to water-logging and good ratooner	North Central Zone
Co 0233(Kosi)	Moderately resistant to red rot and smut	North Central Zone
CoC 01061	Moderately resistant to red rot.	East Cost Zone
CoLk94184 (Birendra)	Tolerant to drought and waterlogging	North Central Zone

Varieties	Traits	Zone / State
	with good rationing	
Co 0118	High sucrose content and resistant to red rot, wilt and smut, tolerant to water logging	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Central and Western Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
Co 0239, Co 0238, Co 06927, Co 0403, Co 86032	Tolerant to drought	Southern and central zone
Jute		
JRO 204 (Suren), JBO-2003-H (IRA)	Early sowing suitability with fine fibre quality	Tossa jute belt
JRC-532 (Sashi)	Very fine fibre fineness white jute	White jute belt
JRC 80 (Mitali)	Premature flowering resistance	White jute belt
JBO 1 (Sudhangsu)	Drought tolerance	Tossa jute belt of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Odisha
S19, Tarun, JRO 7835, JRO 524, JRO 878, JRC 321, JRC 7447, JRC 532, JRC517, Bidhan Pat-1	Suitable for water logging condition	Jute growing belts

Monitoring mechanism for controlling milk prices

1011. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian farmers and milk producers are presently getting around ₹16 to ₹ 19 per litre as against the earlier ₹ 26 to ₹ 28 from co-operatives and Dairy industry despite selling milk in open market to the consumers more than ₹ 40 per litre;

(b) whether Government has any monitoring mechanism for controlling milk prices for consumers and also for purchase rate of milk from farmers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the milk prices for consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yearly Wholesale Price Index (base year 2004-05=100) of milk was 242.63 during 2014-15 and 250.14 during 2015-16 (April to January 2016) respectively [Source: Office of Economic Advisor, M/o Commerce & Industries]. As per National Dairy Development Board, farmers and milk producers from cooperatives are getting ₹ 23.30 per litre and ₹ 31.63 per litre for cow and buffalo milk, respectively during January 2016 as against ₹ 23.30 per litre and ₹ 31.58 per litre for cow and buffalo milk, respectively during January 2015.

All India average retail price of milk in February 2016 was ₹ 39.69 per litre. [Source: Prime Monitoring Cell, Department of Consumer Affairs].

(b) Department of Consumer Affairs monitors the wholesale & retail prices of milk including other essential commodities. The Central Government does not control milk prices for consumer and also for purchase rate of milk for farmers.

(c) Central Government does not regulate price of milk. This Department is implementing following schemes to enhance milk production in the country which also contributes in stabilizing prices of milk.-

- i. National Dairy Plan (Phase-I)
- ii. National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- iii. Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme
- iv. Livestock Health and Disease Control
- v. National Livestock Mission

Implementation of agricultural schemes

1012. KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various agricultural schemes being implemented in various States, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has set up a monitoring mechanism for periodical review of these schemes, if so, the details of the outcome thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds sanctioned and released by Government to various States and the details of funds utilized by the States under the schemes during last two years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing a number of agricultural schemes in most of the States across the country. Details of the schemes are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Agriculture being a State subject, schemes are implemented by the States. The various agricultural schemes are monitored through various means viz. periodical review at centre as well as State level by various committees, through review meetings, field visits and interaction with the implementing agencies and through video conferencing etc. Further releases of funds are made on the basis of utilization of funds and physical / financial progress.

(c) Details of State-wise funds allocated and released during the last two years i.e. 2013-14 & 2014-15 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

*Details of the Schemes implemented by The Department of Agriculture,
Cooperation and Farmers Welfare across the country:*

Sl. No.	Name of Mission/ Scheme
---------	-------------------------

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Mission of Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) |
| 2. | National Food Security Mission (NFSM) |
-

Sl. No.	Name of Mission/ Scheme
3.	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)
4.	National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET)
5.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) including Soil Health Card (SHC)
6.	Crop Insurance Programme (CIP)
7.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation (ISAC)
8.	Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM)
9.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census, Economics and Statistics (ISACE&S)
10.	Investment in Debentures of State Land Development Banks
11.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
12.	National Agriculture Market (NAM) under Agri - Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF)
13.	Price Stabilization Fund (PSF)
14.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)

Statement-II

Details of the funds sanctioned and released by Government to various States and the details of funds utilized by the States under the schemes during last two years

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2013-14			2014-15		
		Allocation	Release	Expen- diture	Allocation	Release	Expen- diture
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1210.69	1078.77	990.75	675.33	581.17	892.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	124.62	114.61	114.56	128.31	85.46	74.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	632.69	381.51	385.69	691.44	420.36	301.67
4.	Bihar	785.74	386.98	408.55	783.70	710.67	536.54
5.	Chhattisgarh	694.81	463.79	466.83	662.35	547.62	525.08
6.	Goa	28.86	14.60	11.65	30.85	2.21	2.32
7.	Gujarat	995.36	921.28	894.00	1004.07	643.34	533.95
8.	Haryana	542.17	337.73	345.58	582.52	388.66	309.44
9.	Himachal Pradesh	143.13	139.21	140.77	171.96	171.29	186.95
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	224.24	143.55	142.70	248.88	149.43	85.25
11.	Jharkhand	466.14	285.42	278.98	466.34	268.90	180.32
12.	Karnataka	1283.82	879.58	910.13	1360.56	1044.83	911.17
13.	Kerala	378.55	310.08	307.94	436.58	409.44	349.66
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1212.72	912.89	854.34	1197.19	976.32	835.31
15.	Maharashtra	1913.36	2131.93	1548.54	1841.60	1588.63	972.69
16.	Manipur	142.03	122.58	123.08	134.73	135.77	120.58
17.	Meghalaya	123.19	94.86	92.08	131.97	107.85	77.13
18.	Mizoram	222.11	162.17	158.65	210.24	204.58	188.83
19.	Nagaland	151.93	125.86	127.31	156.82	147.74	123.87
20.	Odisha	742.40	769.12	759.89	760.18	695.07	618.74
21.	Punjab	613.19	338.74	354.43	660.10	535.40	252.15
22.	Rajasthan	1258.63	1075.52	1079.76	1033.96	915.45	876.28
23.	Sikkim	80.12	72.27	66.35	351.90	288.30	205.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	600.21	529.08	651.30	625.09	563.52	603.12
25.	Telangana	-	-	-	459.95	403.65	384.14
26.	Tripura	168.09	166.28	166.64	186.20	162.80	141.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1278.55	905.95	888.28	1234.03	998.06	765.13
28.	Uttarakhand	159.42	99.02	103.37	223.50	178.38	106.87
29.	West Bengal	671.32	350.26	380.59	754.49	688.96	585.84
TOTAL		16858.01	13317.25	12756.66	17271.43	14077.56	11750.19

Measures to prevent farmers' suicide

1013. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers' suicides in the country during last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the reasons for suicide by farmers and how Government is planning to address this problem;

(c) whether the National Policy on Farmers is not showing impact to prevent farmers' suicide; and

(d) if so, whether there are any plans to revisit the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides upto 2014, are available at its website. The Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have not been published yet. As per ADSI Reports for the years 2013 and 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have been given in the Statement-I. [Refer to Statement-I appended to the Answer to USQ No.989, part (a) & (b)]. As may be seen from this statement, during the year 2014, it was for the first time That the suicides of farmers were delineated as that of farmers and agricultural labourers. In so far as the years 2015 and 2016, the data as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides due to agrarian reasons have been compiled and given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

The reasons for suicide by farmers are manifold, which *inter-alia* include, indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons.

The strategy of the Government is to focus on farmers' welfare by making farming viable. Farm viability is possible, when cost of cultivation is reduced, yields per unit of farm are increased and farmers get remunerative prices on their produce. The Department has been implementing various schemes to meet this objective, viz.

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. 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 reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated.
- (iii) Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote 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 being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) Government has also recently approved a new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.

(c) and (d) The Plan of Action (PoA) for operationalisation of policy provisions was circulated in October, 2008 to different Ministries/ Departments and State/ UTs Governments for taking necessary follow up action. So far action on 192 points mentioned in POA have been completed.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is, however, setting up an Expert Committee to revisit and revise the existing National Policy on Agriculture.

Statement-II

*Details of number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons
as reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	2015	2016	Reported on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58	NR	28-01-2016
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	NR	17-02-2016
3.	Assam	0	NR	02-02-2016
4.	Bihar	1	NR	13-08-2015
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	NR	16-11-2015
6.	Goa	0	NR	01-12-2015
7.	Gujarat	3	NR	28-01-2016
8.	Haryana	1	NR	14-07-2015
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	NR	16-02-2016
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	NR	
11.	Jharkhand	NR	NR	
12.	Karnataka (F/Y)	107	NR	22-07-2015
13.	Kerala	1	0	29-02-2016
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	NR	03-06-2015
15.	Maharashtra	1841	57	29-02-2016
16.	Punjab #	449	NR	05-02-2016
17.	Telangana *	342	NR	20-02-2016

NR - Not reported,

includes suicides of farmers and also labourers, due to various reasons

* includes suicides during the year 2014.

Agro startups

1014. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to work out details about agro startups;
- (b) if so, the latest position in this regard; and
- (c) whether any deadline has been fixed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Government of India is already implementing schemes for Start-ups, including Agro Start-ups through Schemes such as 'Start-up India Scheme' of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and 'A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Agro-Industry' (ASPIRE) scheme under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Regulation of price of cotton seed

1015. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether is a fact that Government is considering to provide full regulation of cotton seed price, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to keep cotton seed away from the regulation of trait fee or royalty charged by private technology providers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare had issued the Cotton Seeds Price (Control) Order, 2015 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to regulate price of Bt. Cotton seed.

As per the Cotton Seeds Price (Control) Order, 2015, a Committee has been constituted to recommend the maximum sale price of Bt. Cotton seed after taking into consideration the components of seed value, license fee which includes one time and recurring royalty (trait value), trade margins and other taxes. While considering the value of trait fee in seed pricing, the Committee will examine the efficacy of technology, previous recovery of trait fee by the technology provider, affordability of seed price

by farmers etc. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Government shall notify the maximum sale price of Bt. Cotton seeds on or before 31st March of every year applicable for the next financial year.

Unified national market for agriculture commodities

1016. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to create a unified national market for agriculture commodities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for deployment of electronic trading platforms in all wholesale markets across the country in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Government has approved a scheme for setting up of National Agriculture Market (NAM) through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) on 01.07.2015 with a budget of ₹ 200 crore and to be implemented during 2015-16 to 2017-18.

The scheme envisages implementation of the National Agriculture Market (NAM) by setting up of an appropriate common e-market platform that would be deployable in regulated wholesale markets in States/UTs desirous of joining the e-platform. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) will implement the national e-platform in 585 selected regulated markets and will cover 400 mandis in 2016-17 and 185 mandis in 2017-18. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) will meet expenses on software and its customization for the States and provide it free of cost to the States and Union Territories (UTs). DAC&FW will also give grant as one time fixed cost subject to the ceiling of ₹ 30.00 lakhs per Mandi (other than to the private mandis) for related equipment/infrastructure in 585 regulated mandis, for installation of the e-market platform. State Governments will propose the regulated markets which are to be integrated with NAM.

Integration of regulated markets with NAM requires certain pre-requisites in the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts, namely- (i) a single license to be valid across the State, (ii) single point levy of market fee and (iii) provision for electronic auction as a mode for price discovery. Only those States/UTs that have provided for these three pre-requisites will be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

(b) Presently the scheme envisages integration of only 585 regulated markets with NAM platform. The schedule for implementation is as follows:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| i. Launch of NAM platform on pilot basis: | 14th April 2016. |
| ii. Integration of 200 regulated markets: | By September, 2016. |
| iii. Integration of 200 regulated markets: | By March, 2017. |
| iv. Integration of 185 regulated markets: | By March 2018. |

High production cost of fertilizers

1017. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of targets set and actual production of fertilizers during last five years, year-wise, sector-wise and component-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to address the long standing problem of high production cost of fertilizers especially with regard to the customs duty on import of raw materials;
- (c) whether Government is aware that several joint ventures entered into with foreign countries have not been completed; and
- (d) the details of the joint venture projects entered into by India during last ten years along with their current status and expected time period for completion project-wise and country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The details of target and actual production of major fertilizers during last five years sector-wise and product-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Department of Fertilizers had taken up the matter of reduction of custom duty on import of fertilizer raw materials with Department of Revenue. However the same has not been considered by Department of Revenue.

(c) Before any Joint Venture is established, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is normally signed between two parties. After signing of MoU, due diligence is carried out by both parties to ascertain the feasibility, pricing, supply of raw materials, gas pricing etc. Based on the feasibility study and market dynamics, both parties take decision whether to go ahead with the project or not. Signing of MoU alone is not a confirmation of establishment of a Joint Venture project.

(d) Department of Fertilizers has undertaken Joint Ventures abroad with 05 countries are given below:

Sl. No.	JV Project- County	JV participants with equity%	Product and the Project status
1.	Oman India Fertilizer Co. (OMIFCO), Oman	Oman Oil (OOC-50%), IFFCO(25%) & KRIBHCO (25%)	16.52 Lakh MT of Urea & 2.48 Lakh MT Ammonia. Production started in the year 2006.
2.	ICS Senegal, Senegal	ICS Senegal and IFFCO consortium	5.5 Lakh MT of Phosphoric acid. Production started in 1984 and the offtake agreement is valid till 2033.
3.	JPMC-IFFCO JV, Jordan	JPMC & IFFCO	4.8 Lakh MT of Phosphoric Acid. Commercial production started in Dec. 2014
4.	IMACID, Morocco	OCP-Morocco, Chambal & TCL-33% each	4.25 Lakh MT of Phosphoric Acid. Production started in 1997-98.
5.	Tunisia-India Fertilizer Company (TIFERT), Tunisia	GCT(Tunisia), CFL (Now CIL)&GSFC (India)	3.60 Lakh MT of Phosphoric Acid. Commercial production started in April 2014.

Statement

*Details of target and actual production of major fertilizers during last five years
sector-wise and product-wise*

(A) Target & Actual Production of Urea from 2010-11 to 2014-15

(Fig. in LMT)

Name of Plants	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Public Sector:	60.84	62.67	62.14	62.74	64.44	63.73	68.71	67.74	68.51	69.29
Coop. Sector:	59.98	62.43	60.06	59.19	64.89	66.42	65.26	65.90	65.40	63.51

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Private Sector:	96.35	93.71	100.98	97.91	96.43	95.59	100.15	93.52	105.37	93.05
TOTAL (Pub.+ Coop.+Pvt.):	217.17	218.80	223.17	219.84	225.75	225.75	234.12	227.15	239.28	225.85

*(B) Target & Actual Production of DAP from 2010-11 to 2014-15**(Fig. in LMT)*

Name of Plants	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Coop. Sector:	10.04	9.77	9.80	14.92	8.50	19.43	18.60	14.32	17.11	14.05
Private Sector:	35.57	25.60	36.21	24.71	34.62	17.04	35.21	21.79	31.74	20.40
TOTAL (Coop+ Pvt.):	45.61	35.37	46.01	39.63	43.12	36.47	53.81	36.11	48.85	34.45

*(C) Target & Actual Production of Complex Fertilizers from 2010-11 to 2014-15**(Fig. in LMT)*

Name of Plants	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Public Sector:	12.85	12.48	16.00	13.02	17.00	12.48	14.82	12.20	13.28	13.34
Coop. Sector:	30.41	32.02	33.00	24.58	31.50	14.34	19.40	17.61	23.40	19.28
Private Sector:	50.39	42.78	48.60	40.11	51.37	34.98	46.42	39.32	56.18	45.70
TOTAL (Pub + Coop.+Pvt.):	93.65	87.28	97.60	77.71	99.87	61.80	80.64	69.13	92.85	78.32

New Jan Aushadhi Stores in Himachal Pradesh

†1018. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to open twenty new Jan Aushadhi Stores in Himachal Pradesh where medicines and surgical items will be provided at affordable prices; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, by when and where these stores will be opened, district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government through Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) accords its approval to all valid applications/expressions of interest received from State Governments, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Charitable Institutions, Self-Help Groups, Societies, Pharmacists, Registered Medical Practitioners, Individual Entrepreneurs for opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores in the country. There is no State-wise quota/target for opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores has been fixed. As on date, there are 12 Jan Aushadhi Stores are functional in Himachal Pradesh. More stores can be opened on application by the State Government or private applicants. At present, there are no pending applications from Himachal Pradesh.

Review of drugs pricing policy

1019. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of some medicines is around 4000 per cent higher than that fixed by some State Governments;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government is considering to review its drug pricing policy for essential medicines by ensuring to provide life-saving drugs at reasonable rates to the poor people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) In pursuance of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP-2012), the Government has notified Drugs (Prices Control Order, 2013 (DPCO-2013). As per the provisions of DPCO, 2013, the ceiling price of all medicines fixed by NPPA appearing in various strength/ dosages form in National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011, are uniform throughout the country. Out of total 680 NLEM medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, NPPA has fixed the ceiling prices in respect of 530 medicines. The reduction in prices of these medicines effected under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 is as follows:

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of drugs
0<= 5%	80
5< = 10%	50
10< = 15%	57
15<=20%	43
20<=25%	65
25< = 30%	49
30<=35%	26
35<=40%	34
Above 40%	126
	530

(c) No, Sir.

Revival of fertilizer factories

†1020. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of fertilizer factories in public sector lying closed;
- (b) whether Government has constituted a committee to revive the fertilizer factories at Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni lying closed;
- (c) if so, by when these factories would start production and the amount of estimated expenditure on it;
- (d) the number of persons likely to get employment in them;
- (e) whether these factories would be supplied gas from Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline; and
- (f) if so, by when the work of extending Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline upto aforesaid factories would be completed?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) There are 10 fertilizer units which are lying closed at present. PSU-wise details about these closed units are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the PSU	Name of the closed units
1	The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)	Sindri (Jharkhand), Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Talcher (Odisha), Ramagundam (Telangana), Korba (Chhattisgarh)
2	Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL)	Haldia (West Bengal), Durgapur (West Bengal), Barauni (Bihar)
3	The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)	Cochin (Urea) Plant, (Kerala)
4	Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL)	Namrup-I (Assam)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The status of revival of revival of Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni is as under:

Gorakhpur: Gorakhpur unit is to be revived through bidding route. Bid for Request for Qualification (RFQ) was opened on 16.11.2015. Only one application was received. The applicant did not meet the eligibility criteria, therefore it has been decided to reject the application. A proposal has been initiated for making the bidding attractive to ensure wider participation of investor and also for gainful utilization of surplus land before reinitiating of bidding process.

Sindri: The Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 25.01.2016 recommended that revival of Sindri unit may taken up FCIL through a joint venture set up with one or more Public Sector Undertakings. Accordingly, a proposal has been initiated for the same.

Barauni: Cabinet has approved on 31.3.2015 revival of Barauni Unit through bidding route by demerger of Barauni unit from HFCL. At present HFCL is before Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The EC recommended for taking a fresh proposal to Cabinet for bringing out HFCL from the purview of BIFR and revive the unit by HFCL itself through bidding route, which will be a faster route. Accordingly, a proposal has been initiated for approval of the Cabinet.

The production at Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni units will commence in 36 months from zero date *i.e.* the date from which effective start of the project begin after completion of pre-project activities. The estimated investment per Unit for setting up a Gas-based plant is around ₹ 6,000 crore.

(d) These three revived units will generate about 1200 direct and 4500 indirect jobs from urea plants and many more from other activities which cannot be quantified now.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The pipeline connectivity to the fertilizer factories in question will be done from Jagdishpur-Haldia gas pipeline in synchronization with the revival of these fertilizer factories.

Supply of fertilizers to Gujarat

1021. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has supplied fertilizers to Gujarat in accordance with the demand for the year 2015-16;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the plan to supply fertilizers for the next monsoon season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. During the current year from April, 2015 to January, 2016, the Government of India has made available 18.56 LMT Urea, 4.82 LMT DOP, 1.19 LMT MOP and 5.14 LMT NPK fertilizers against the sales of 17.68 LMT, 3.95 LMT, 1.10 LMT and 4.59 LMT respectively. In so far as district-wise distribution of fertilizers is concerned, it is informed that Department of Fertilizers ensures availability at the State level and further distribution within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

For supply of fertilizers in the next Monsoon Season (Kharif, 2016), the demand has been assessed and projected requirement is 10.00 LMT Urea, 3.00 LMT DAP, 0.80 LMT MOP and 2.80 LMT complex fertilizers; accordingly, the fertilizers will be made available.

Quality compliance of IDPL drugs with WHO

1022. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the Government's plan to restart production of drugs from IDPL unit in Hyderabad;

(b) whether the process proposed to produce drug from the above unit are WHO compliant, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to ensure that drugs produced by IDPL, Hyderabad, meet WHO's quality standards as it intends to export generics going to be produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) The work of upgradation for WHO-GMP compliance of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), Hyderabad alongwith the project work for restarting of formulation is in progress and likely to be ready for commissioning by the end of April, 2016.

Demand and supply of fertilizers

1023. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the demand and supply of fertilizers in the country during last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is shortage of fertilizers in the country and there has been delay in providing the same, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme to deal with the problems of availability and distribution of fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Details indicating the demand (requirement), supply (availability) and consumption (sales) of subsidized chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) during the last three years. (2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15) and current year upto January, 2016 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) It can be seen from the statement that availability of all fertilizers in all States/UTs against the sales was adequate.

The following steps are being taken by the Government to deal with the problems of availability and distribution of fertilizers:

(i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);

- (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
- (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

Department of Fertilizers ensures availability of fertilizers at the state level and the distribution to the farmers within the State at printed MRPs is the responsibility of the respective State Government.

The month-wise demand of fertilizers 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 each 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 at subsidized rates in time to all States/UTs by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability.

Statement

Details of cumulative demand (requirement), supply (availability) and consumption (sales) of fertilizers during the year 2012-13 to 2015-16 (Upto January, 2016)

(Figures in 000 MT)

States	Year	Urea			DAP		
		De- mand (Require- ment)	Sup- ply (Availa- bility)	Consum- ption (Sales)	De- mand (Require- ment)	Sup- ply (Availa- bility)	Consum- ption (Sales)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman and Nicobar	2012-13	0.93	0.50	0.50	1.10	0.50	0.50
	2013-14	1.00	0.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00
	2014-15	1.00	0.60	0.60	0.70	1.00	1.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2015-16	1.00	0.40	0.40	1.20	1.00	1.00
Andhra Pradesh	2012-13	3250.00	2938.73	2851.49	1230.00	679.61	648.22
	2013-14	3250.00	3511.53	3486.94	1100.00	630.22	614.71
	2014-15	1827.00	1854.33	1806.61	551.60	312.60	294.44
	2015-16	1565.00	1394.47	1309.68	400.00	337.92	295.01
Arunachal Pradesh	2012-13	0.85	0.65	0.65	0.40	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	1.00	0.23	0.23	0.65	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	2.34	0.46	0.46	0.10	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	1.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	2012-13	315.00	262.27	261.84	65.00	37.83	32.67
	2013-14	345.00	268.14	267.24	60.00	30.52	29.49
	2014-15	315.00	318.67	316.19	45.00	37.30	33.42
	2015-16	272.20	287.95	286.79	41.50	45.75	36.15
Bihar	2012-13	2150.00	2109.99	2100.87	500.00	564.60	541.29
	2013-14	2150.00	1876.68	1870.63	525.00	378.96	360.15
	2014-15	1900.00	1942.90	1940.40	460.00	365.62	352.71
	2015-16	1745.00	1995.73	1957.53	480.00	531.73	447.98
Chandigarh	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	2012-13	690.00	725.72	706.25	311.84	250.43	233.17
	2013-14	700.00	643.10	634.47	310.00	252.44	243.46
	2014-15	675.00	632.09	627.82	275.00	237.05	232.50
	2015-16	625.00	655.61	628.31	287.00	288.93	221.70
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2012-13	1.26	0.83	0.82	1.17	0.79	0.79
	2013-14	1.36	0.83	0.83	1.24	0.77	0.77
	2014-15	1.04	1.27	1.25	0.91	1.21	1.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2015-16	0.99	0.71	0.71	0.88	0.66	0.66
Daman and Diu	2012-13	0.34	0.19	0.19	0.13	0.01	0.01
	2013-14	0.34	0.19	0.19	0.13	0.01	0.01
	2014-15	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.06	0.04	0.04
	2015-16	0.47	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.05	0.05
Delhi	2012-13	7.20	2.40	2.40	5.00	0.15	0.15
	2013-14	7.20	7.79	7.79	4.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	8.00	9.09	9.09	4.50	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	8.70	9.20	9.20	5.30	0.91	0.91
Goa	2012-13	6.50	4.37	4.37	3.60	2.16	2.16
	2013-14	4.70	4.40	4.40	2.80	2.23	2.20
	2014-15	4.82	3.57	3.57	2.90	1.33	1.31
	2015-16	4.42	2.92	2.91	2.40	1.63	1.60
Gujarat	2012-13	2375.00	1935.33	1924.25	880.00	420.55	395.18
	2013-14	2225.00	2082.06	2077.78	540.00	400.10	382.47
	2014-15	2200.00	2274.84	2269.56	540.00	430.75	404.39
	2015-16	1930.00	1855.98	1767.56	465.00	482.17	395.29
Haryana	2012-13	2000.00	2100.60	2034.25	720.00	723.40	687.02
	2013-14	1950.00	1855.05	1844.77	350.00	314.13	307.67
	2014-15	1860.00	2005.03	2001.75	450.00	427.01	411.97
	2015-16	1710.00	1932.79	1869.86	580.00	668.76	622.61
Himachal Pradesh	2012-13	64.50	64.64	64.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	63.00	63.93	63.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	70.00	67.43	67.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	64.50	63.74	61.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	2012-13	145.50	150.42	144.36	85.00	54.88	49.82
	2013-14	145.50	135.41	125.88	74.75	60.48	54.14
	2014-15	138.00	116.70	115.93	72.00	73.31	63.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2015-16	100.89	97.58	95.13	61.40	48.81	42.05
Jharkhand	2012-13	270.00	198.43	198.38	125.00	54.23	54.13
	2013-14	260.00	167.54	162.54	90.00	29.36	28.77
	2014-15	225.00	180.17	180.17	75.00	27.08	27.08
	2015-16	213.50	202.40	197.94	104.00	57.56	50.14
Karnataka	2012-13	1500.00	1464.42	1446.32	890.00	419.21	404.00
	2013-14	1550.00	1500.62	1479.12	700.00	485.86	456.45
	2014-15	1400.00	1542.23	1532.42	600.00	524.06	509.69
	2015-16	1235.75	1298.27	1218.94	518.00	544.51	471.09
Kerala	2012-13	205.00	136.22	135.99	45.00	29.72	24.68
	2013-14	200.00	143.92	143.90	27.70	30.87	26.86
	2014-15	170.00	135.80	135.80	25.00	35.01	31.07
	2015-16	153.00	133.44	127.15	31.00	27.20	21.34
Lakshadweep	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	2012-13	1850.00	1947.90	1891.27	1150.00	1174.14	1107.91
	2013-14	1925.00	2300.66	2284.43	1150.00	893.02	843.90
	2014-15	2000.00	2072.97	2070.35	1000.00	917.44	902.77
	2015-16	2675.00	2284.79	2228.51	1150.00	982.60	808.87
Maharashtra	2012-13	2800.00	2342.23	2294.12	1560.00	700.72	662.81
	2013-14	2700.00	2654.38	2641.96	1400.00	584.73	582.62
	2014-15	2650.00	2577.51	2567.96	850.00	549.36	559.39
	2015-16	2390.00	1982.15	1907.38	733.32	568.69	518.77
Manipur	2012-13	48.06	20.99	20.99	12.01	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	39.60	17.83	17.83	10.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2014-15	29.00	22.94	22.94	7.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	30.02	16.57	16.57	6.89	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	2012-13	8.45	5.96	5.96	5.70	0.30	0.30
	2013-14	11.10	5.50	5.50	8.00	0.40	0.40
	2014-15	3.35	6.02	6.02	1.05	0.25	0.25
	2015-16	3.35	1.72	1.72	0.80	0.15	0.15
Mizoram	2012-13	11.01	3.55	3.55	6.28	0.15	0.15
	2013-14	9.00	6.05	6.05	4.50	0.31	0.31
	2014-15	9.00	3.75	3.75	5.50	0.03	0.03
	2015-16	8.60	2.50	2.50	5.48	0.05	0.05
Nagaland	2012-13	2.11	0.70	0.70	1.39	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	1.85	0.74	0.74	1.25	0.03	0.02
	2014-15	1.74	0.64	0.64	1.25	0.01	0.01
	2015-16	1.66	0.42	0.42	1.17	0.00	0.00
Odisha	2012-13	650.00	540.78	525.57	275.00	149.61	144.11
	2013-14	680.00	533.02	520.64	245.00	150.15	139.81
	2014-15	600.00	506.39	504.09	160.00	149.03	147.37
	2015-16	590.00	527.59	503.57	205.00	139.65	126.21
Puducherry	2012-13	30.50	18.74	18.74	9.20	1.64	1.64
	2013-14	26.50	22.15	22.14	4.65	1.45	1.45
	2014-15	22.00	14.95	14.95	2.05	1.54	1.48
	2015-16	18.25	9.53	9.53	1.85	1.16	1.15
Punjab	2012-13	2640.00	2904.86	2842.92	880.00	910.43	871.44
	2013-14	2640.00	2620.56	2617.75	915.00	487.11	468.13
	2014-15	2480.00	2735.30	2734.22	900.00	735.74	714.97
	2015-16	2500.00	2650.12	2596.21	870.00	827.50	760.46
Rajasthan	2012-13	1725.00	1890.89	1846.05	760.00	633.01	595.39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2013-14	1800.00	1850.27	1844.65	604.00	487.05	470.29
	2014-15	1850.00	1848.65	1846.61	500.00	570.52	565.52
	2015-16	1780.00	1886.95	1850.10	630.00	755.59	721.75
Sikkim	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	2012-13	1150.00	936.07	928.23	455.00	243.19	232.61
	2013-14	1050.00	911.63	911.26	400.00	220.81	217.72
	2014-15	1000.00	990.32	989.64	375.00	241.76	238.44
	2015-16	917.00	958.65	919.01	307.00	278.47	246.07
Telangana	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	1423.00	1246.70	1236.15	323.40	168.20	164.77
	2015-16	1182.00	1090.24	1064.94	290.00	162.47	145.24
Tripura	2012-13	51.07	19.33	17.17	5.90	1.64	1.64
	2013-14	53.00	21.74	19.58	6.00	0.99	0.98
	2014-15	35.00	21.80	21.80	5.50	0.44	0.44
	2015-16	30.60	15.74	14.72	4.50	1.30	1.19
Uttar Pradesh	2012-13	6000.00	6331.28	6255.84	1815.00	2167.27	2085.62
	2013-14	6200.00	5938.30	5876.25	1865.00	1569.00	1403.62
	2014-15	6200.00	6313.85	6253.57	1950.00	1684.01	1617.01
	2015-16	5330.00	5117.50	4813.75	1850.00	2123.80	1682.96
Uttarakhand	2012-13	245.00	250.63	244.77	35.00	27.51	27.19
	2013-14	250.00	280.41	275.57	35.00	22.03	21.81
	2014-15	250.00	281.71	279.85	35.00	25.97	25.53
	2015-16	219.00	292.97	288.99	37.00	29.07	25.98
West Bengal	2012-13	1350.00	1401.77	1387.44	525.00	433.71	425.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2013-14	1450.00	1250.11	1238.72	550.00	256.40	243.84
	2014-15	1320.00	1313.10	1312.08	375.00	262.77	254.65
	2015-16	1094.90	1186.93	1147.90	392.10	304.09	241.74
ALL INDIA	2012-13	31543.28	30711.39	30160.89	12358.72	9681.39	9229.82
	2013-14	31690.15	30675.23	30454.20	10985.67	7290.44	6903.04
	2014-15	30670.57	31042.07	30873.89	9593.52	7780.43	7557.14
	2015-16	28402.73	27955.69	26899.50	9462.95	9212.20	7888.20
States	Year	MOP			NPK		
		De- mand (Require- ment)	Sup- ply (Availa- bility)	Consum- ption (Sales)	De- mand (Require- ment)	Sup- ply (Availa- bility)	Consum- ption (Sales)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman and Nicobar	2012-13	0.85	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.50	0.50
	2013-14	0.80	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.80	0.40	0.40	1.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.50	0.50
Andhra Pradesh	2012-13	660.00	335.03	313.82	2250.00	1816.19	1758.79
	2013-14	500.00	344.97	326.35	2200.00	2076.31	1974.91
	2014-15	294.25	276.66	253.83	1383.60	1339.70	1251.11
	2015-16	300.00	219.90	185.61	1130.00	1049.69	972.84
Arunachal Pradesh	2012-13	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	1.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	2012-13	150.00	61.29	57.55	23.30	6.30	6.00
	2013-14	125.00	84.22	80.23	27.50	5.63	5.24
	2014-15	125.00	78.71	67.46	10.00	12.70	11.26
	2015-16	107.90	62.07	55.58	8.30	15.00	12.47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bihar	2012-13	230.00	115.07	114.01	365.00	303.00	300.37
	2013-14	153.75	146.39	139.99	375.00	179.88	172.08
	2014-15	155.00	176.58	153.71	275.00	287.42	265.70
	2015-16	175.00	164.68	139.68	305.00	369.64	315.90
Chandigarh	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	2012-13	127.00	68.42	66.46	175.00	116.63	103.92
	2013-14	105.75	66.86	56.20	190.00	79.91	74.67
	2014-15	85.00	69.95	60.79	180.00	78.19	70.89
	2015-16	102.50	81.21	55.67	141.00	75.58	62.24
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2012-13	0.10	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.05	0.04
	2013-14	0.20	0.00	0.00	1.05	0.02	0.02
	2014-15	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.15
	2015-16	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
Daman and Diu	2012-13	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00
Delhi	2012-13	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.58	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.60	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	1.90	0.00	0.00	2.60	0.03	0.03
Goa	2012-13	1.25	0.73	0.73	7.50	2.57	2.57
	2013-14	0.60	0.71	0.71	6.90	2.95	2.95
	2014-15	1.17	0.71	0.71	4.60	2.86	2.84
	2015-16	1.00	0.78	0.78	4.75	2.23	2.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Gujarat	2012-13	200.00	83.05	79.41	555.00	469.22	458.41
	2013-14	130.00	125.42	110.84	473.00	477.37	459.93
	2014-15	140.00	136.17	133.17	520.00	594.05	561.20
	2015-16	158.00	119.23	100.83	457.00	514.26	459.36
Haryana	2012-13	75.00	21.45	21.45	97.50	26.49	26.47
	2013-14	35.00	23.59	23.59	55.00	11.08	10.01
	2014-15	25.00	58.89	51.46	45.00	35.64	34.60
	2015-16	41.00	50.85	36.49	59.00	25.97	20.44
Himachal Pradesh	2012-13	6.50	6.57	6.57	45.50	17.46	17.45
	2013-14	7.10	8.80	8.80	30.00	22.60	22.49
	2014-15	8.60	10.08	9.88	31.00	20.85	20.82
	2015-16	8.50	6.73	5.88	27.50	30.59	30.51
Jammu and Kashmir	2012-13	35.00	17.56	16.24	0.02	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	20.44	18.53	17.73	0.00.	1.80	1.54
	2014-15	25.00	30.31	24.53	0.00	2.03	2.03
	2015-16	18.18	10.93	6.76	0.00	1.65	1.62
Jharkhand	2012-13	35.00	2.52	2.52	128.50	26.01	26.00
	2013-14	21.00	3.28	3.28	75.00	16.41	15.83
	2014-15	16.00	0.63	0.63	55.00	26.26	26.19
	2015-16	16.00	3.21	2.96	85.00	33.06	27.39
Karnataka	2012-13	565.00	276.02	267.30	1440.00	967.27	939.54
	2013-14	490.00	263.38	253.71	1450.00	1170.18	1071.33
	2014-15	325.00	394.48	362.86	1200.00	1261.34	1210.36
	2015-16	335.20	263.92	223.42	963.00	1077.95	934.88
Kerala	2012-13	194.00	88.71	87.55	251.00	161.34	153.16
	2013-14	187.00	95.83	95.79	243.15	157.51	137.72
	2014-15	163.00	115.33	114.10	230.00	149.63	139.70
	2015-16	165.00	87.54	79.72	203.00	121.29	108.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Lakshadweep	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	2012-13	140.00	85.51	84.75	434.00	250.59	232.52
	2013-14	100.00	59.65	50.54	420.00	220.33	199.48
	2014-15	90.00	99.19	83.06	345.00	249.64	225.01
	2015-16	103.00	105.00	74.40	365.00	297.37	247.36
Maharashtra	2012-13	625.00	323.86	313.76	1900.00	1327.83	1280.39
	2013-14	492.30	357.50	325.90	1750.00	1591.72	15431.23
	2014-15	400.00	489.75	448.02	2000.00	1701.95	1617.14
	2015-16	408.32	326.11	234.96	1766.67	1630.87	1404.06
Manipur	2012-13	6.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	4.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	5.50	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	4.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Megalaya	2012-13	1.05	0.31	0.31	0.04	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.20
	2015-16	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.80
Mizoram	2012-13	6.42	0.25	0.25	0.20	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	3.50	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	4.50	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	4.21	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	2012-13	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.01	0.01
	2014-15	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.62	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Odisha	2012-13	200.00	74.68	74.61	397.49	238.52	231.09
	2013-14	160.00	93.51	88.57	380.00	184.63	174.91
	2014-15	125.00	93.87	89.76	325.00	232.78	229.34
	2015-16	140.00	88.46	73.42	330.00	209.11	179.88
Puducherry	2012-13	9.20	2.06	2.06	30.06	12.83	12.67
	2013-14	4.30	2.35	2.33	19.05	8.98	8.95
	2014-15	3.00	2.60	2.47	10.30	6.93	6.20
	2015-16	2.70	2.02	2.02	9.84	4.75	4.71
Punjab	2012-13	106.00	35.18	35.18	147.50	43.86	42.19
	2013-14	70.00	41.59	34.56	120.00	29.43	28.02
	2014-15	50.00	75.14	64.69	45.00	46.34	45.49
	2015-16	58.00	69.41	49.87	32.00	39.53	35.12
Rajasthan	2012-13	48.15	15.50	15.50	166.10	83.98	83.54
	2013-14	23.20	4.49	2.61	120.70	32.69	31.85
	2014-15	16.00	15.95	11.97	96.00	67.62	66.32
	2015-16	14.40	15.18	13.31	83.45	71.30	61.45
Sikkim	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2015-16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	2012-13	555.00	217.71	216.85	682.00	589.46	570.81
	2013-14	391.00	256.14	246.32	693.30	505.38	470.87
	2014-15	400.00	301.45	293.05	650.00	537.14	515.69
	2015-16	332.00	299.32	260.51	566.26	529.43	495.74
Telangana	2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2014-15	130.75	116.58	108.47	766.40	783.02	758.60
	2015-16	145.00	106.12	84.77	775.00	728.56	669.83

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Tripura	2012-13	16.83	6.46	6.46	0.00	0.32	0.32
	2013-14	11.00	5.21	5.21	0.00	0.63	0.63
	2014-15	13.50	2.58	2.58	2.50	0.57	0.56
	2015-16	11.30	5.21	5.21	0.00	0.73	0.43
Uttar Pradesh	2012-13	350.00	147.00	131.01	1147.50	672.85	661.80
	2013-14	180.00	113.35	109.54	1100.00	422.72	393.18
	2014-15	175.00	235.86	203.54	900.00	657.22	628.52
	2015-16	185.00	228.37	196.69	870.00	624.36	491.48
Uttarakhand	2012-13	10.00	3.82	3.82	57.00	33.37	32.10
	2013-14	4.50	1.42	1.42	54.00	39.77	34.36
	2014-15	4.50	1.96	1.95	50.00	41.87	38.50
	2015-16	8.50	3.27	3.16	48.00	30.64	26.92
West Bengal	2012-13	425.00	218.02	215.77	828.21	803.67	792.27
	2013-14	287.00	214.68	207.54	950.00	725.52	681.80
	2014-15	240.00	288.05	236.38	850.00	920.94	870.06
	2015-16	320.00	241.33	185.43	876.50	917.06	784.00
ALL INDIA	2012-13	4782.08	2206.80	2133.96	11152.27	7970.29	7732.91
	2013-14	3513.32	2332.37	2192.25	10735.57	7963.46	7515.98
	2014-15	3026.07	3072.28	2779.86	9981.21	9057.05	8598.46
	2015-16	3169.92	2560.96	2077.22	9109.78	8401.97	7350.44

New draft Pharmaceutical Policy

1024. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the new draft Pharmaceutical Policy contains how best to protect the interests of consumers by providing drugs at reasonable prices;
- (b) whether pharma companies are against price control system for drugs; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government proposes to face the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) The Department of Pharmaceuticals has notified the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy-2012 under which the prices of National List of Essential Medicines-2011 are to be controlled and regulated. The objective is to put in place a regulatory framework for pricing of drugs so as to ensure availability of required medicines - "essential medicines" - at reasonable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of industry, thereby meeting the goals of employment and shared economic well being for all.

Rise in internet penetration

1025. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the internet penetration is rising rapidly and has increased by 100 million in a year to 400 million, including through mobile phones;

(b) whether it is a fact that with this growth rate, Government is hoping to achieve the target of 500 million; and

(c) whether Government is also considering to provide all support for the experimentation of new technologies in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, as per reports received by Telecom Authority of India from the telecom operators, there were 254.40 million internet connections at the end of September, 2014 and the same has increased to 324.95 million at the end of September, 2015.

However, as per the report of Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) on the subject "Internet in India 2015" published in November, 2015, there were 302 Million ever internet users (users claiming to access the internet at least once in their lives) in December, 2014 and 375 Million in October, 2015 and the same were expected to reach 402 Million in December, 2015. As per the said report, such internet connections are expected to reach 462 Million in the month of June, 2016.

(c) Government has issued eight licenses for carrying out experiments at several places, using TV Whitespace technology, in the frequency band 470-582 MHz. The details of the applicant organisations and the frequency clearance given to them are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Frequency clearance given for experimental license to various Educational Institution/Industrial organisations/Government

Applicant organisation/ Institution	Location	Amount of spectrum allocated
IIT Delhi	IIT Delhi campus, Hauz Khas, New Delhi	5 MHz
IIT Bombay	Villages of Palghar district, Maharastra (Khamloli, Haloli, Ganje, Paragaon, Manor, and Maswan)	10 MHz
IIT Hyderabad	Villages in Medak district, Telangana and Coorg, Karnataka	08 MHz
ERNET	Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh	60 MHz
IIIT Bangalore	IIIT Bangalore campus, Hosur Road, Bangalore	06 MHz
BHEL, Varanasi	Different locations at Varanasi (BHEL campus, Shivpur Tarna; Kashi Krishak Int college, Harhua; and Government Higher Secondary School, Bhatsar)	20 MHz
Tata Advanced Systems	Village Jaunti, Delhi, Geo-coordinates (28.75028 N / 76.96667 E)	08 MHz
Collector & Magistrate, Amrawati	Amrawati	10 MHz

Participation of private institutes under ISEA project

1026. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for participation of private institutes, resource centres and participating institutes under Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of private institutes which participated during the last three years in the above scheme; and

(d) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY) has approved a project entitled, 'Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project Phase-II' during 2014 with an outlay of ₹ 96.08 crore for a period of 5 years with an objective of capacity building in the area of Information Security, training of Government personnel and creation of mass Information Security awareness targeted towards various user segments namely academic and general users.

The implementation of the academic activities under ISEA Project Phase-II is carried out by 51 institutions across the country, at 3 levels, comprising of:

- (i) Information Security Research & Development Centre (ISRDC) - 4 institutions
- (ii) Resource Centre (RC): 7 institutions
- (iii) Participating Institute (PI):- 40 institutions

The list of the institutions is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Under academic activities, it has been decided to train about one lakh persons in various formal and non formal courses and faculty training programs. In addition, the project also envisages to train more than 13000 Government officials and spread mass awareness on Information Security to cover around 3 crore persons through direct and indirect mode.

The project envisions participation/association of Private Engineering Colleges/Institutes affiliated with the Technical Universities participating in the project. The Faculty Training/Updation programs, Courseware, Model Syllabus etc. would also be made available to these institutes.

(c) Under ISEA Project Phase-I (2006-2014), a scheme for participation of private institutes was introduced under which benefits to AICTE/UGC approved non-profit private institutes were offered to access to private institutes faculty/staff to attend Faculty Training Program or any other training programs conducted by Resource Centres/Participating Institutes on payment of requisite fee and meeting all other criteria/expenditure. In this project, around 600 faculty members from various private institutes were trained under short term training programs conducted by Resource Centres/Participating Institutes. Further, around 126 private engineering colleges across the country participated in the half/one day awareness programs.

Under ISEA project Phase II, faculties of 40 private engineering colleges/institutes attended Faculty Training/Updation Program conducted by Resource Centre and Participating Institute. Besides this, around 52 private engineering colleges across the country participated in the half/one day awareness programs.

(d) The ISEA project has resulted in enhanced awareness amongst faculty members and students in the area of Information Security.

Statement

List of institutions under ISEA Project Phase-II

Sl. No.	Institute Name	Location
Information Security Research & Development Centre (ISRDC) - 4		
1.	Indian Institute of Science	Bangalore, Karnataka
2.	Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati	Guwahati, Assam
3.	Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
4.	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (jointly)	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Resource Centre (RC) - 7		
1.	Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	Roorkee, Uttaranchal
2.	Malviya National Institute of Technology	Jaipur, Rajasthan
3.	National Institute of Technology	Rourkela, Odisha
4.	Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology	Surat, Gujarat
5.	National Institute of Technology	Surathkal, Karnataka
6.	National Institute of Technology	Warangal, Andhra Pradesh
7.	Indian Institute of Technology	Kharagpur, West Bengal
Participating Institute (PI) - 40		
Category 1		
1.	Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh

Sl. No.	Institute Name	Location
2.	Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
3.	National Institute of Technology	Durgapur, West Bengal
4.	National Institute of Technology	Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
5.	Dr. B R Ambedkar National Institute of Technology	Jalandhar, Punjab
6.	National Institute of Technology	Kurukshetra, Haryana
7.	Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology	Nagpur, Madhya Pradesh
8.	National Institute of Technology	Patna, Bihar
9.	National Institute of Technology	Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir
10.	ABV Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management	Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
11.	International Institute of Information Technology	Hyderabad, Telangana
12.	Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
13.	Indian School of Mines	Dhanbad, Jharkhand
14.	College of Engineering	Pune, Maharashtra
15.	College of Engineering	North Goa, Goa
16.	Pondicherry Engineering College	Puducherry
17.	Delhi Technological University	Delhi
18.	Tezpur University	Tezpur, Assam
19.	International Institute of Information Technology	Bhubaneswar, Odisha
20.	National Institute of Technology	Raipur, Chhattisgarh
21.	Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology	New Delhi

Sl. No.	Institute Name	Location
22.	Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women	New Delhi
23.	Andhra University	Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
Category 2		
1.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Hyderabad, Telangana
2.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Noida, Uttar Pradesh
3.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Mohali, Punjab
4.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
5.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Bengaluru, Karnataka
6.	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing	Kolkata, West Bengal
7.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh
8.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Aurangabad, Maharashtra
9.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Jammu/Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir
10.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
11.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Calicut, Kerala
12.	National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology	Agartala, Tripura

Sl. No.	Institute Name	Location
Special Category (Technical Universities)		
1.	College of Engineering, Guindy (Anna University)	Guindy, Tamil Nadu
2.	Gujarat Technological University	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
3.	Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
4.	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology (Formerly known as West Bengal University of Technology - WBUT)	Kolkata, West Bengal
5.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University	Hyderabad, Telangana

Speed post service

1027. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the parcel revenue, which registered a two per cent decline in 2013-14, had clocked 37 per cent growth in 2014-15, and further grew by 117 per cent during the first half of 2015-16, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether now-a-days the delivery of Speed Post service is taking much time and customers are losing confidence on reliability of Speed Post;

(c) whether the cause of delay in the delivery of Speed Post consignment is because of acute shortage of personnel in Speed Post Department; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The details of revenue earned by the Department in Express and Business Parcel are as follows:

Year	Revenue (₹ in crores)	% Growth
2012-13	78.87	-
2013-14	77.63	-2%
2014-15	112.47	45%

Year	Revenue (₹ in crores)	% Growth
2015-16 (Till December, 2015)	107.90	120.56% (compared to the corresponding period of 2014-15)

(b) Speed Post articles are delivered in a time bound manner. The traffic and revenue of Speed Post have been increasing, indicating the trust of the customers in the service. The traffic and revenue generated from Speed Post since 2013-14 are as follows:

Year	Traffic (in crores)	Revenue (₹ in crores)	Percentage increase in revenue
2013-14	36.99	1372.21	8.77 %
2014-15	39.87	1495.21	8.96 %
2015-16 (Till December, 2015)	31.19	1146.99	12.53% (compared to the corresponding period of 2014-15)

(c) and (d) For Speed Post, being one of the premium services of the Department, timely delivery is ensured. However, as regard to acute shortage of personnel, it is to state that, all cadres in the Department have fixed sanctioned strength and whenever any post in any cadre falls vacant due to unavoidable circumstances such as promotion, superannuation, death etc. the vacancies are filled as per the provisions contained in the recruitment rules, provided, the total working strength do not exceed the sanctioned strength of a particular cadre. In the interim, till the vacancies are filled up, the delivery of postal services including Speed Post service are managed by redistribution and combination of duties of the available staff.

Broadband penetration and speed

1028. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the broadband penetration is very poor in the country and the broadband speed is very low compared to other countries in the world, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to improve the broadband penetration and better services to the subscribers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As per annual report of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) released on 21st September, 2015, in India Fixed Broadband Subscription per 100 inhabitants is 1.2 subscriptions and the world ranking is 131. India's Mobile Broadband Penetration per 100 inhabitants is 5.5 and the world ranking is 155.

As per Akamai's State of the Internet: Q3 2015 Report, the average broadband speed in India in comparison to other is given in the Statement (*See below*). However, the Government is taking steps to improve this situation.

(b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project of the Government envisages for connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and RailTel and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks for providing broadband connectivity. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), namely, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL). Under this project, at least 100 Mbps bandwidth is to be provided in all the estimated 2.5 lakh GPs for utilization by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis including Internet Service Providers.

Statement

Details of average broadband speed (Mbps) in India in comparison to other countries

Country	Average Broadband speed (Mbps)
Australia	7.8
China	3.7
Colombia	4.2
France	8.2
Germany	11.5

Country	Average Broadband speed (Mbps)
India	2.5
Japan	15.0
Malaysia	4.9
Russia	10.2
South Africa	3.7
South Korea	20.5
Sri Lanka	5.1
United Kingdom	11.0
USA	12.6
Venezuela	1.2

Single emergency number

1029. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to approve the proposal of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for a single emergency number across the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the new emergency number and the plan to close the already existing emergency numbers; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its recommendation on "Integrated Emergency Communication & Response System" which is under consideration. In this recommendation TRAI has suggested '112' as new emergency number.

Refurbishing and selling used mobile phones

1030. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some companies have sought permission for refurbishing and selling used mobile phones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether refurbishing and selling of used electronic devices would lead to reduction in electronic waste, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government intends to formulate a permanent policy in this regard, if so, the details of steps taken so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An application from M/s Apple regarding (i) import of Certified Pre-Owned (CPO) iPhones for sale in India; and (ii) manufacturing Certified Pre-Owned i-phones in India for sale in India has been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF). The Government has not yet taken any decision on the matter.

Auction of spectrum

1031. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is ready to hold the mega spectrum auction this year to fetch around ₹ 5 lakh crore, if all of it gets sold;

(b) whether, while this auction would help the Finance Ministry grappling with huge budget deficit, the telecom sector reeling under debt will find the additional payout a burden; and

(c) whether telecom majors feel that the proposed auction of 700 MHz spectrum band is too premature due to the eco-system supporting mobile broadband services/ 4G, is not yet ready, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to conduct the next round of spectrum auction in 700/800/900/1800/2100/2300/2500 MHz bands. In this regard, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has provided its recommendations dated 27.01.2016 on "Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz Bands". These recommendations of TRAI are under consideration and no final view has been taken.

(c) In the TRAI recommendations on 'Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz Bands'

dated 27th January 2016, it has been stated that" In the consultation paper, no specific question was raised on the timing of the auction of 700 MHz band. However, in their comments to the Consultation Paper, some stakeholders have requested the Authority to recommend that the auction of the spectrum in this band be held only after development of a strong device ecosystem. A few stakeholders have submitted that the existing spectrum is still in process of being fully utilized; Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are planning roll-outs in recently acquired spectrum. Therefore, as per these stakeholders, auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, would clearly divert CAPEX from its already planned roll-outs".

Free internet facility to consumers

†1032. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is mulling over providing free internet facility to the consumers;
- (b) if so, by when and the names of places selected for the purpose; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has provided Wi-Fi services at over 300 locations with 867 hotspots in 60 cities. BSNL would be providing free Wi-Fi services for first 15 minutes once in a month per user. The zone-wise details of Wi-Fi Hotspots as on 18.02.2016 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of BSNL status of Wi-Fi hotspots zone wise as on: 18.02.2016 (300 locations in 60 cities)

Zone	Name of Circle	Total Achievement
North Zone	Uttar Pradesh East	7
	Uttarakhand	21
	Rajasthan	25

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Zone	Name of Circle	Total Achievement
	Jammu and Kashmir	4
	SUB TOTAL	57
South Zone	Kerala	78
	Andhra Pradesh	300
	Karnataka	230
	Tamil Nadu	44
	Chennai Telecom District	4
	UP (West)	6
	Uttar Pradesh (E)	13
	Odisha	13
	SUB TOTAL	688
West Zone	Gujarat	7
	Maharashtra	52
	Chhattisgarh	12
	Madhya Pradesh	51
	SUB TOTAL	122
	GRAND TOTAL	867

Compensation for call drop

†1033. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has made amendments in telecom rules under which telecom companies would have to pay compensation to the consumers in case of a 'call drop', if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether telecom companies are paying compensation to consumers for call drop, as per the rules imposed and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Through the Telecom Consumers Protection (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 dated 16.10.2015, TRAI has mandated that with effect from 01.01.2016, 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 (00:00:00 hours to 23:59:59 hours);
- (ii) Provide the calling consumer, through SMS/USSD message, within four hours of the occurrence of call drop, the details of amount credited in this account; and
- (iii) In case of post-paid consumers, provide the details of the credit in the next bill.

Subsequently, a writ petition W.P. (C) 11596 of 2015 titled as "Cellular Operators Association of India & Ors. Vs TRAI" has been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 09.12.2015 challenging the Telecom Consumers Protection (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 dated 16.10.2015. The Petition has been dismissed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 29.02.2016.

Poor BSNL connectivity in Uttarakhand

†1034. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for BSNL signals not reaching the consumers of Uttarakhand whereas the signals of the private mobile operators are easily reaching their consumers;

(b) whether this is happening due to the technology available with BSNL being outdated;

(c) if so, the difficulties being faced by Government in making available new technology to BSNL, the details thereof; and

(d) by when these problems are expected to be addressed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(TRAI) monitors the performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) against the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by it. As per Performance Monitoring Report for the quarter ending December, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services (2G & 3G), BSNL's performance is meeting all the network related parameters in Uttar Pradesh (West) telecom circle which includes Uttarakhand State also.

The mobile technology being used by BSNL is latest and up to mark. BSNL has reported that signals in its mobile network are reaching to subscribers living in Urban as well as Rural areas both. Sometimes there are coverage problems which happen due to topographical conditions in hilly areas. BSNL continuously make surveys and studies and wherever the signals are found weak, new mobile BTS (Base Transceiver Station) is planned. BSNL augments mobile network continuously to enhance coverage/capacity based on its techno-economical considerations.

Skill development in telecom sector

1035. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS and INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps towards skill development in telecom sector of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the existing educational infrastructure for imparting skill development in the sector; and
- (c) the initiatives taken/being taken by the Ministry to make India's telecom sector world-class?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir, the Ministry has taken steps towards skill development in Telecom Sector and are detailed below:

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between DOT and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to strengthen strategic partnership in the field of Skill Development in Telecom Sector by utilizing resources of DOT, its PSUs, TSSC (Telecom Sector Skill Council), NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation) etc.
- (ii) A Skill Gap study was conducted to assess the manpower requirement at different skill and expertise levels to identify the relevant needs of the Telecom Sector and prepare a roadmap

The main features of report are:

That the Telecom Industry is expected to generate significant number of new jobs and that in 2013 total Telecommunications Workforce was 2.08 million and is expected to rise to 4.16 million by 2022.

- (iii) The Ministry has fixed targets of Skill Development of its PSUs and it is expected that over 1.5 lakh candidates would be imparted Skill Development training in each financial year starting from 2015-16 from various training institutes functioning under its PSUs.

(b) At present Skill Development Training is being imparted in the training institutes of DOT PSUs and the details of Training Institutes is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The initiative taken/being taken by the ministry to make India Telecom sector world class are detailed below:

- (i) Department of Electronics and IT (DeitY) has constituted a Fast Track Task Force (FTTF) to "catalyze and re-establish significant growth in mobile handsets and component manufacturing eco-system in India". It is expected to promote large scale manufacturing/assembling activity to achieve production of 500 mn mobile handsets by 2019 and create additional employment opportunities for 1.5 million approximately. This is also expected to be an important step towards the skill development in telecom manufacturing sector.
- (ii) The Scheme to enhance the number of Ph. Ds in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 Ph. Ds are proposed to be supported under the Scheme.
- (iii) The initiatives taken by the Government to promote domestic manufacturing and to make the Country's telecom sector world class are as under:
- Foreign direct investment up to 100% is allowed in manufacturing of telecom products under the automatic route. Also up to 100% FDI is permitted in the telecom services sector, with up to 49% via automatic route and beyond that via Government route.
 - Government has imposed basic custom duty at 10% on specified telecommunication products that are outside the purview of the information technology agreement and has also imposed education cess on imported electronic products to provide parity between domestically produced goods and imported goods.

- The policy for providing preference to domestic manufacturers for 23 notified telecom products in Government procurement has already been implemented.
- Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)—an industry led autonomous "not for profit" Standards Development Organization (SDO) for Telecom products and services has been set up for the development of standards for telecom especially suited to Indian environment and incorporation of the same in the international standards. This will help Indian companies to develop standards for telecom products and services for Indian specific environment, which is expected to promote indigenous R&D and manufacturing.
- Government has approved setting up of two semiconductor wafer fabrication (FAB) manufacturing facilities in India which would create the necessary ecosystem for design and manufacturing of telecom equipments.
- Under the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme, approved units are allowed duty free import of goods required by them for carrying on export activities, CST reimbursement and excise duty exemption on procurement of indigenously available goods, as per the Foreign Trade Policy.
- The Scheme to enhance the number of Ph. Ds in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 Ph. Ds are proposed to be supported under the Scheme.
- Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing units.
- Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) provides financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the manufacturing of electronics products (including telecom). The scheme is available for both new projects and expansion projects. The scheme provides subsidy for investments in capital expenditure - 20% for investments in SEZs and 25% in non-SEZs. It also provides for reimbursement of CVD/Excise for capital equipment for the non-SEZ units. For high technology and high capital investment units, like fabs, reimbursement of central taxes and duties is also provided.
- The Cabinet has also approved the Electronics Development Fund (EDF) Policy in Dec, 2014. The EDF policy will be a "Fund of Funds" to

support Daughter funds including Early Stage Angel Funds and Venture Funds in the area of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing, nano-electronics and IT, including telecommunications too. The supported daughter funds will promote innovation, product development, R&D and IP generation in the above mentioned fields.

- Excise Duty structure for mobile handsets has been changed from 1% without CENVAT credit or 6% with CENVAT credit to 1% without CENVAT credit or 12.5% with CENVAT credit. The differential duty for the mobile handset manufacturing is being termed as a game changer by the industry and consequent to this various Mobile phone manufacturing companies like Foxconn, Xiami, Micromax, Celkon, and Karbonn have committed to mobile phone manufacturing in the country.
- Full exemption of all goods, except populated printed circuit boards, for use in manufacture of ITA bound items from Special Additional Duty (SAD) and reduction in SAD on imports of certain other inputs and raw materials is available now.

- (iv) Department of Telecommunications has set up eight Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCOE) at premier technical institutes in a Public-Private Partnership bringing together Academic Institutions, Telecom Industry and Government with the objective of creating an eco-system for sustainable growth of Telecom Sector in the country. They are functional at Indian Institute of Technologies, Delhi Chennai, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Mumbai and Roorkee and one each at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Indian Institute of Management, Ahmadabad for promoting development of new technologies to generate IPRs incubate innovations and entrepreneurship.

Statement

List of training centres in DOT PSUs

Sl.No.	Name of Training Center	No. of Class Rooms	Hostel Capacity	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
BSNL Training Centers				
1.	ALTTC Ghaziabad	13	418	

1	2	3	4	5
2.	BRBRAITT Jabalpur	16	434	
3.	NATFM Hyderabad	04	72	
4.	ARTTC Ranchi	04	150	
5.	RGMTTC Chennai	14	249	
6.	RTTC Ahmedabad	10	56	
7.	RTTC Bhubaneswar	08	84	
8.	RTTC Chennai	05	160	
9.	RTTC Guwahati	03	35	
10.	RTTC Hyderabad	09	279	
11.	RTTC Jaipur	06	310	
12.	NSCBTTC Kalyani	10	218	
13.	RTTC Lucknow	07	127	
14.	RTTC Mysore	21	339	
15.	RTTC Nagpur	10	276	
16.	RTTC Pune	06	126	
17.	RTTC Rajpura	10	212	
18.	RTTC Trivandrum	14	287	
19.	CTTC Ahmedabad	RTTC	RTTC	
20.	CTTC Bhubaneswar	RTTC	RTTC	
21.	CTTC Guwahati	04	20	
22.	CTTC Indore	06	48	
23.	CTTC Jaipur	06	146	
24.	CTTC Jammu	03	00	
25.	CTTC Kolkatta Salt Lake	05	136	
26.	CTTC Kurukshetra	03	04	

1	2	3	4	5
27.	CTTC Lucknow	02		
28.	CTTC Meerut	02	0	
29.	CTTC Mysore	RTTC	RTTC	
30.	CTTC Nasik	08	120	
31.	CTTC Patna	02	09	
32.	CTTC Shillong	01	20	
33.	CTTC Sundernagar	02	50	
34.	CTTC Trivandrum	RTTC	RTTC	
35.	DTTC Ahmedabad	03	0	
36.	DTTC Bangalore	03	0	
37.	DTTC Chennai	02	0	
38.	DTTC Hyderabad	02	0	
39.	DTTC Kolkata Ballygunge	02	0	
40.	DTTC Jetpur (Rajkot)	02	0	
TOTAL		228	4,385	
MTNL Training Centers				
1.	CETTM MTNL Mumbai	25	475	
2.	ITTM MTNL Delhi	12	0	

Online frauds by shopping portals

1036. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that online frauds are on the rise as online shopping portals are publicizing attractive and tempting offers to consumers to buy goods at throw away prices;

(b) if so, whether cyber authorities check authenticity of such shopping portals;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government is aware that such cases rise during festive seasons and lots of customers are duped; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government against such portals during this year and the last year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) A total of 3,477 cases, 5693 cases and 9622 cases were reported under total cyber crimes (which includes cases reported under the IT Act and related section of Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special & Local Laws (SLL) involving computer as medium/target) during 2012, 2013 & 2014 respectively, showing a rising trend. However there is no separate data maintained by the Government with regard to the online frauds by shopping portals.

(b) and (c) In accordance with clause 70B of Indian Information Technology Act 2000, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team is a national agency for performing the functions in the area of Cyber Security and coordination of cyber incidents response activities. Information Technology Act also contains provisions for imposing penalty and compensation for damage to computer related illegal activities as well as compensation for failure to protect data by a body corporate handling any sensitive personal data in a computer resource it. To prevent possible misuse arising out of transaction and other dealing concluded over electronic medium, Information Technology Act 2000 has created comprehensive criminal and civil liability for contravention of its provisions and offences.

(d) and (e) Government does not have any separate data regarding the number of fraudulent activities by online shopping portal including during the festive season. Complaints regarding unethical practices by e-commerce companies are received by the Government which are handled under the Consumer Protection Act-1986 which deals with all fraudulent activities faced by consumers. In addition to that Information Technology Act also has provisions for imposition of penalty and compensation for damage to computer related illegal activities.

Portals engaged in unethical deals

1037. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is no clear definition of e-commerce

and there is no clear policy regarding the operation of various portals doing e-business, If so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether some companies are violating foreign investment rules, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has received complaints against some portals for engaging in unethical deals and committing fraud, if so, the action taken against such portals?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There is at present no single set of law/regulations to govern the e-commerce industry and therefore these activities come under the purview of different laws including Information Technology Act, 2000, the Income Tax laws, Competition Act, FERA etc.

(b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) norms for e-commerce are administered as per FDI policy as contained in "Consolidated FDI Policy Circular 2015" which is notified under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999. Any violation of FDI regulations, either in e-commerce or otherwise, is covered by the penal provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999. Reserve Bank of India administers the FEMA and Directorate of Enforcement under Ministry of Finance is the authority for enforcement of FEMA.

(c) Yes, Sir. Complaints regarding unethical practices by e-commerce companies are received by the Government which are being handled under the Consumer Protection Act-1986 which deals with all fraudulent activities face by consumers. In addition to this Information Technology Act also contains provisions for imposition of penalty and compensation for damage to computer related illegal activities.

Mobile telephone services of MTNL, Delhi

1038. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile telephony services of MTNL, Delhi continue to be grim;

(b) if so, since when there is problem in mobile telephony of MTNL; and

(c) the action plan and road-map to make MTNL a good service provider?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

(TRAI) monitors the performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) including Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) against the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by it. As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending December, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services (2G& 3G), MTNL, in general, is meeting the benchmark for all the Quality of service parameters.

To provide even better mobile services, MTNL has taken several steps to for further improve its telecom network and quality of service. Some of these steps are as follows:

- MTNL has planned to upgrade the existing High Speed Downlink Packet Access (HSDPA) 3G network supporting Downlink speed of 3.6 Mbps and Uplink speed of 384 Kbps to HSPA+ (High Speed Packet Access +) with Downlink speed of 21.1 Mbps and Uplink speed of 5.76 Mbps per sector.
- MTNL is taking steps for up-gradation / augmentation / expansion of existing 2G/ 3G network.
- MTNL is planning to provide the backhaul media connectivity of existing mobile tower sites in Delhi and Mumbai on OFC (Optical Fibre Network) network in place of Microwave network.
- MTNL is also exploring synergy with BSNL for its mobile services amongst other initiatives.
- Preventive maintenance to minimize hardware faults.
- Online monitoring of BTS (Base Transceiver Station) outages.

Auctioning of 700 MHz spectrum

1039. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI has recently recommended for auctioning of 700 MHz spectrum for the first time in the country;

(b) if so, the reserve price fixed by TRAI; and

(c) the reasons that telecom companies are asking to hold back the auctioning of this spectrum along with the reasons why Government is planning to go ahead with it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of

India (TRAI) has made recommendations on 'Valuation and Reserve Price of spectrum in 700, 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands' dated 27.01.2016. The reserve price fixed by TRAI for 700 MHz band is given in the Statement (*See* below). These recommendations are under consideration.

Statement

Details of Recommended Reserve Price per MHz (Paired) in 700 MHz Band

(₹ in crore)

Licensed Service Area	Category	Recommended Reserve Price
Delhi	Metro	1595
Mumbai	Metro	1192
Kolkata	Metro	596
Andhra Pradesh	A	971
Gujarat	A	952
Karnataka	A	740
Maharashtra	A	1272
Tamil Nadu	A	900
Haryana	B	186
Kerala	B	334
Madhya Pradesh	B	331
Punjab	B	308
Rajasthan	B	364
U. P. (East)	B	459
U.P. (West)	B	384
West Bengal	B	183
Assam	C	158
Bihar	C	248

Licensed Service Area	Category	Recommended Reserved Price
Himachal Pradesh	C	64
Jammu and Kashmir	C	52
North East	C	44
Odisha	C	152

Legislation to regulate issues relating to net neutrality

1040. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to effect legislation to give the telecom regulator, TRAI, the powers to regulate on issues relating to net neutrality or directly legislate on other issues of net neutrality like fast lane, slow lane, throttling etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) TRAI has recently released its regulation "Prohibition of discriminatory tariffs for data services, Regulations, 2016" on 8th Feb, 2016 which, *inter alia*, prohibits any service provider from offering or charging discriminatory tariffs for data services on the basis of content. Government is committed to core principles of Net Neutrality through appropriate policy response, as various other related issues of Net Neutrality are within its policy domain.

Government policy on Net Neutrality shall be finalized after taking into account recommendations of committee constituted by Department of Telecommunications and recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and other inputs to the Government. TRAI recommendations on the issue are awaited, whereupon the Government will take a final view.

Addressing of consumer interest issues by telecom operators

1041. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been little progress by telecom companies in addressing consumer interest issues like call drops and expansion of internet connectivity;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider seeking TRAI's recommendations

on the need and timing for new operators, thereby increasing competition and choice for the consumers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) In the recent months, a progress has been made by telecom companies in addressing consumer interest issues like call drops and expansion of internet connectivity.

(b) and (c) The Government has already de-linked the allocation of spectrum resources from the license and the same has been made available to the telecom companies, as eligible, through the auction mechanism from time to time. The auctions for allocation of spectrum in different bands have been conducted in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

The Government is also considering TRAI's recommendations dated 27th January, 2016 on "Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in the 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands". Subject to fulfilling the eligibility conditions, there is currently no limitation on the entry of new operators as per prevailing Guidelines for grant of Unified License (UL).

Proposal for IT Investment Region in Odisha

1042. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IT Investment Region (ITIR) proposal of the Government of Odisha is lying pending with the Central Government for years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the proposal would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs(CCEA) while discussing the proposal of Government of Odisha for setting up Information Technology Investment Region(ITIR) in Bhubaneswar, has directed on 10.09.2014 that the Information Technology Investment Region Policy Resolution, 2008 be comprehensively re-examined in the light of the experience gained over time, and placed before the Committee. Based on the suggestions received from the State Governments and Inter Ministerial Consultation, a note for Amendment in ITIR Policy Resolution 2008 has been-prepared for consideration of CCEA. The proposal of Government of Odisha will be submitted for approval of CCEA after the consideration/

approval of Amendments in ITIR Policy Resolution 2008.

Surrendering of MTNL and BSNL connections

1043. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of subscribers who have surrendered the MTNL and BSNL landline as well as mobile connections during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the MTNL and BSNL subscribers who have migrated to other operators after introduction of the Mobile Number Portability; and

(c) the details of overall reduction of MTNL and BSNL subscriber base?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Circle-wise details of subscribers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) who have surrendered landline and mobile connections during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Details of subscribers of BSNL and MTNL who have migrated to other operators and from other operators to BSNL and MTNL after introduction of the Mobile Number Portability are as follows:

	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Port out	Port in	Port out	Port in	Port out	Port in
BSNL	31,09,687	21,41,470	12,49,683	7,87,935	15,91,907	6,99,190
MTNL	1,90,768	50,001	76,914	16,117	76,088	25,866

(c) Details of addition/reduction in subscriber base of MTNL and BSNL during the last three years are as follows:

	BSNL		MTNL	
	Wireline	Wireless	Wireline	Wireless
2012-13	-20,21,670	39,95,738	2,320	-10,12,356
2013-14	-19,57,915	-61,04,410	68,753	-15,74,853
2014-15	-20,75,707	-1,75,57,930	22,869	1,78,377

(-) sign indicates reduction.

Statement

Circle-wise details of subscribers of BSNL and MTNL who have surrendered landline and mobile connections during the last three years

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	No. of Subscribers surrender connection during 2012-13			No. of Subscribers surrender connection during 2012-13			No. of Subscribers surrender connection during 2014-15		
		Wireline	Mobile	Total	Wireline	Mobile	Total	Wireline	Mobile	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
BSNL										
1.	Andman and Nicobar	3165	11709	14874	1802	34101	35903	2370	34206	36576
2.	Andhra Pradesh	305101	1375080	1680181	352083	661060	1013143	313907	444431	790186
3.	Assam	47626	325180	372806	23816	227598	251414	28347	242971	274558
4.	Bihar	182223	800844	983067	28132	2727155	2755287	30474	661955	704721
5.	Chhattisgarh	26512	265	26777	10140	40132	50272	6226	909863	927826
6.	Gujarat	127024	43195	170219	171533	316227	487760	238230	1502894	1784397

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Haryana	71749	384938	456687	86781	353516	440297	132587	1058038	1198647
8.	Himachal Pradesh	36747	283669	320416	36781	435254	472035	53804	213789	283263
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	21326	250470	271796	23007	309662	332669	51323	314186	382986
10.	Jharkhand	94360	236496	330856	17133	886954	904087	21756	267243	334099
11.	Karnataka	459343	728079	1187422	302674	748189	1050863	252381	1429625	1714150
12.	Kerala	213789	59032	272821	251300	475283	726583	342594	1813914	2223946
13.	Madhya Pradesh	98547	520782	619329	41657	1125175	1166832	52829	1520987	1603696
14.	Maharashtra	307628	1145371	1452999	287355	549049	836404	289853	1444780	1779920
15.	North East-I	24209	8054	32263	53361	415776	469137	14398	123614	155116
16.	North East-II	51368	161223	212591	7816	362490	370306	8829	186423	195374
17.	Odisha	108370	659907	768277	51478	1948504	1999982	51100	635923	698170
18.	Punjab	169153	890045	1059198	164162	379066	543228	170017	2002230	2182237
19.	Rajasthan	217140	521442	738582	142749	447051	589800	154185	3253341	3431844

230 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

20.	Tamil Nadu	217443	647999	865442	249608	427149	676757	258006	1952414	2240890
21.	Uttarakhand	29828	243676	273504	56054	580447	636501	30146	185330	226165
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	251175	136380	387555	287669	195950	483619	321256	2779844	3116812
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	42893	777985	820878	222062	728943	951005	66866	1731378	1802832
24.	West Bengal	196246	108127	304373	220597	1576166	1796763	82340	787013	871161
25.	Kolkata	70127	243492	313619	101742	1517732	1619474	101302	137755	241776
26.	Chennai	87259	128669	215928	106704	152596	259300	76098	181738	261772
MTNL										
27.	Delhi	51741	528733	580474	58383	398111	456494	51393	115704	167097
28.	Mumbai	74374	671195	745569	76127	1462999	1539126	78527	50987	129514

Written Answers to

[4 March, 2016]

Unstarred Questions

Cyber readiness index of India

1044. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to improve the Cyber Readiness Index of India under the new Digital India initiative, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to expand the cyber surveillance of the country, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government of India under the flagship programme of "Digital India" has a vision of providing digital infrastructure as a utility to every citizen in safe and secure cyberspace. Security of cyberspace is identified as one of the key components envisaged for the success of 'Digital India' programme and to improve the Cyber Readiness Index of India. To meet the dynamically changing requirements of Cyber Security, earlier initiatives will be continued and strengthened and in addition, new initiatives need to be put in place consistent with emerging threats and evolving technology scenario. As part of this, key initiatives of the Government are:

- (i) Digital Locker system has been implemented, which envisages provision of private space on a public cloud to each citizen where he/she can keep public records and can even exchange it for availing various services. Digital Locker implements secure authentication mechanism to prevent leakage of data through Cyber attacks. Further, eSign framework enables citizens to digitally sign a document online using Aadhaar authentication.
- (ii) National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate near real time macroscopic views of the cyber security breaches and cyber security threats in the country. The centre will provide a structured mechanism and facilitate coordination of efforts of all stakeholder agencies in the country. NCCC will be a multi stakeholder body and will be implemented by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) at Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY).
- (iii) "Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre" to provide for detection of malware infected computer systems and enable cleaning and securing the systems of end-users to prevent further malware infections. The project is being implemented

in coordination and collaboration with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Industry. This would help in enhancing the security of computer systems across the country.

- (iv) Government has also taken steps to put in place a Framework for Enhancing Cyber Security, which envisages a multi-layered approach for ensuring defence-in-depth with clear demarcation of responsibilities among the stakeholder organizations in the country.
- (v) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) as per the provisions of Section 70A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 for protection of Critical Information Infrastructure in the country.
- (vi) The Information Technology Act, 2000 provides a comprehensive legal framework to address the issues connected with cyber crime, cyber attacks and security breaches of information technology infrastructure.

(b) National Cyber Co-ordination Centre (NCCC) initiative aims at strengthening the surveillance of Indian Cyber Space by gathering network traffic metadata from Internet service providers, analyzing and correlating such data with security events from various sources for detection / prevention of cyber security attacks. Further, the initiative will facilitate generating situational awareness for proactive actions to ensure security of cyber space in the country.

Damage to foodgrains in FCI godowns

1045. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity of foodgrains damaged in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) across the country during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) the reasons for continuance as well as three fold increase in the quantity of foodgrains damaged during the last five years; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to check such damage of large quantity of foodgrains in FCI godowns as well as action taken against those responsible for the loss and pilferage of foodgrains from FCI godowns?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Procured foodgrains are stored by Food Corporation of India (FCI) in scientific manner in covered godowns and in CAP(Cover

and 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, procurement of poor quality stocks, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc.

Total quantity of foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in the godowns of FCI across the country during the last five years and current year, year-wise are as under:

Year	Quantity of foodgrains accrued as damaged/ non-issuable in FCI (in Tons)
2010-11	6346
2011-12	3338
2012-13	3148
2013-14	24695
2014-15	18847
2015-16 (upto 1-2-16)	3057

The above table indicates that there is a decreasing trend in the accrual of damaged foodgrains with effect from 2010-11 to 2012-13. During the year 2013-14 and 2014-15, the increase in quantity of damaged foodgrains is due to the efforts made by FCI to liquidate all old crop stocks and due to cyclone/flood. The stocks which were detected as non-issuable during the previous years but not disposed were categorized and disposal initiated during 2013-14.

(c) Fresh steps taken to check damage of foodgrains in FCI godowns are as under:

- (1) Wheat procured under relaxed norms of quality specifications (URS Wheat) during RMS 2015-16 is issued on over-riding priority by FCI irrespective of FIFO (First in first out) principle.

- (2) Instructions have been issued not to store any stock in un-scientific (katcha) plinths. Storage of foodgrains in CAP is to be minimized specially in consuming States.
- (3) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels in FCI to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.

Besides the above, FCI also carries out the regular practices of effective prophylactic and curative treatment of stocks and inspections to minimize damage to stocks.

Action taken against officers/officials of FCI found responsible for loss and pilferage of foodgrains during the last three years and current year is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Action taken (Number of cases) against officers/ officials found responsible for loss and pilferage of foodgrains during the last three years and current year

Year	No. of cases against Officers/Officials found responsible for				
	Down-gradation/ Damage of stocks	Defalcation/ Misappropriation of stocks, A/cs etc.	Storage Loss	Transit Loss	Total
2012-13	23	84	324	305	736
2013-14	53	132	499	189	873
2014-15	25	100	386	171	682
2015-16 (upto Jan. 2016)	19	117	248	199	583

Payment of food security allowances

1046. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of households/beneficiaries who were paid food security allowance due to non-supply of PDS foodgrains since January, 2015, month-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the number of households that faced non-supply of PDS foodgrains, since January, 2015, month-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount of funds allocated and disbursed for payment of food security allowance; and

(d) the procedure beneficiaries must follow to report non-supply of PDS foodgrains and to receive food security allowance?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) As per available information, there has been no instance of payment of food security allowance due to non-supply of foodgrains by State Governments/ Union Territory (UT) Administrations.

(d) As per Food Security Allowance Rules, 2015, the nodal officer appointed by State Government/ UT Administration is required to verify at the end of every month and at each fair price shop, the status of supply of foodgrains to entitled persons and ensure time-bound payment of food security allowance to the entitled persons in every case where entitled quantity of foodgrains has not been supplied due to non availability of foodgrains at the fair price shop or for any unforeseen reasons.

Agricultural development schemes in West Bengal and North-Eastern States

1047. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foodgrains purchased by Government from each State, especially West Bengal and North-Eastern States, year-wise during the last five years;

(b) whether Government has undertaken any agricultural development schemes in West Bengal and the North-East, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the budgetary allocation and disbursal for such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The State-wise procurement of rice, wheat and coarsegrain in Central Pool in each States including that in West Bengal and North-Eastern States if any during last five years are given in Statement-I, II and III respectively (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Government of India in Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is implementing a number of developmental schemes *viz.* Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission of Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), National Mission for

Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing (ISAM), Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation (ISAC), Integrated Scheme on Agri-Census and Statistics (ISAC&S), National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). These schemes are being implemented in the country including West Bengal and North - Eastern States. An amount of ₹ 125.00 crore as per Revised Estimates has been earmarked for Organic Value Chain for North East for the year 2015-16.

The details of the funds allocated and released to West Bengal and North - Eastern States under various Schemes being implemented by DAC&FW is given in Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Details of rice procurement for central pool for the last five years

(Marketing season wise)

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	KMS 2010-11	KMS 2011-12	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15	KMS 2015-16*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96.09	75.48	64.86	37.37	35.96	26.78
2.	Telangana				43.53	35.04	10.16
3.	Assam	0.16	0.23	0.20	0.00	0.15	0.10
4.	Bihar	8.83	15.34	13.03	9.42	16.14	4.60
5.	Chandigarh	0.10	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.10	0.16
6.	Chhattisgarh	37.46	41.15	48.04	42.90	34.23	39.72
7.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Haryana	16.87	20.07	26.09	24.06	20.15	28.60
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	2.75	2.15	0.00	0.06	0.52

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.07
13.	Karnataka	1.80	3.57	0.59	0.00	0.88	0.41
14.	Kerala	2.63	3.76	2.40	3.59	3.74	1.50
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5.16	6.35	8.98	10.45	8.07	8.49
16.	Maharashtra	3.08	1.90	1.92	1.61	1.99	1.29
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Odisha	24.65	28.66	36.15	28.01	33.57	20.12
19.	Puducherry	0.40	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Punjab	86.34	77.31	85.58	81.06	77.86	93.50
21.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	15.43	15.96	4.81	6.84	10.51	6.27
23.	Uttar Pradesh	25.54	33.57	22.86	11.27	16.98	26.52
24.	Uttarakhand	4.22	3.78	4.97	4.63	4.65	5.97
25.	West Bengal	13.10	20.41	17.66	13.59	20.32	5.38
TOTAL		341.98	350.60	340.44	318.45	320.40	280.16

* KMS 2015-16 is under progress. Data reported as on 29.02.2016

KMS= Kharif Marketing Season i.e. From September to August

Statement-II

*Details of wheat procurement for central pool for the last five years
(Marketing Season wise)*

(Figures in lakh tons)

Sl. No	States/UTs	RMS 2011-12	RMS 2012-13	RMS 2013-14	RMS 2014-15	RMS 2015-16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Punjab	109.58	128.34	108.97	116.41	103.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Haryana	69.28	86.65	58.73	64.95	67.78
3.	Uttar Pradesh	34.61	50.63	6.83	6.28	22.67
4.	Uttarakhand	0.42	1.39	0.05	0.01	0.04
5.	Madhya Pradesh	49.65	84.93	63.55	70.94	73.09
6.	Gujarat	1.05	1.56	0.00	0.00	0.73
7.	Rajasthan	13.03	19.64	12.68	21.59	13.00
8.	Bihar	5.57	7.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Delhi	0.08	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.02
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Odisha	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Chandigarh	0.07	0.17	0.00	0.05	0.11
17.	West Bengal	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
18.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00
19.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		283.35	381.48	250.92	280.23	280.88

RMS= Rabi Marketing Season *i.e.* From April to March

240 *Written Answers to*

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

[illegible]

2013-2014	Maize						2234	9	2243	Written Answers to
	Ragi								0	
	Jowar					4	2	85	91	
	Bajra								0	
2014 -2015	Maize	27918	288904	722	2587	713807	86573	95555	1216066	[4 March, 2016]
	Ragi					14788			14788	
	Jowar					6839	1643	5867	14349	
	Bajra								0	
2015 -16 *	Maize	4945	6438				301842	1619	314844	Unstarred Questions
	Ragi					135955			135955	
	Jowar					33	4947	15209	20189	
	Bajra				5053				5053	
	Maize						22962	11	22973	
	Ragi					85582			85582	241

* KMS 2015-16 is under progress. Data reported as on 22.02.2016

Statement-IV

Details of funds allocated and released to West Bengal and North-Eastern States under the various schemes being implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2015-16	
		Allocation	Release so far
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	112.25	59.82
2.	Assam	320.42	199.30
3.	Manipur	98.37	63.56
4.	Meghalaya	63.55	31.66
5.	Mizoram	92.40	52.78
6.	Nagaland	110.39	60.07
7.	Sikkim	86.36	51.95
8.	Tripura	90.23	52.33
9.	West Bengal	423.53	213.61

Allotment of wheat and rice to Rajasthan

†1048. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision of providing free meals to pregnant women, lactating mothers and children upto the age of six years through Anganwadi under the NFSA, 2013, if so, types of foodgrains and quantity thereof allocated to States including Rajasthan, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government of Rajasthan has requested Central Government under the above Act for allocation of 34,000 metric tonnes of wheat and 14,000 metric tonnes of rice per year; and

(c) if so, whether Central Government intends to accept the above request, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Type of meals to be provided to the target groups through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme and the nutritional standards are prescribed in schedule II to the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA).

Foodgrains are allocated under the Scheme to States/UTs based on the requirements received from them. During 2015-16, a requirement of 19,188 tons of wheat was received from the State Government of Rajasthan and the same was allocated. No requirement of rice was received from the State Government during 2015-16. State-wise quantity of foodgrains allocated during last two years is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Allocation of foodgrains under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (in tons)

Sl. No. State/UT		2014-15			2015-16			
		Wheat	Rice	Maize	Wheat	Rice	Maize	Ragi
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	255	0	0	234	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24168	51548	3300	0	103875	0	0
3.	Assam	8000	8000	0	8000	8000	8000	0
4.	Bihar	0	124915	0	0	128739	0	0
5.	Chandigarh	790	780	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	56478	20730	0	58795	21167	0	0
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	247	0	0	186	0	0
8.	Delhi	3144	3994	0	3144	3994	0	0
9.	Goa	20	4705	0	38	3942	0	0
10.	Gujarat	54064	12384	0	43791	9060	0	0
11.	Haryana	31896	9298	0	32323	9401	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12.	Himachal Pradesh	8476	4252	0	9780	5660	0	0
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	3862	0	0	19499	0	0
14.	Jharkhand	30135	7050	0	38278	28200	0	0
15.	Karnataka	85152	66204	0	88472	68688	0	13176
16.	Kerala	8016	6580	0	9000	6580	0	0
17.	Madhya Pradesh	152112	56652	0	147292	54421	0	0
18.	Maharashtra	124836	27696	0	128532	18600	0	0
19.	Manipur	0	19516	0	0	19663	0	0
20.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Mizoram	1806	1140	0	1877	1254	0	0
22.	Nagaland	0	14688	0	0	14664	0	0
23.	Odisha	91763	42142	0	91070	41251	0	0
24.	Punjab	14555	11240	0	14204	11028	0	0
25.	Rajasthan	24824	0	0	19188	0	0	0
26.	Sikkim	900	0	0	826	0	0	0
27.	Tamil Nadu	51852	32381	8775	53216	32484	14072	5660
28.	Telangana	4979	37217	0	18657	38310	0	0
29.	Tripura	0	14808	0	0	11264	0	0
30.	Uttarakhand	9903	8285	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	182784	21288	0	172548	19920	0	0
32.	West Bengal	0	98549	0	0	193812	0	0
33.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	122	0	0
TOTAL		970653	710406	12075	939031	874018	22072	18836

Regulating e-commerce business

†1049. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints against direct selling/ecommerce companies regarding fraud, selling goods at very low prices, quality and privacy;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints, e-commerce company/site-wise, during the last two years and current year;

(c) whether Government feels the need to regulate e-commerce business in the country; and

(d) the present status of the proposal regarding setting up of National Consumer Safety Authority?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Over last 2 years and current year, a total of twelve complaints have been received against e-commerce companies against deficiency in service, unfair trade practices and unauthorized collection of funds from the public. The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has completed investigation in the cases relating to two companies *i.e.* Unipay 2 Group and Speakasia Online Group.

(c) A separate regulation for e-commerce activities may not be required as these activities are already covered under the different laws and regulation like the Information Technology Act, 2000, the Company Law, Income tax Laws, Consumer Protection Act etc.

(d) The Consumer Protection Bill, 2015 seeks to establish a Central Consumer Protection Authority, an executive agency, for protection of the interest of the consumers. The Bill has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 10.8.2015. It has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution further examination and report.

Charging arbitrary price for packaged foods and drinks

1050. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of charging arbitrary prices - most often more than MRP for packaged food products, aerated drinks and water by some of the retailers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether any measures are in the offing for making the manufacturers accountable to ensure that the retail price remains within the MRP?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Sir, the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 have been made under the provisions of Sec. 18 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009. As per Rule 18(2) of the said rules provisions are made to prevent the sale of any pre-packaged commodity at a price higher than MRP, which are as follows:

"No retail dealer or other person including manufacturer, packer, importer and wholesale dealer shall make any sale of any commodity in packed form at a price exceeding the retail sale price thereof."

Rule 32 of the said rules provides for compounding amount for selling of products for more than the Maximum Retail Price.

Section 36 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 provides for penalty provisions in case of violation of the provisions of the Act and the provisions of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

Therefore, under the provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, State Governments are taking action against the manufacturer, packer, importer, wholesale dealer, and retailer for selling packaged commodities at the price higher than MRP in various States/UTs, as the enforcement of weights and Measures is done by the State Governments.

Rise in prices of essential food items

1051. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a body to monitor the variation in prices of essential food articles in view of sudden sharp rise in prices of essential food items since last few years and failure of the Government to check price rise in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) The Government is already monitoring the prices of select essential commodities on a daily basis to ensure availability and stabilization in prices, and also taking policy decisions for market intervention if, any.

Corruption in PDS

†1052. 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 a large scale corruption is prevailing in the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether e-Ration Card Service can be an effective measure to curb corruption prevailing in the PDS, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

There have been complaints about irregularities including corruption in the functioning of TPDS such as inclusion and exclusion errors, prevalence of bogus / ineligible ration cards, diversion of foodgrains, beneficiaries not getting their entitled quota of foodgrains, etc. The reasons for such irregularities in the system may be linked to issues like lack of transparency, accountability, monitoring and enforcement.

With a view to modernize the system, the Government has initiated a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS operations on cost sharing basis with States/UTs which includes digitization of ration cards /beneficiary and other databases, online allocation of foodgrains, computerization of supply-chain management, Fair Price Shop (FPS) automation which involves installation of Point of Sale (PoS) devices at FPS for authentication of beneficiaries, recording of sales to beneficiaries, uploading of transaction data in central server and setting up of transparency portals and grievances redressal mechanism. These measures are aimed at curbing leakages and diversion by bringing transparency and accountability.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Including private agencies in crops procurement

†1053. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States where farmers are not getting Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the steps taken by Government to solve this problem;
- (b) the names of private agencies which are proposed to be included for procurement of crops and whether any solution to the above problem is possible with such a step; and
- (c) whether any arrangement has been made for monitoring the work of private agencies, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) There is a Uniform Policy for procurement by Government Agencies across the country. Under this policy, whatever foodgrains are offered by farmers in various States, within the stipulated period and which conform to the specifications prescribed by Government of India are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the Government agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI) for central pool. However, if any producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP he is free to sell his produce in Open market *i.e.* to private trader/ anyone. Government of India (GOI) declares MSP for each season to incentivize the farmers.

(b) Details of the private players engaged through a competitive bidding process by FCI in various States of Eastern India for paddy/rice procurement is given in the Statement (*See* below). These players have been engaged to expand the coverage of MSP operations to such identified clusters of Districts/Parts of the District, where outreach of Government Agencies has been weak and State Governments have consented for FCI to engage the private agencies to reach out to the paddy farmers for improvement.

(c) Yes Sir. The engagement of private players with an ultimate aim to enhance the outreach of MSP to large number of farmers, especially small and marginal ones has been actualized through the tender process and these private players are bound by elaborate terms and conditions enshrined in Model Tender Form (MTF). These terms and conditions enjoin upon the private players certain obligations in the interest of farmers. For monitoring the work of private players adequate arrangements have been prescribed in the said MTF, some of these are as follows:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. FCI to verify that the payment of MSP has been made by the private parties within two working days by RTGS/NEFT/Electronic Mode before reimbursement of the MSP to private parties besides ensuring that all the statutory liabilities have been discharged by the private parties within the prescribed time limit.
2. The private players are bound to furnish daily procurement reports to FCI.
3. FCI has right to inspect the purchase centers/storage points of the private parties/millers premises.
4. FCI to monitor that private parties are in possession of the required licence/permissions from the concerned Central/State Government/Local authorities for carrying the procurement operations, maintain proper records of all the procurement activities like rejections, payment made to the farmers, transportations, quality checks, weighment, storage etc.
5. Quality checking of rice is carried out by FCI at the time of acceptance at its Depot.
6. FCI to evaluate the performance of private parties and impose commensurate penalty on private players for their acts of omissions and commissions. In case, the performance of private parties is found wanting at any point of time, in addition to payment of penalties, their engagement shall also be liable to be terminated at their risk and cost in which case Security deposit furnished by them shall be forfeited and they shall be blacklisted for a period which may extend up to 5 years.

Statement

Details of Status of cluster-wise engagement of private players

(I) Uttar Pradesh:

Cluster	Revenue Distt Covered	Name of private party engaged	Date of award letter
1	2	3	4
Cluster 1	Ballia, Mau, Ghazipur, Chandauli	M/S NCML	09.12.2015
Cluster 2	Allahabad, Kausambhi, Pratapgarh, Sultanpur	M/S Veerprabhu	23.12.2015
Cluster 3	Ambedkarnagar, Basti, Sant Kabirnagar, Siddharthnagar	M/s Farmers fortune (India) Private Limited	08.01.2016

(II) Jharkhand:

1	3	4	5
Cluster 1	South Chhotanagpur	M/S NCMSL	26.11.15
Cluster 2	Kolhan	M/S NCMSL	26.11.15

(III) West Bengal:

Cluster 1	Bankura	M/S Veerprabhu Marketing Limited	08.01.2016
Cluster 2	Burdwan	M/S Veerprabhu Marketing Limited	08.01.2016
Cluster 3	Dinajpur	M/S Veerprabhu Marketing Limited	08.01.2016
Cluster 4	Siliguri	M/S Veerprabhu Marketing Limited	08.01.2016

Assam:

As four rounds of tenders in Assam did not evoke any response the procurement is being undertaken only by FCI & State Government.

Buffer stock of chillies

1054. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to create a buffer stock of chillies for price stabilisation and for meeting domestic demand in view of low production thereof by as much as forty per cent, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is considering import of chillies to overcome the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Control of prices of food items

1055. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been taking steps to control the prices of food items in the country and is making them available to the States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in spite of the Centre's initiation, some States are not coming forward to draw their share of food items from the Central Government, if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to control the hoardings by traders which is the main cause of increase of prices of food items?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The requisite details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Certain States/UTs have not been able to lift their full quota of foodgrains allocated under TPDS/NFSA and Other Welfare Schemes. Following are some of the reasons for the low offtake of foodgrains by the States/UTs:

- (i) Inability of State/UT Governments or their agencies to mobilise funds;
- (iii) Shortage of sufficient intermediate storage capacity with the State Governments to store the foodgrains after lifting the same from FCI;
- (iv) Lower demand from beneficiaries in view of higher production and retention of foodgrains; and
- (d) Shifting in food consumption pattern due to increase in per capita income.

(c) The steps being taken by Government to control the hoardings by traders include extension of stock limit on select essential food items like pulses, Onions, edible oils, oilseeds, etc. and issuing advisories to States for strict enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. Further, domestic searches and surveys have been conducted on a number of importers, traders and financiers engaged in pulses trade. A Group of Officers has also been set up for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. to facilitate coordinated action.

Statement

Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

General Measure:

1. 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 onion under control.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Higher MSP has been announced so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
5. A new Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.

Specific Measures:**Onion**

6. Export of onion were restricted through imposition of Minimum Export Price (MEP) when prices were ruling high and import is allowed at zero duty.
7. Retail sale of onion was undertaken from the stock held by SFAC and NAFED.
8. Imported 2000 MT of onion from Egypt and China through MMTC. As no demands from state were received, the onion were disposed off through tender in the open market.
9. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by one more year *i.e.* up to 2nd July 2016 under the Essential Commodities Act.
10. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.

Pulses

11. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
12. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
13. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
14. 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.
15. MSP (including bonus) raised for kharif pulses for Tur and Urad and Moong. MSP also raised for rabi pulses for Gram and Masoor.
16. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention, and it may be augmented by import of 20,000 MT of Tur and 5,000 MT of Urad

Edible Oils

17. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
18. MSP increased for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.

Storage capacity of foodgrains in the country

1056. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of storage capacity available *vis-a-vis* required for various foodgrains in the country, State-wise, foodgrain-wise, as on date;
- (b) the storage capacity added for various foodgrains during the last five years *vis-a-vis* the targets set for the purpose, year-wise;
- (c) the quantum of foodgrains along with their monetary value that got wasted due to non-availability of storage facilities during the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government has chalked out a comprehensive strategy to enhance storage capacity of various foodgrains in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) As on 31.01.2016, storage capacity of 807.11 lakh MT (Covered - 639.71 LMT and Cover and Plinth (CAP) - 167.40 LMT) is available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies for central pool of foodgrains. The total stock of foodgrains in the central pool on this date was 365.74 lakh MT. The State-wise details of storage capacity and State-wise/ commodity-wise details of stock position are given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*). The maximum storage requirement at any time is around 600 lakh MT. Thus there is sufficient storage capacity available in the country.

(b) FCI has been constructing godowns under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme and Plan Scheme. The year-wise details of storage capacity added by FCI under PEG scheme during last 5 years are as below:

Year	Target (in lakh MT)	Capacity added (in lakh MT)
2011-12	32.70	28.17
2012-13	45.00	40.66
2013-14	50.00	49.88
2014-15	27.00	8.30
2015-16 *	2.50	5.39
TOTAL		132.40

* up to 31.01.2016

The year-wise details of storage capacity added by FCI under Plan scheme during last 5 years are as below:

Year	Target (in MT)	Capacity added (in MT)
2011-12	Total capacity planned in 12th	11,255
2012-13	Five Year Plan (2012-17) is	2,910
2013-14	2,92,730 MT in North East	22,500
2014-15	and 76,220 MT in Other States.	43,480
2015-16 *		36,480
TOTAL		1,16,625

* up to 31.01.2016

(c) In view of reply given in part (a), question does not arise.

(d) New godowns have been added through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in 20 States during last 5 years under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme through private sector as well as public sector agencies. 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). Capacities created in both the scheme have been given in part (b) above.

FCI has also planned for construction of modern storage facilities in the form of Steel Silos in PPP mode. Accordingly, FCI has already floated tenders (RFP) for construction of Silos through PPP mode for total 2.5 lakh MT capacity at 6 locations viz Narela, Changsari, Katihar, Whitefield, Sahnewal and Kotkapura.

Statement-I

Details of storage capacity with FCI and State Government agencies as on 31.01.2016

(Figures in LMT)

Zone	Sl. No.	State	Total Storage Capacity with FCI (Owned/ Hired)						Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies	Grand Total		
			Covered		CAP		Total					
			Ow- ned	Hired	Ow- ned	Hired	Cove- red	CAP		Cove- red	CAP	Cove- CAP red
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	2.64	1.00	0.00	6.30	1.00	7.85	-	14.15	1.00
	2.	Jharkhand	0.67	1.66	0.05	0.00	2.33	0.05			2.33	0.05
	3.	Odisha	3.12	2.39	0.00	0.00	5.51	-	6.16	-	11.67	-
	4.	West Bengal	8.50	1.22	0.51	0.00	9.72	0.51	6.49	16.21	0.51	
NE	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			0.01	0.23	-
	7.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.30				0.30	-
	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	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	11.	Nagaland	0.21	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.34		0.11	0.45	-	-
North	12.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.31	0.00	3.36	0.31	-		3.36	0.31
	13.	Haryana	7.68	42.32	5.33	0.00	50.00	3.33	30.14	25.97	80.14	29.30
	14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.49	-	-		0.49	-
	15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	1.37	0.10	0.00	2.40	0.10	-		2.40	0.10
	16.	Punjab	22.24	78.92	7.31	0.09	101.16	7.40	42.42	100.44	143.58	107.84
	17.	Rajasthan	7.06	10.36	1.85	0.00	17.42	1.85	2.73	0.19	20.15	2.04
	18.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	29.97	5.19	0.00	44.92	5.19	14.12	-	59.04	5.19
	19.	Uttarakhand	0.66	1.01	0.21	0.00	1.67	0.21	1.86	-	3.53	0.21
South	20.	Andhra Pradesh	7.36	3.72	1.60	0.00	11.08	1.60	12.75		23.83	1.60
	21.	Telangana	5.37	3.02	1.02	0.00	8.39	1.02	12.33	-	20.72	1.02
	22.	Kerala	5.29	0.05	0.21	0.00	5.34	0.21	0.34		5.68	0.21
	23.	Karnataka	3.81	3.70	1.36	0.00	7.51	1.36	20.36	0.41	27.87	1.77
	24.	Tamil Nadu	6.24	4.90	0.31	0.00	11.14	0.31	5.71		16.85	0.31
West	25.	Gujarat	5.00	1.90	0.27	0.00	6.90	0.27	2.06		8.96	0.27
	26.	Maharashtra	8.85	10.68	1.02	0.00	19.53	1.02	11.18		30.91	1.02
	27.	Goa	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	-	-	-	-	-
	28.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.05	0.36	0.00	3.42	0.36	111.60	14.28	115.02	14.64
	29.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	3.49	0.01	0.00	8.61	0.01	15.41		24.02	0.01
	TOTAL		127.73	205.18	26.02	0.09	332.91	26.11	306.80	141.29	639.71	167.40
				332.91		26.11		359.02		448.09		807.11

Statement-II*Details of total stocks of foodgrains in central pool as on 01.02.2016*

Region	Stock with FCI			Stock with State Agencies			Total Central Pool		
	Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Bihar	0.88	2.00	2.88	0.32	0.00	0.32	1.20	2.00	3.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jharkhand	1.36	0.22	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.36	0.22	1.58
Odisha	1.15	1.67	2.82	3.68	0.00	3.68	4.83	1.67	6.50
West Bengal	0.84	5.80	6.64	1.75	0.00	1.75	2.59	5.80	8.39
ZONAL TOTAL	4.23	9.69	13.92	5.75	0.00	5.75	9.98	9.69	19.67
Assam	2.07	0.47	2.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.07	0.47	2.54
Arunachal Pradesh	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.12
Tripura	0.16	0.01	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.01	0.17
Mizoram	0.12	0.01	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.13
Meghalaya	0.13	0.01	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.01	0.14
Manipur	0.24	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.24
Nagaland	0.32	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.32
ZONAL TOTAL	3.16	0.50	3.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.16	0.50	3.66
Delhi	0.15	1.98	2.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	1.98	2.13
Haryana	8.16	27.24	35.40	0.00	5.80	5.80	8.16	33.04	41.20
Himachal Pradesh	0.06	0.29	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.29	0.35
Jammu and Kashmir	1.34	0.58	1.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.34	0.58	1.92
Punjab	43.40	29.87	73.27	0.00	48.29	48.29	43.40	78.16	121.56
Rajasthan	0.20	14.42	14.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	14.42	14.62
Uttar Pradesh	21.99	15.74	37.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.99	15.74	37.73
Uttarakhand	0.96	0.59	1.55	0.77	0.00	0.77	1.73	0.59	2.32
ZONAL TOTAL	76.26	90.71	166.97	0.77	54.09	54.86	77.03	144.80	221.83
Andhra Pradesh	4.88	0.26	5.14	11.46	0.00	11.46	16.34	0.26	16.60
Karnataka	5.44	1.43	6.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.44	1.43	6.87
Kerala	3.13	0.96	4.09	0.20	0.00	0.20	3.33	0.96	4.29
Tamil Nadu	7.72	1.09	8.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.72	1.09	8.81
Telangana	3.99	0.23	4.22	6.47	0.00	6.47	10.46	0.23	10.69
ZONAL TOTAL	25.16	3.97	29.13	18.13	0.00	18.13	43.29	3.97	47.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Gujarat	0.77	3.97	4.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	3.97	4.74
Maharashtra	6.31	9.42	15.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.31	9.42	15.73
Madhya Pradesh	0.07	1.56	1.63	3.26	25.83	29.09	3.33	27.39	30.72
Chhattisgarh	5.50	0.38	5.88	9.14	0.00	9.14	14.64	0.38	15.02
ZONAL TOTAL	12.65	15.33	27.98	12.40	25.83	38.23	25.05	41.16	66.21
TOTAL	121.46	120.20	241.66	37.05	79.92	116.97	158.51	200.12	358.63
Wheat lying in mandies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stock in Transit	3.88	3.23	7.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.88	3.23	7.11
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	125.34	123.43	248.77	37.05	79.92	116.97	162.39	203.35	365.74

Mechanism to deal with variation of prices of essential commodities

1057. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up a body for monitoring and intervening in case of sharp variation in the prices of essential commodities;

(b) whether, at present, there is no unified mechanism to deal with sharp increase or fall in prices of essential commodities as different Departments deal with different aspects of commodities;

(c) whether the proposed Body's main objective would be to find the substitute for items that are short in supply, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether the entity would also have a mechanism to engage all stakeholders, including traders and importers, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) No Sir, there is no such proposal is under consideration at present.

The Government is monitoring prices of select essential commodities on a daily basis to ensure availability and stabilization in prices. This has also helped in taking policy decision on timely market intervention including thorough the Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme.

Availability of essential food items at affordable price

†1058. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government has taken a number of policy measures in the last one year to ensure availability of essential food items at affordable rates in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether those policy measures are yielding positive results, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The requisite details are given in the Statement-I. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No. 983, part (a)]

(b) Yes Sir. The above measures taken by Government helped in improving availability and thereby stabilising prices of essential food items are given in Statement-II.

Statement

Details of trend in monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of major essential food items during recent months

Commodities	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	% change Jan. 16 over Nov. 15
1	2	3	4	5
CEREALS	236.2	237.1	236.7	0.21
Rice	237.4	237.3	235.9	-0.63
Wheat	221.3	222.7	223.5	0.99
PULSES	380.2	378.2	370.1	-2.66
Gram	311.9	311.8	304.4	-2.40
Arhar	417.3	421.3	410.7	-1.58
Moong	441.2	418.4	413.6	-6.26

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
Masur	369.7	350.8	347.1	-6.11
Urad	509.6	520.1	507.8	-0.35
VEGETABLES	330.7	318.4	289.4	-12.49
Potato	201.0	174.8	151.5	-24.63
Onion	505.5	435.4	348.4	-31.08
Tomato	534.1	384.6	357.4	-33.08
Milk	250.8	250.9	250.8	0.00
Sugar	167.8	169.8	178.4	6.32
EDIBLE OILS	150.6	151.5	149.6	-0.66
Vanaspati	114.9	116.0	110.0	-4.26
Groundnut Oil	192.2	193.8	192.2	0.00
Palm Oil	120.6	120.1	120.7	0.08
Rice Bran Oil	150.4	149.8	147.5	-1.93
Mustard & Rapeseed Oil	192.2	193.0	188.7	-1.82
Soyabean Oil	150.3	150.4	150.4	0.07
Sunflower Oil	134.3	132.4	133.6	-0.52

Source: DIPP

Proposal to amend Consumer Protection Act, 1986

1059. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to strengthen the consumer protection system and make it more responsive to the needs of the consumers in the present scenario; and

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof along with the salient features of the proposed amendment/review reports?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Consumer Protection Bill 2015 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 10.8.2015 with a view to carry out comprehensive amendments to the existing Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and to repeal the same. The salient features of the Bill include provisions for establishment of a Central Consumer Protection Authority, an executive agency to take action against unfair trade practices, misleading advertisements, and simpler adjudication process, provision for mediation, an alternate dispute resolution mechanism and provisions for Product Liability.

The Bill has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for further examination and report.

Irregularities in PDS

1060. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several irregularities, including diversion of Public Distribution System (PDS) foodgrains, prevalence of fake ration cards, supply of poor quality foodgrains and charging of high price, have been reported during the last three years and the current year, particularly from Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measure taken by Government in this regard indicating the number of cases reported and the losses suffered as a result thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government proposes to provide additional items under the PDS, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments wherein operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

There have been reports about irregularities in implementation of TPDS in certain regions/States in the country including State of Chhattisgarh. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, they are sent to State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. Details indicating State-wise number of complaints on TPDS received in the department from 2013 to 2016 (upto January, 2016) is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 and TPDS (Control) Order, 2015 have been notified. Both control orders mandate the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. State and UT Governments have been directed in July 2006 to implement 9-point Action Plan for streamlining the working of TPDS. Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for the foodgrains allocated to State Government are obtained regularly from the State Governments.

Reports are being sought periodically from State/UT Governments regarding irregularities in TPDS and action taken on such cases by them under relevant clauses of PDS (Control) Orders. State-wise details regarding action taken by States/UTs during the last three years and current year are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

Further, instructions have been issued to States/UTs to conduct a regular review of the eligible beneficiaries and take action as per law against the families/persons found in possession of bogus/ineligible ration cards. As a result thereof, States/UTs as on 30.6.2015 have reported deletion of 494.50 lakh bogus/ineligible ration cards from July, 2006 onwards. Details showing State-wise number of bogus/ineligible rations cards deleted by the State/UT Governments is given in Statement-III (*See below*).

Government has been regularly reviewing and also issuing instructions to States/ Union Territories to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.

(c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Department of Food and Public Distribution including any other food item for distribution under TPDS in addition to wheat, rice and coarsegrain.

Statement-I

Details of complaints on TPDS received in the department from individuals, organisations and through media reports etc. from 2013 to 2016 (upto 31.01.2016)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2013	2014	2015	2016
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	4	8	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	1	-
3.	Assam	-	5	34	1
4.	Bihar	32	55	106	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	3	6	-
6.	Delhi	37	78	113	2
7.	Goa	-	-	-	-
8.	Gujarat	4	16	8	-
9.	Haryana	11	26	35	2
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	4	1
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	5	-
12.	Jharkhand	8	16	32	-
13.	Karnataka	6	6	16	-
14.	Kerala	1	1	16	3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	17	7	17	1
16.	Maharashtra	20	25	48	4
17.	Manipur	2	1	6	-
18.	Meghalaya	1	2	7	-
19.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-
20.	Nagaland	-	3	-	-
21.	Odisha	3	8	22	3
22.	Punjab	6	5	10	-

Sl. No.	State/UT	2013	2014	2015	2016
23.	Rajasthan	18	31	33	-
24.	Sikkim	0	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	9	7	22	1
26.	Telangana	-	-	10	-
27.	Uttarakhand	2	8	24	1
28.	Uttar Pradesh	92	137	197	21
29.	West Bengal	7	11	32	1
30.	Chandigarh	-	3	6	-
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	1	-	-
32.	Puducherry	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		282	460	818	45

Statement-II

Details showing results of action taken by the State/UT Governments under relevant clauses of PDS (Control) Orders from January 2012 to December, 2015

(As compiled on 31.12.2015)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Year	Number of inspections	Number of raids conducted	Number of persons arrested/ prosecuted/ convicted	Number of FPS Licenses suspended/ cancelled/ show cause notices issued/FIR lodged
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	5450	103	00	66

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2012	0	12	0	00
		2013	*	*	*	
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
3.	Assam	2012	650	258	00	32
		2013	501	162	00	14
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	
4.	Bihar	2012	73629	101	38	10358
		2013	32698	61	4	3984
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
5.	Chhattisgarh	2012	3033	253	11	104
		2013	7726	792	64	244
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
6.	Delhi	2012	29	00	00	28
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
7.	Goa	2012	334	00	00	23
		2013	403	02	00	52
		2014	357	27	00	57
		2015	130	03	00	22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Gujarat	2012	15637	00	45	209
		2013	13911	00	87	310
		2014	8887	00	46	243
		2015	5770	00	11	281
9.	Haryana	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2012	31109	00	02	00
		2013	21814	00	02	04
		2014	9635	00	00	08
		2015	3138	00	00	325
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
12.	Jharkhand	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	
		2015	*	*	*	*
13.	Karnataka	2012	64484	784	69	59
		2013	71613	444	94	170
		2014	39239	424	196	263
		2015	39516	441	82	285
14.	Kerala	2012	110840	6760	02	127
		2013	83493	15683	00	139

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		2014	92638	22427	02	115
		2015	15847	2828	00	14
15. Madhya Pradesh		2012	97846	16910	19	2323
		2013	251262	4092	71	4092
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
16. Maharashtra		2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
17. Manipur		2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
18. Meghalaya		2012	992	28	00	06
		2013	729	26	00	03
		2014	681	34	00	04
		2015	*	*	*	*
19. Mizoram		2012	338	223	00	03
		2013	204	107	00	00
		2014	242	147	00	00
		2015	166	103	00	00
20. Nagaland		2012	69	03	00	01
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21. Odisha		2012	00	31197	131	1229
		2013	00	27740	80	1229
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
22. Punjab		2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
23. Rajasthan		2012	00	279	335	00
		2013	00	125	170	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
24. Sikkim		2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	00	00	00	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
25. Tamil Nadu		2012	184677	10290	2340	00
		2013	175705	9196	2008	00
		2014	218293	8949	53	00
		2015	180520	7700	25	00
26. Tripura		2012	10676	392	00	780
		2013	10150	671	87	1254
		2014	9843	403	20	431
		2015	5560	212	01	223
27. Uttarakhand		2012	2953	1477	7	16
		2013	10897	1683	11	101

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		2014	2236	00	01	15
		2015	*	*	*	*
28.	Uttar Pradesh	2012	76458	19226	976	5302
		2013	9220	00	311	1807
		2014	8226	00	261	1906
		2015	*	*	*	*
29.	West Bengal	2012	15436	452	01	1213
		2013	17284	302	04	1840
		2014	22769	75	01	1401
		2015	7680	52	00	462
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2012	316	00	00	17
		2013	126	00	00	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
31.	Chandigarh	2012	00	00	00	00
		2013	00	00	10	00
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	08	02	00	00
		2014	06	02	00	00
		2015	*	*	*	*
33.	Daman and Diu	2012	*	*	*	*
		2013	*	*	*	*
		2014	*	*	*	*
		2015	*	*	*	*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
34. Lakshadweep	2012	00	00	00	00	00
	2013	*	*	*	*	*
	2014	*	*	*	*	*
	2015	*	*	*	*	*
35. Puducherry	2012	385	770	161	00	00
	2013	1026	520	49	01	00
	2014	2206	670	13	00	00
	2015	511	175	00	00	00
TOTAL	2012	689891	89415	4137	21830	
	2013	714220	61711	3052	15310	
	2014	415258	33158	593	4443	
	2015	258838	11514	119	1612	
GRAND TOTAL = 2012+2013+ 2014+2015		2078207	195798	7901	43195	

* Information not provided

Statement-III

*Details showing the number of bogus/ineligible rations cards deleted by the
State/UT Governments with effect from July 2006 onwards*

(Updated on 30.06.2015)

Sl. No	State	Nos. of bogus/ ineligible ration cards deleted (in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.05
3.	Assam	2.95
4.	Bihar	1.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	9.31
6.	Delhi	17.48

Sl. No	State	Nos. of bogus/ineligible ration cards deleted (in lakhs)
7.	Gujarat	52.13
8.	Haryana	0.03
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.12
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.04
11.	Jharkhand	0.65
12.	Karnataka	81.90
13.	Kerala	0.00 &&
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24.97
15.	Maharashtra	54.07
16.	Meghalaya	0.00 *
17.	Mizoram	0.02
18.	Nagaland	0.13
19.	Odisha	5.07
20.	Punjab	0.08
21.	Rajasthan	0.03
22.	Sikkim	0.01
23.	Tamil Nadu	4.06
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9.23
25.	Uttarakhand	0.16
26.	West Bengal	200.73 (individual cards)
27.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.10
28.	Chandigarh	0.08
29.	Lakshadweep	0.00 \$
30.	Puducherry	0.31
TOTAL		494.50

Actual figures && 318, * 122, \$ 300

^ Including State of Telangana.

Implementation of NFSA

1061. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) in the country;
- (b) the number of States yet to join this scheme;
- (c) whether digitization and identification of beneficiaries has been done by various States, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Direct Benefit Transfer is made compulsory or subsidy will be given in cash to the beneficiaries, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) has started in 29 States/Union Territories (UTs) and foodgrains under the Act are being allocated to these States/UTs on the basis of reported identification of beneficiaries. In remaining 7 States, allocation of foodgrains under erstwhile Targeted Public Distribution System is continuing.

(c) Allocation of foodgrains under the Act is made after completion of preparatory activities by States/UTs, which inter alia includes identification of eligible households/beneficiaries and digitization of the list of beneficiaries. Based on the reported identification of beneficiaries and completion of other preparatory activities, foodgrains are being allocated for about 68 crore beneficiaries in 29 States/UTs implementing NFSA.

(d) As per the Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015, notified under NFSA, Scheme of cash transfer will be implemented only in identified areas. Identified area is defined in the Rules as a State or Union Territory or any specified area within the State or Union Territory, for which there is a written consent of the State Government for implementation of the scheme. It is therefore optional for States/ UTs to implement cash transfer.

Introduction of fortified wheat and rice in PDS

1062. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce fortified wheat and rice in the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the standards finalized for Atta and Rice for the purpose; and

(c) the time by when fortified wheat and rice are likely to be made available to people under PDS across the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India provides Rice, Wheat and Coarse grains at subsidized rates to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/ National Food Security Act (NFSA). Some of the States/UTs in turn convert wheat into Atta and distribute it to the beneficiaries. The States distributing wheat flour (Atta) under TPDS have been advised to follow the standards of fortification of wheat flour set by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The standards for fortification of wheat finalized by FSSAI can be seen on their website at <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The standards of fortification of rice are yet to be finalized by FSSAI.

Sale of wheat and rice through Open Market Sale Scheme

1063. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total stocks of wheat and rice with FCI as of 31 January, 2016;
- (b) whether FCI sells wheat and rice normally during September and March;
- (c) whether this has now been changed and FCI decided to sell them frequently to reduce more than double buffer stocks in the country;
- (d) how much wheat and rice FCI has been able to sell through Open Market Sale scheme in last one year, month-wise and commodity-wise; and
- (e) the quantity of wheat and rice allocated to various States during last one year and quantity lifted by the States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) As on 01.02.2016, out of total 365.74 lakh MT stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool, 123.43 lakh MT of wheat and 125.34 lakh MT of rice were available with Food Corporation of India (FCI).

(b) and (c) On the directions of Government of India, FCI sells foodgrains in the open market under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) at predetermined prices from time to time through e-auction. To fast track the process, in January, 2015 the Government formed a Committee consisting of Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Secretary, Department of Expenditure and Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs

and Secretary, Department of Commerce (for export related issues) for making recommendations on the quantity and the price for sale of foodgrains stock in excess of buffer and strategic reserve norms through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). On the basis of recommendations of this Committee, the policy for sale of surplus stock of foodgrains under OMSS (D) for the concerned financial year is now being framed with the approval of Minister (CAF&PD) and the Minister of Finance.

(d) The commodities-wise and month-wise details of quantity of wheat and rice sold through OMSS(D) during last one year and the current year are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(e) Commodity-wise and State-wise details of allocation and offtake of wheat and rice under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for the last one year and the current year are given in the Statement-II (A) to II (D) (*See below*). The details for Other Welfare Schemes for 2014-15 are also given in the Statement-II (E).

Statement-I

Commodity-wise and month-wise details of wheat and rice sold through OMSS(D) during last one year and the current year

Sale of Wheat under OMSS(D)

(All figures in MT)

Month/Year	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
2014-15	-	-	-	-	1,85,150	2,19,100	3,82,250
2015-16	400	5,700	19,800	91,550	1,60,500	2,10,750	12,03,800
Month / Year	November	December	January	February	March	Total	
2014-15	4,79,350	7,21,900	14,06,600	5,52,500	2,89,850	42,36,700	
2015-16	7,84,600	12,09,450	14,72,850	15,23,750	-	66,83,150	

Sale of Rice under OMSS(D)

(All figures in MT)

Month/Year	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
2014-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2015-16	300	7,000	6,700	3,900	4,480	16,220	1,780

Month/Year	November	December	January	February	March	Total
2014-15	-	-	-	-	-	-
2015-16	6,300	10,690	26,290	8,320	-	91,980

Statement-II (A)

*Details of allocation and offtake of rice for the Year 2014-15
and 2015-16 under TPDS*

(Fig. in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15		2015-16*	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2472.473	1536.778	1809.426	1857.090
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101.556	96.646	93.093	92.929
3.	Assam	1511.175	1460.624	1299.027	1185.615
4.	Bihar	2948.940	2021.859	2870.071	2738.520
5.	Chhattisgarh	1337.466	1329.701	1268.718	1268.718
6.	Delhi	81.467	72.839	79.976	80.410
7.	Goa	55.933	50.488	48.257	50.937
8.	Gujarat	627.728	530.488	299.178	299.544
9.	Haryana	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
10.	Himachal Pradesh	184.092	180.805	168.751	170.182
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	533.172	466.672	488.741	501.329
12.	Jharkhand	1227.007	958.781	1168.056	930.929
13.	Karnataka	2422.132	2183.959	1867.403	1674.933
14.	Kerala	1234.322	1203.525	1088.285	1059.210
15.	Madhya Pradesh	763.298	713.283	770.616	794.007
16.	Maharashtra	1986.999	1774.854	1852.675	1752.860

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Manipur	153.154	153.324	126.379	124.744
18.	Meghalaya	169.181	168.293	147.009	147.613
19.	Mizoram	62.652	59.930	57.431	59.190
20.	Nagaland	99.716	111.909	86.427	91.988
21.	Odisha	1844.936	1724.733	1527.877	1410.575
22.	Punjab	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
23.	Rajasthan	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
24.	Sikkim	41.340	39.808	37.780	34.359
25.	Tamil Nadu	3557.436	2923.200	3260.983	3285.952
26.	Telangana	1138.113	400.992	1253.764	1133.056
27.	Tripura	275.157	274.592	237.465	226.151
28.	Uttar Pradesh	3423.076	3041.780	2552.249	2546.789
29.	Uttarakhand	246.844	283.858	209.098	227.488
30.	West Bengal	1824.004	1783.288	1289.146	1330.886
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23.205	17.591	21.186	14.767
32.	Chandigarh	5.239	4.252	2.460	2.632
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.702	10.492	8.789	8.477
34.	Daman and Diu	3.396	2.055	2.505	2.166
35.	Lakshadweep	4.620	5.044	4.235	3.162
36.	Puducherry	50.922	5.916	23.856	3.719
TOTAL		30420.453	25592.359	26020.912	25110.927

*offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

Above allocation and offtake includes addl. APL allocation and offtake also.

Statement-II (B)

*Details of allocation and offtake of wheat for the year 2014-15
and 2015-16 under TPDS*

(Fig. in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15		2015-16*	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	157.320	50.485	144.839	54.313
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
3.	Assam	378.919	379.669	374.392	373.164
4.	Bihar	1965.960	1916.289	1913.382	1918.227
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
6.	Delhi	275.226	288.086	307.220	310.057
7.	Goa	7.215	6.751	8.518	7.853
8.	Gujarat	1460.067	1355.250	1612.171	1541.847
9.	Haryana	795.000	732.473	728.750	708.912
10.	Himachal Pradesh	323.904	317.560	296.912	299.520
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	223.632	199.373	204.996	208.068
12.	Jharkhand	132.435	0.000	161.955	35.743
13.	Karnataka	120.525	129.137	524.059	371.932
14.	Kerala	240.027	238.201	261.679	253.449
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2430.949	2198.098	2311.837	2104.188
16.	Maharashtra	2540.493	2270.925	2368.751	2223.308
17.	Manipur	18.225	18.957	30.327	29.326
18.	Meghalaya	19.677	19.904	24.808	24.954
19.	Mizoram	7.488	7.489	6.864	6.422
20.	Nagaland	27.160	25.420	29.876	31.265
21.	Odisha	348.045	283.488	411.556	273.447

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Punjab	870.120	191.434	797.610	615.232
23.	Rajasthan	2791.572	2723.600	2558.941	2447.585
24.	Sikkim	2.943	2.981	2.817	2.515
25.	Tamil Nadu	165.396	159.207	151.613	152.278
26.	Telangana	58.332	24.172	100.416	31.169
27.	Tripura	28.092	25.632	24.383	25.083
28.	Uttar Pradesh	3851.697	3172.077	4205.921	4007.978
29.	Uttarakhand	265.803	255.885	256.478	259.538
30.	West Bengal	2036.967	1969.660	2028.754	1804.971
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	10.815	7.136	9.999	7.611
32.	Chandigarh	25.973	22.766	10.545	12.130
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.768	1.944	0.803	0.755
34.	Daman and Diu	2.265	0.211	2.788	1.771
35.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
36.	Puducherry	9.450	0.034	6.300	0.807
TOTAL		21592.460	18994.294	21880.260	20145.418

*Offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

Above allocation and offtake includes addl. APL allocation and offtake also.

Statement-II (C)

Details showing allocation and offtake of rice of special adhoc additional Allocations made during 2014-15 and 2015-16 under TPDS

(Fig. in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15		2015-16	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	209.009	148.546	109.024	98.448

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.307	6.111	5.511	4.857
3.	Assam	142.828	129.636	93.864	92.373
4.	Bihar	0.000	0.000		
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000		
6.	Delhi	0.000	0.000		
7.	Goa	3.641	2.084	2.208	0.276
8.	Gujarat	135.830	115.514	42.361	42.322
9.	Haryana	0.000	0.000		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.000	0.000		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	52.675	41.221	31.800	9.772
12.	Jharkhand	181.647	149.255	82.614	64.575
13.	Karnataka	0.000	0.000		
14.	Kerala	112.343	112.379	77.902	75.511
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.000	0.000		
16.	Maharashtra	0.000	0.000		
17.	Manipur	12.512	12.528	10.197	9.934
18.	Meghalaya	13.887	13.966	10.530	11.583
19.	Mizoram	5.159	4.659	4.301	4.201
20.	Nagaland	8.995	9.099	6.325	6.323
21.	Odisha	250.237	143.403	145.992	140.448
22.	Punjab	0.000	0.000		
23.	Rajasthan	0.000	0.000		
24.	Sikkim	3.262	3.261	2.47	2.223
25.	Tamil Nadu	368.982	358.603	307.659	304.570
26.	Telangana	99.273	38.515	58.440	9.009

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Tripura	22.384	22.387	8.485	8.485
28.	Uttar Pradesh	748.864	489.171	450.549	344.085
29.	Uttarakhand	34.059	0.000	9.738	0.000
30.	West Bengal	358.615	174.213	167.442	26.109
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.057	0.000	1.529	0.000
32.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000		
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.350	1.034	1.078	0.722
34.	Daman and Diu	0.259	0.207	0.126	0.036
35.	Lakshadweep	0.227	0.188	0.102	0.051
36.	Puducherry	6.374	0.000	2.415	0.000
GRAND TOTAL		2781.776	1975.980	1632.662	1255.913

*Offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

#The total in certain cases may not add upto the Grand total shown of allocation made to the States due to reallocation made from the unlifted savings within the overall allocations.

Statement-II (D)

Details showing allocation and offtake of wheat of special adhoc additional allocations made during 2014-15 and 2015-16 under TPDSIN

(Fig. in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15		2015-16	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.788	7.107	12.112	5.878
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.396	0.363	1.452	0.504
3.	Assam	0.000	0.000		
4.	Bihar	0.000	0.000		
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.000	0.000		

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Delhi	0.000	0.000		
7.	Goa	0.093	0.155	0.248	0.025
8.	Gujarat	29.088	28.841	106.656	105.290
9.	Haryana	0.000	0.000		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.000	0.000		
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.569	3.741	15.230	3.629
12.	Jharkhand	4.590	0.000	9.180	0.000
13.	Karnataka	0.000	0.000		
14.	Kerala	8.547	8.547	31.339	29.751
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.000	0.000		
16.	Maharashtra	0.000	0.000		
17.	Manipur	0.402	0.402	1.474	1.474
18.	Meghalaya	0.351	0.351	1.170	1.287
19.	Mizoram	0.129	0.130	0.473	0.415
20.	Nagaland	0.651	0.651	2.387	2.387
21.	Odisha	6.324	0.000	16.225	0.000
22.	Punjab	0.000	0.000		
23.	Rajasthan	0.000	0.000		
24.	Sikkim	0.084	0.046	0.280	0.252
25.	Tamil Nadu	9.324	8.864	34.188	33.839
26.	Telangana		0.000	6.492	3.405
27.	Tripura	0.567	0.567	0.945	1.134
28.	Uttar Pradesh	81.843	63.116	300.091	240.490
29.	Uttarakhand	4.677	4.676	9.354	7.675
30.	West Bengal	44.274	44.273	141.007	116.783

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.120	0.000	0.440	0.000
32.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000		
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.054	0.057	0.198	0.130
34.	Daman and Diu	0.012	0.001	0.028	0.012
35.	Lakshadweep	0.006	0.000	0.012	0.000
36.	Puducherry	0.162	0.000	0.270	0.220
GRAND TOTAL		204.051	171.888	691.251	554.580

*Offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

#The total in certain cases may not add upto the Grand total shown of allocation made to the States due to reallocation made from the unlifted savings within the overall allocations.

Statement-II (E)

Details showing State-wise allocation & offtake of foodgrains under other welfare schemes during the year 2014-15

(Fig. in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	State	Allocation			Offtake (Upto March, 15)		
		Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.022	1.207	1.229	0.022	0.562	0.584
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24.168	214.153	238.321	12.883	177.134	190.017
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.000	6.348	6.348	0.000	6.344	6.344
4.	Assam	8.000	135.965	143.965	0.000	99.143	99.143
5.	Bihar	8.673	505.755	514.428	0.000	373.824	373.824
6.	Chandigarh	1.383	1.259	2.641	0.180	0.580	0.760
7.	Chhattisgarh	68.684	150.508	219.193	68.618	142.282	210.900

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.085	1.374	1.459	0.042	1.201	1.243
9.	Daman and Diu	0.000	0.378	0.378	0.000	0.259	0.259
10.	Delhi	18.598	20.567	39.165	14.401	14.325	28.727
11.	Goa	2.105	8.751	10.857	1.963	5.775	7.738
12.	Gujarat	114.533	71.645	186.178	112.401	69.736	182.137
13.	Haryana	51.592	49.611	101.203	44.969	35.066	80.036
14.	Himachal Pradesh	10.448	22.242	32.690	10.938	21.897	32.835
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.000	31.330	37.330	0.000	17.757	17.757
16.	Jharkhand	30.135	84.632	114.767	12.696	66.002	78.698
17.	Karnataka	126.670	240.707	367.377	102.854	206.157	309.012
18.	Kerala	17.573	68.450	86.024	17.452	66.526	83.978
19.	Lakshadweep	0.000	0.278	0.278	0.000	0.179	0.179
20.	Madhya Pradesh	333.109	132.589	465.698	263.014	122.019	385.032
21.	Maharashtra	197.332	302.827	500.160	130.266	293.763	424.029
22.	Manipur	0.000	24.759	24.759	0.000	24.872	24.872
23.	Meghalaya	0.000	13.893	13.893	0.000	14.165	14.165
24.	Mizoram	1.806	6.467	8.273	1.806	6.628	8.434
25.	Nagaland	2.792	25.698	28.491	2.792	26.102	28.894
26.	Odisha	115.287	195.127	310.414	117.158	165.084	282.242
27.	Puducherry	0.000	1.609	1.609	0.000	0.889	0.889
28.	Punjab	40.692	37.144	77.835	31.698	29.614	61.312
29.	Rajasthan	104.516	30.831	135.347	91.237	23.807	115.044
30.	Sikkim	0.900	2.523	3.423	0.717	2.455	3.172

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Tamil Nadu	59.945	232.945	292.890	61.674	194.268	255.942
32.	Telangana	4.979	155.401	160.380	10.230	50.439	60.670
33.	Tripura	0.000	31.676	31.676	0.000	31.276	31.276
34.	Uttar Pradesh	297.067	207.140	504.206	275.427	195.086	470.513
35.	Uttarakhand	9.903	28.965	38.868	0.000	20.295	20.295
36.	West Bengal	6.831	421.226	428.057	5.561	227.804	233.366
TOTAL		1663.828	3465.984	5129.812	1390.999	2733.317	4124.316

Consumer awareness programme in rural and backward areas

1064. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is no awareness of consumer rights among those who are living in the rural and backward areas;

(b) if so, whether any awareness programme is being undertaken by Government for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how long such programmes are undertaken; and

(d) the financial allocations made to carry out these programmes, State-wise to achieve maximum results of bringing awareness about the rights of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Department of Consumer Affairs being the nodal department for consumer welfare and consumer protection has launched a multi-media campaign (electronic/print/outdoor) for creating consumer awareness in both urban rural and backward areas. A study which was carried out on the consumer awareness campaign in 14 States and 1 Union Territory covering 60 districts, revealed that 90.9% of the sample respondents (both urban and rural) are aware of the campaign.

(d) The State-wise details of the funds allocated for consumer awareness for the last three years and current financial year is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of the funds allocated for consumer awareness for the last three years and current year

Sl. No.	Name of State	Year	Fund Allocated
1.	Chhattisgarh	2012-13	3000000.00
		2013-14	3000000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	Nil
2.	Goa	2012-13	400000.00
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	500000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
3.	Gujarat	2012-13	5200000.00
		2013-14	5000000.00
		2014-15	5000000.00
		2015-16	5000000.00
4.	Haryana	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	2884528.00
		2014-15	3000000.00
		2015-16	Nil
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2012-13	1582000.00
		2013-14	2000000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	2000000.00
6.	Kerala	2012-13	Nil

Sl. No.	Name of State	Year	Fund Allocated
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	2552516.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	2012-13	4041292.00
		2013-14	5000000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	Nil
8.	Maharashtra	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	2882000.00
		2014-15	5000000.00
		2015-16	Nil
9.	Punjab	2012-13	4000000.00
		2013-14	3000000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	Nil
10.	Rajasthan	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	1000000.00
		2014-15	3646559.00
		2015-16	5000000.00
11.	Telangana	2014-15	2000000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	9125000.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	Year	Fund Allocated
		2014-15	8500000.00
		2015-16	Nil
13.	West Bengal	2012-13	3800000.00
		2013-14	4759254.00
		2014-15	4759254.00
		2015-16	5000000.00
		2015-16	1500000.00
14.	Arunachal Pradesh	2012-13	3200000.00
		2013-14	2000000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	Nil
15.	Assam	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	2993182.00
		2014-15	2993182.00
		2015-16	Nil
16.	Meghalaya	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	2000000.00
17.	Mizoram	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	2000000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
18.	Nagaland	2012-13	2200000.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	Year	Fund Allocated
		2013-14	2000000.00
		2014-15	2000000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
19.	Tripura	2012-13	1000000.00
		2013-14	2000000.00
		2014-15	2000000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
20.	Sikkim	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	2000000.00
		2015-16	2000000.00
21.	Delhi (UT)	2012-13	Nil
		2013-14	Nil
		2014-15	2170031.00
		2015-16	Nil
22.	Puducherry (UT)	2012-13	800000.00
		2013-14	875000.00
		2014-15	Nil
		2015-16	2000000.00

Extraction of juices from fruits and flowers

†1065. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to extract juice from fruits and flowers or their processing, especially from flowers like burans, is being implemented in Uttarakhand;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of types of such fruits and their processing and their availability in market; and

(c) if not, whether the Ministry would initiate such work in this field in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Presently, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is not implementing any specific scheme in Uttarakhand for the purpose of extraction of juice from fruits and flowers or their processing especially from flowers like Burans.

However, for promotion of processing of agricultural and horticultural produce including edible fruits and flowers in the Country covering all the States and Union Territories including Uttarakhand, Ministry of Food processing Industries had been implementing a scheme namely Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries up to 31.03.2012 which was subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme(CSS)-National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) with effect from 01.04.2012 till 31.03.2015. Thereafter, the said scheme got delinked from Government of India's assistance and it was left to the State Governments to decide on its continuance from their increased resource as per recommendation of Fourteenth Finance Commission. However, in case of UT Governments, the above CSS-NMFP scheme is still in operation.

However, Government of Uttarakhand is implementing one scheme namely "Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (MIDH)" in the State for processing of various horticultural produce as under:

- (i) Primary/Mobile/Minimal Processing Unit under Post Harvest Management Component.
- (ii) Establishment of food processing units under processing Component.

The units established under the above schemes may also process flowers of Burans, which is a forest produce for making juice, RTSB (Ready to Serve Beverages) and Squash.

(b) and (c) Mango, Apple, Malta, Orange, Litchi, Guava, Pear, Peach, Apricot, Hill Lemon are the major fruits used for processing and canning purpose in Uttarakhand. The established units under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes are presently utilizing the available produce for production of fruit pulp, jam, squash and other products.

FDI in food processing sector

1066. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that there has been a considerable reduction in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in food processing sector in the country in the year 2014-15;

(b) the FDI in food processing sector in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to increase the FDI inflows in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) In the budget of 2016-17, Government has announced 100% FDI in marketing of food and food products, produced and manufactured in India. Further, Government recently organized "Make In India Week" in Mumbai in February, 2016 to attract FDI in India, including in Food Processing Industries.

Statement

Details of Financial Year-wise FDI equity inflows from April, 2012 to December, 2015 in sector food processing industries

Sl. No.	State Covered	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
		Apr-Mar FDI in US\$ million	Apr-Mar FDI in US\$ million	Apr-Mar FDI in US\$ million	Apr-Dec FDI in US\$ million	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.14	2.82	11.36	8.83	28.15
2.	Bihar, Jharkhand	0.00	0.14	2.08	0.47	2.69
3.	Gujarat	156.46	0.67	13.4	19.49	190.01
4.	Karnataka	6.26	27.15	28.32	90.24	151.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Kerala, Lakshadweep	7.90	13.97	6.56	1.92	30.36
6.	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	11.35	2.05	0.02	4.71	18.13
7.	Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	42.10	28.35	88.23	80.38	239.06
8.	Rajasthan	0.06	1.80	15.36	0	17.22
9.	Tamil Nadu, Puducherry	20.22	23.83	30.22	12.04	86.32
10.	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand	0.97	0.09	4.08	0.04	5.18
11.	West Bengal, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	2.43	5.27	0	7.7
12.	Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh	10.99	0.00	0.35	2.78	14.12
13.	Delhi, Part of U.P. and Haryana	115.10	318.88	173.03	153.42	760.43
14.	Goa	0.08	0.04	0	0	0.12
15.	Region not indicated	24.83	3560.65	11.13	11.13	3734.17
GRAND TOTAL		401.46	3982.89	515.86	385.45	5285.66

Source: DIPP

Stipend/subsistence allowance for junior lawyers

1067. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide stipend/subsistence allowance to junior lawyers belonging to the SC/ST category, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Bar Council of India (BCI), statutory body under the Advocates Act, 1961 has informed that there is no BCI sponsored scheme for the scholarship/stipend for the newly enrolled advocates including belonging to SC/ST category. However, some State Governments like Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, on their own or in association with concerned State Bar Councils, are having schemes of scholarship/stipend for the newly enrolled advocates.

Annual Report of High Courts

1068. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had written to the Chief Justices of all High Courts to compile Annual Report listing the performance of their courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the responses of the Chief Justices;
- (c) the number and names of High Courts which have compiled the Annual Report;
- (d) the reasons for not compiling the report by other High Courts; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to make public reliable and accurate judicial data of higher courts?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A brief outline for Annual Report of the High Courts was prepared and sent to the High Courts in October, 2015 for appropriate consideration. High Courts of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have already compiled their Annual Reports in the suggested format. The High Courts of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madras, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab and Haryana have also responded positively.

(e) The eCourts Integrated Mission Mode Project (eCourts IMMP) is one of the National eGovernance Plan (NeGP) projects, which is being implemented for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enablement/computerization of the Supreme Court, 24 High Courts and district and subordinate courts in the country. Access to National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) has been opened to general public.

Vacancies of Judges and pending cases in High Courts

1069. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Judges which were vacant in various High Courts as on 31 December, 2015;

(b) the number of cases which were pending in various High Courts as on 31 December, 2015; and

(c) the time-frame for filling up all these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the High Courts as on 31.12.2015 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) As per information available, a Statement showing the the number of cases which were pending in various High Courts as on 31 December, 2014 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 *w.e.f* 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced, only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made.

In view of large number of vacancies and keeping in view the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) is likely to take some time because of the need for consultation with the States, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed.

Statement-I*Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the High Courts*

(As on 31.12.2015)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
		Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	54	20	74	22	64	86
2.	High Court of Judicature Hyderabad	33	16	49	17	10	27	16	06	22 at
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	37	22	59	34	01	35
4.	Calcutta	45	13	58	20	22	42	25	-09	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	03	06	09	14	-01	13
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	34	05	39	11	10	21
7.	Gauhati	18	06	24	08	08	16	10	-02	08
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	25	03	28	14	10	24
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	07	—	07	03	03	06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	04	17	09	01	10	04	03	07
11.	Jharkhand	19	06	25	09	05	14	10	01	11
12.	Karnataka	47	15	62	22	09	31	25	06	31
13.	Kerala	27	11	38	19	16	35	08	-05	03
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	23	07	30	17	06	23
15.	Madras	56	19	75	37	0	37	19	19	38
16.	Manipur	04	01	05	03	0	03	01	01	02
17.	Meghalaya	03	01	04	03	0	03	0	01	01
18.	Orissa	20	07	27	16	06	22	04	01	05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19.	Patna	40	13	53	22	06	28	18	07	25
20.	Punjab and Haryana	64	21	85	39	11	50	25	10	35
21.	Rajasthan	38	12	50	22	03	25	16	09	25
22.	Sikkim	03	0	03	02	0	02	01	0	01
23.	Tripura	04	0	04	04	0	04	0	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	06	0	06	03	02	05
TOTAL		741	303	1044	441	160	601	300	143	443

Statement-II

Details showing the number of cases which were pending in various High Courts as on 31st December, 2014

Sl. No.	High Court	Case Type	Opening balance as on 1.1.14	Institution	Disposal	Pendency as on 31.12.14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Allahabad	Civil	695431	144727	184365	655793
		Criminal	347967	136315	125929	358353
		TOTAL	1043398	281042	310294	1014146
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	201605	62310	47758	216157
		Criminal	31034	20991	18481	33544
		TOTAL	232639	83301	66239	249701
3.	Bombay	Civil	299931	110506	99671	310766
		Criminal	49906	34813	30909	53810
		TOTAL	349837	145319	130580	364576
4.	Calcutta	Civil	230317	74163	73783	230697

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Criminal	49689	27793	21873	55609
		TOTAL	280006	101956	95656	286306
5.	Delhi	Civil	49000	27703	25239	51464
		Criminal	15652	14788	14915	15525
		TOTAL	64652	42491	40154	66989
6.	Gujarat	Civil	60131	47489	46077	61543
		Criminal	31822	30304	28367	33759
		TOTAL	91953	77793	74444	95302
7.	Gauhati	Civil	33534	17195	15591	35138
		Criminal	7378	12408	11876	7910
		TOTAL	40912	29603	27467	43048
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	54015	38555	57710	34860
		Criminal	6058	3258	4560	4756
		TOTAL	60073	41813	62270	39616
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Civil	87794	28620	20868	95546
		Criminal	5244	3649	2283	6610
		TOTAL	93038	32269	23151	102156
10.	Karnataka	Civil	179379	122135	104837	196677
		Criminal	17593	14837	14987	17443
		TOTAL	196972	136972	119824	214120
11.	Kerala	Civil	99573	62557	52738	109392
		Criminal	32586	23363	19435	36514
		TOTAL	132159	85920	72173	145906
12.	Madras	Civil	208301	87228	66615	228914
		Criminal	31975	66019	63339	34655
		TOTAL	240276	153247	129954	263569

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	174665	68457	76161	166961
		Criminal	86946	58021	53212	91755
		TOTAL	261611	126478	129373	258716
14.	Orissa	Civil	168794	36080	39150	165724
		Criminal	38028	35703	37373	36358
		TOTAL	206822	71783	76523	202082
15.	Patna	Civil	79896	40943	39501	81338
		Criminal	52259	72847	65454	59652
		TOTAL	132155	113790	104955	140990
16.	Punjab and Haryana	Civil	200549	72873	64255	209167
		Criminal	62211	58867	50546	70532
		TOTAL	262760	131740	114801	279699
17.	Rajasthan	Civil	173506	42984	46268	170222
		Criminal	53920	41735	37524	58131
		TOTAL	227426*	84719	83792	228353
18.	Sikkim	Civil	95	117	144	68
		Criminal	25	101	86	40
		TOTAL	120	218	230	108
19.	Uttarakhand	Civil	15269	9468	8068	16669
		Criminal	5417	6337	5318	6436
		TOTAL	20686	15805	13386	23105
20.	Chhattisgarh	Civil	27146	16864	15801	28209
		Criminal	16993	12229	12354	16868
		TOTAL	44139	29093	28155	45077
21.	Jharkhand	Civil	38001	10452	5963	42490
		Criminal	34957	19732	16364	38325

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		TOTAL	72958	30184	22327	80815
22.	Tripura	Civil	4743	2917	3888	3772
		Criminal	1091	858	1256	693
		TOTAL	5834	3775	5144	4465
23.	Manipur	Civil	3761	2328	1855	4234
		Criminal	92	119	71	140
		TOTAL	3853	2447	1926	4374
24.	Meghalaya	Civil	1115	1058	1482	691
		Criminal	74	215	242	47
		TOTAL	1189	1273	1724	738
	All High Courts Total Civil		3086551	1127729	1097788	3116492
	All High Courts Total Criminal		978917	695302	636754	1037465
	GRAND TOTAL of all High Courts		4065468	1823031	1734542	4153957

The above figures are Provisional.

Source: High Courts.

Slow pace of Fast Track Courts

1070. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some Fast Track Courts dealing with rape cases are incredibly slow;
- (b) if so, the number of cases pending in each State, particularly in metro cities, for a long time and were sent back to the trial court they originated from;
- (c) if so, whether the Ministry will set up special POCSO Court for child sexual abuse cases rather than Fast Track Courts;
- (d) whether Judges could be trained and sensitised around specific concerns and issues; and
- (e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
 (a) to (b) Setting up of District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State

Governments. Number of cases pending in Courts is not maintained centrally. 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 Fourth Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of ₹ 4144 crore. The 14th Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

(c) As per the information received, details 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 (*See below*).

(d) and (e) The National Judicial Academy conducts trainings of Judges from the year 2003 onwards. Till date, 973 courses have been conducted out of which more than 500 have looked into these issues and have attempted to raise judicial consciousness around issues of appreciation of evidence, interpretation of Law, issues of scientific investigation, determination of credibility of witness etc.

Statement

Details of 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

1	2	3	4
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	*
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

1	2	3	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.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	*	1
35.	Lakshadweep	*	1
36.	Puducherry	*	*
TOTAL		398	605

*Not available

Review of Anti-Defection Law

1071. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers it necessary to take a fresh look at the Anti-Defection Law in the light of experience in its implementation and Court's observations; and

(b) if so, the changes planned and the time-frame for making such changes therein?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for review of Anti-Defection Law.

Effect of shortage of judges on pendency of cases

†1072. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in various High Courts of the country, especially in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Delhi, 25, 85, 31, 24, 20, 13 and 20 posts of judges, respectively, are lying vacant;

(b) if so, whether it is affecting the pending cases in courts, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage of judges in various High Courts and the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the High Courts as on 29.02.2016 is given in the Statement (*See* below). The vacancies of Judges in the High Courts of Rajasthan, Allahabad, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Delhi are 26, 88, 31, 22, 24, 13 and 21 respectively.

(b) Disposal of cases in courts falls within the domain of Judiciary. However, a large number of vacant posts of judges is one of the several reasons for pendency of cases.

(c) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 w.e.f 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced, only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court Orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made.

In view of large number of vacancies and keeping in view the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) is likely to take some time because of the need for consultation with the States, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the High Courts*

(As on 29.02.2016)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
		Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	65	07	72	11	77	88
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad*	46	15	61	16	10	26	30	05	35
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	38	22	60	33	01	34
4.	Calcutta	45	13	58	21	22	43	24	-09	15
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	03	06	09	14	-01	13
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	34	05	39	11	10	21
7.	Gauhati	18	06	24	08	07	15	10	-01	09
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	03	30	12	10	22
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	07	—	07	03	03	06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	04	17	08	01	09	05	03	08
11.	Jharkhand	19	06	25	08	04	12	11	02	13
12.	Karnataka	47	15	62	22	09	31	25	06	31
13.	Kerala	27	11	38	19	16	35	08	-05	03
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	27	02	29	13	11	24
15.	Madras	56	19	75	35	0	35	21	19	40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16. Manipur		04	01	05	04	0	04	0	01	01
17. Meghalaya		03	01	04	02	0	02	01	01	02
18. Odisha		20	07	27	15	06	21	05	01	06
19. Patna*		40	13	53	24	05	29	16	08	24
20. Punjab and Haryana*		64	21	85	37	11	48	27	10	37
21. Rajasthan		38	12	50	21	03	24	17	09	26
22. Sikkim		03	0	03	02	0	02	01	0	01
23. Tripura		04	0	04	04	0	04	0	0	0
24. Uttarakhand		09	02	11	06	0	06	03	02	05
TOTAL		754	302	1056	453	139	592	301	163	464

* Acting Chief Justice

Measures to restore confidence in law

1073. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the offenders are losing fear of law while the victims of crime and common people are losing confidence in law; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures Government intends to take in this regard, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) The Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs while examining the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010 in its 146th Report had recommended that there should be comprehensive review of the criminal justice system. In view of the recommendations made by the Committee, the Ministry of Home Affairs made a request to Ministry of Law and Justice that the matter be entrusted to Law Commission of India. A formal reference has since been made to the Law Commission to examine the issue and give a comprehensive report covering all aspects of criminal laws so that necessary amendments can be made to various laws viz. Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC), Evidence Act etc.

Creation of National Level Judicial Services

1074. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that creation of National Level Judicial Services on the pattern of All India Civil Services in the country is being contemplated by Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of the proposal under consideration at present and the advantages likely to accrue from implementation of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence in opinion among the State Governments and among the High Courts on constitution of an All India Judicial Service. The views of the State Governments and High Courts received in this regard were included in the agenda notes for the Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 5th April, 2015. No consensus has been reached on the matter.

The matter regarding uniform procedure for appointment of District Judges and creation of Judicial Service Commission for conducting a common written examination for recruitment to the posts of District Judges was also included in the agenda of Chief Justices' Conference held on 3rd and 4th April, 2015. As per the decision taken in the Chief Justices' Conference, it has been left open to respective High Courts to evolve appropriate method within the existing system to fill up the vacancies of District Judges expeditiously.

Judicial vacancies and pending cases

1075. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies in the judiciary of the country, State-wise, including High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) the steps taken to fill up such vacancies and by when the vacancies are expected to be filled up; and

(c) the number of cases pending in different courts for more than five years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) As per information available, there are 464 vacancies against a sanctioned strength of 1056 in the higher judiciary as on 29.02.2016 and 4998 vacancies against a sanctioned strength of 20358 in the subordinate judiciary as on 30.06.2015. Statements showing the total number of vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and High Courts and Judicial Officers in the subordinate judiciary are given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

Recruitment, appointment, filling up of vacancies etc. of judicial officers in the district and subordinate courts in the country falls within the purview of the State Governments. The recruitment against all vacancies in the District/Subordinate Courts is monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in C.A. No. 1867 of 2006 (Arising out of SLP(C) No.22523 of 2005) – in the matter of Malik Mazhar Sultan & Anr. Vs UP. Public Service Commission & Ors. Filling up vacancies is a continuous and ongoing process.

As per the information available, 17,42,287 cases in various High Courts and 63,89,733 cases in subordinate courts were pending for more than five years as on 31.12.2014. Chief Justices' Conference, 2015 held on 3rd and 4th April, 2015 resolved that each High Court shall establish Arrears Committee and prepare an action plan to clear backlog of cases pending for more than five years.

Statement-I

Details showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts

(As on 19.02.2016)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
A. Supreme Court of India		31			25			06		
B. High Court		Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	66	07	73	10	77	87

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad*	46	15	61	16	10	26	30	05	35
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	38	22	60	33	01	34
4.	Calcutta	45	13	58	20	22	42	25	-09	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	03	06	09	14	-01	13
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	34	05	39	11	10	21
7.	Gauhati*	18	06	24	06	08	14	12	-02	10
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	03	30	12	10	22
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	07	—	07	03	03	06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	04	17	08	01	09	05	03	08
11.	Jharkhand	19	06	25	07	05	12	12	01	13
12.	Karnataka*	47	15	62	23	09	32	24	06	30
13.	Kerala	27	11	38	19	16	35	08	-05	03
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	22	07	29	18	06	24
15.	Madras	56	19	75	36	0	36	20	19	39
16.	Manipur	04	01	05	04	0	04	0	01	01
17.	Meghalaya*	03	01	04	01	0	01	02	01	03
18.	Odisha*	20	07	27	14	06	20	06	01	07
19.	Patna*	40	13	53	23	06	29	17	07	24
20.	Punjab and Haryana*	64	21	85	38	11	49	26	10	36
21.	Rajasthan*	38	12	50	21	03	24	17	09	26
22.	Sikkim	03	0	03	02	0	02	01	0	01
23.	Tripura	04	0	04	04	0	04	0	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	06	0	06	03	02	05
TOTAL		754	302	1056	445	147	592	309	155	464

* Acting Chief Justice

Statement-II

Details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2015

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	17	15	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh and Telengana	1034	812	222
3.	Assam	420	307	113
4.	Bihar	1727	997	730
5.	Chandigarh	30	30	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	356	296	60
7.	Daman and Diu and Dadra Nagar Haveli	7	6	1
8.	Delhi	793	469	324
9.	Goa	52	39	13
10.	Gujarat	1914	1197	717
11.	Haryana	644	478	166
12.	Himachal Pradesh	146	137	9
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	245	217	28
14.	Jharkhand	590	368	222
15.	Karnataka	1112	824	288
16.	Kerala	456	419	37
17.	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1461	1234	227
19.	Maharashtra	2088	1618	470

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Manipur	41	32	9
21.	Meghalaya	56	29	27
22.	Mizoram	63	31	32
23.	Nagaland	27	25	2
24.	Odisha	694	613	81
25.	Puducherry	21	9	12
26.	Punjab	672	498	174
27.	Rajasthan	1191	822	369
28.	Sikkim	18	14	4
29.	Tamil Nadu	1004	840	164
30.	Tripura	104	72	32
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2097	1845	252
32.	Uttarakhand	281	208	73
33.	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	994	856	138
TOTAL		20358	15360	4998

Accumulation of vacancies in the Supreme Court and High Courts

1076. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vacancies in the Supreme Court and various High Courts of the country have accumulated in the recent past resulting in substantial increase in the pendency of cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Supreme Court and High Court-wise;

(c) the reasons for accumulation of these vacancies; and

(d) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take so that vacancies are filled up on priority?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 29.02.2016 is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 w.e.f 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced, only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court Orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made.

In view of large number of vacancies and keeping in view the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) is likely to take some time because of the need for consultation with the States, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed.

Statement

Details showing the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 29.05.2015

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies as on 29.02.2016
A.	Supreme Court of India	06
B.	High Court	
1.	Allahabad	88
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	35
3.	Bombay	34
4.	Calcutta	15
5.	Chhattisgarh	13
6.	Delhi	21
7.	Gauhati	09
8.	Gujarat	22

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies as on 29.02.2016
9.	Himachal Pradesh	06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	08
11.	Jharkhand	13
12.	Karnataka	31
13.	Kerala	03
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24
15.	Madras	40
16.	Manipur	01
17.	Meghalaya	02
18.	Odisha	06
19.	Patna	24
20.	Punjab and Haryana	37
21.	Rajasthan	26
22.	Sikkim	01
23.	Tripura	0
24.	Uttarakhand	05
TOTAL		464

Implication of judges' vacancies on pendency of cases

1077. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned strength of judges in the High Courts of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the actual strength at present;
- (c) the reasons for posts of judges lying vacant in these High Courts;

(d) the implication of these vacancies on the pendency of cases; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Details showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 29.02.2016 is given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No.1075, part (a) to (c)].

(c) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 *w.e.f* 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court Orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made.

(d) Disposal of cases in courts falls within the domain of Judiciary. However, a large number of Vacant posts of judges is one of the several reasons for pendency of cases.

(e) In view of the large number of vacancies and keeping in view the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) was likely to take some time because of the need for consultation with the States, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed.

Wi-Fi facility in courts

1078. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide Wi-Fi facility in all the courts, including High Courts and the Supreme Court in near future, if so, the details thereof;

(b) in how many States, including Delhi, these facilities are already available or are under consideration; and

(c) whether Government would consider grants to States for providing Wi-Fi facility at the court premises, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) The Government of India has no such proposal to provide Wi-Fi facilities in Courts. However, the Supreme Court of India has provided for Wi-Fi facility in the Supreme Court complex.

Vacant posts of Judges

1079. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacant posts of Judges in various High Courts and in the Supreme Court, as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that 24 High Courts are functioning with 43 per cent vacancies; and

(c) the details of the action being initiated by Government to fill up all vacancies and to streamline the whole selection procedure?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Details showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 29.02.2016 is given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No. 1075, part (a) to (c)].

(b) At present, the percentage-wise vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is 43.93%.

(c) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 w.e.f 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court Orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made.

In view of the large number of vacancies and keeping in view the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) was likely to take some time because of the need for consultation with the States, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment has been resumed.

Audit of train operators for late running of trains

1080. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have conducted any audit of train operations so far, to address the perennial problem of late running of trains on certain sections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its outcome;
- (c) the sections which account for maximum late running of trains, zone-wise; and
- (d) the fresh steps taken by Railways to improve their over all performance, including arresting the declining trend in passengers and freight traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Railway is in the process of getting the audit of train operations conducted particularly over Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad section of Allahabad division of North Central Railway primarily due to major operational problems resulting in late running of passenger carrying trains in the above section.

(c) On Indian Railways, trains delays have been felt most on Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad-Delhi sector, which is facing severe capacity constraints with line capacity utilization being 150%. This sector connects the northern parts of the country to the rest of India and deals with not only passenger traffic but also freight traffic including raw materials, coal, Petroleum products, food grains, fertilizer, steel, export-import oriented container traffic etc. A number of steps have been taken to improve the punctuality of Mail Express trains on this route which has improved the Punctuality position of North Central Railway as a whole to almost 50% in February 2016 from 42% [cumulative for the financial year 2015-2016 (upto February, 2016)].

(d) Various measures have been taken by the Railways to arrest the decline in passenger traffic including the following:

- (i) Augmentation of on-board capacity by attachment of additional coaches, running of special trains during festivals and holidays, running of suvidha trains etc.
- (ii) Organizing intensive ticket checking drives including fortress checks etc.
- (iii) Augmentation of ticket selling capacity through operation of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVM), Cash-Coin and Smart Card Operated Ticket Vending Machines (CoTVM), Mobile Ticketing, utilizing the services

of ticketing agents like Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendre (YTSK) etc. Following steps have been taken by Railways to improve freight performance:

- (i) Increasing the axle load for carrying additional traffic per wagon. Length of freight trains has also been increased to carry more traffic per train.
- (ii) Use of extensive computerization in freight operations to improve monitoring and improve utilization of assets.
- (iii) Deployment of higher capacity locomotives and higher capacity wagons.
- (iv) Improvement in maintenance practices of wagons and locomotives resulting in increased availability of rolling stock for traffic use.
- (v) Improvement of track and signaling to carry the higher volume of traffic.
- (vi) With a view to reduce empty running of rakes, Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme for traffic loaded in Traditional Empty Flow Directions has been introduced with effect from 25.06.2015, wherein rakes loaded in the notified empty flow directions are charged at concessional rates to attract traffic.

Seizure of passenger train by farmers of Chitradurga, Karnataka

1081. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers from Chitradurga, Karnataka, recently seized five-coach passenger train after a local court ordered the confiscation for the railway department's failure to compensate the farmers, whose land was acquired by Railways; and

(b) if so, the reasons for unreasonable 25 years' delay in the payment of compensation, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Attachment Warrants were issued by the Hon'ble Civil Court at Chitradurga and subsequent seizure of train has been got re-called on the same day.

The case pertained to land acquired for Chitradurga-Rayadurga new broad gauge line project during 1985-1991. As land acquisition was done by State Government, Land Acquisition Officer of Government of Karnataka had disbursed compensation. However, land losers had filed cases during 2002 before the Hon'ble Civil Court at Chitradurga

for enhanced compensation. Since Railway was not made a party in these cases, Railway was not aware of these cases till issue of Execution Petition. Railway has taken action for arranging payment of enhanced compensation within the time frame stipulated by the Hon'ble Court.

As land compensation is disbursed by State Governments, no action is required by Railways in such cases.

Security measures to prevent manipulation of online booking website

1082. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has taken a slew of measures, including a 35 second compulsory wait, to book tickets online through its website to facilitate hassle-free booking by genuine ticket seekers; and

(b) whether the IRCTC has taken certain security measures to prevent manipulation of the tickets site and the site has been upgraded with a substantial investment to enable the system to book 15,000 tickets per minutes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In order to facilitate hassle free booking by genuine ticket seekers, time check has been implemented for filling of CAPTCHA, Passengers details and carrying out payment. These checks negate the benefit of automated software for form filling.

(b) In order to ensure security of the e-ticketing website *www.irctc.co.in*, audit of the e-ticketing system is got conducted by Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate, which is an attached office of the Department of Information Technology (DIT), Government of India. The capacity of e-ticketing has been upgraded with deployment of additional servers.

Policy on solar capacity panels

1083. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have come out with a policy on solar capacity panels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent the policy would help Railways to reduce its dependency on fossil fuels;

(d) whether Railways would think of using roof tops of stations and other buildings to set up solar panels, apart from setting up solar panels in large tracts of railway land; and

(e) if so, the action plan in the 2016-17 fiscal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have finalized a policy for harnessing solar energy on rooftops of Railway premises. The policy provides for setting up solar power plants through developer mode with a long term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) by Railways.

(c) In order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, it has been intended to expand sourcing of solar power as part of the Solar Mission of Indian Railways. By generating electricity from solar panels, there will be proportionate reduction in consumption of fossil fuels.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. As per the existing policy, rooftops of Railway premises including Railway Stations are planned to be utilized for setting up solar power panels. As part of action plan for 2016-17, Zonal Railways have started the process of setting up of about 50 MW solar power plants.

**Surcharge on railway passengers for travelling to Kumbh melas at
Haridwar and Ujjain**

†1084. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATTIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a surcharge has been imposed on railway passengers for travelling on the occasion of 'Ardh Kumbh Mela' being organised at Haridwar in 2016, if so, the amount of surcharge levied, rail travel class-wise, the period for which the surcharge would be recovered and the basis for recovering the surcharge; and

(b) whether, in context of (a) above, surcharge would also be imposed for 'Simhastha Kumbh Mela' at Ujjain, if so, the reasons therefor and the amount of surcharge and the period for which the surcharge would be imposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For major melas in respect of which special arrangements like opening of additional booking counters, erection of pilgrim sheds etc. are required to be made, mela surcharge is levied at the following rates.

Class	Mela Surcharge per passenger (In ₹)
Second (Ordinary/Mail/Express)	5.00
Sleeper (Ordinary/Mail/Express)	5.00
AC Chair Car and AC 3-tier	10.00
First(Ordinary/Mail/Express) and AC 2-tier	15.00
AC First	20.00

Mela Surcharge during Ardh Kumbh Mela at Haridwar has been levied for the period 01.01.2016 to 30.04.2016. Mela Surcharge for Simhastha Mela at Ujjain shall be levied for the period 22.04.2016 to 21.05.2016.

Income from passenger and goods traffic

1085. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the top ten railway divisions in the country in terms of income from passenger traffic;

(b) the top ten railway divisions in the country in terms of income from goods traffic; and

(c) whether any comparative study about ticket-less travel reported in various divisions has been done recently, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Railways earnings is accounted for on Zonal Railways basis only. The Zone-wise passengers and goods earnings for 2014-15 and 2015-16 (upto Jan.-2016) is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Zones	2014-15		2015-16 (upto Jan. 2016)	
	Passenger	Goods	Passenger	Goods
1	2	3	4	5
Central	4788.99	6825.94	4063.73	6048.81

1	2	3	4	5
Eastern	1999.12	3622.07	1746.42	2790.56
East Central	2080.31	7771.60	1860.01	7081.11
East Coast	1154.67	11379.40	1036.35	10226.68
Northern	5646.61	7313.74	4914.57	5946.76
North Central	4024.54	8782.42	3569.31	7665.33
North Eastern	1374.51	1322.40	1246.20	1068.42
Northeast Frontier	1023.03	1871.88	843.62	1504.92
North Western	1656.73	4914.57	1498.25	4061.12
Southern	3719.98	3045.72	3216.13	2334.27
South Central	4011.09	10778.47	3574.23	8543.75
South Eastern	1369.41	9611.12	1207.64	8673.41
South East Central	993.58	9613.06	858.76	8955.34
South Western	1339.38	3243.40	1149.27	2448.59
Western	4143.48	8146.59	3547.20	6420.33
West Central	2692.56	7548.96	2371.50	6585.21
Metro	171.62	0.00	150.00	0.00
TOTAL	42189.61	105791.34	36853.19	90354.61

(c) Ministry of Railways do Zone-wise analysis of Ticket Checking performance on regular basis. Division-wise analysis is done by the respective Zonal Railways. An analysis of performance in respect of ticketless travellers during the period April-2015 to December-2015 has revealed that during current financial year number of passengers found without ticket/improper tickets have increased on all Zonal Railways except Southern and South Eastern Railways.

The details of number of persons detected travelling without tickets/improper tickets is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of No. of persons detected travelling without tickets/improper tickets (in lakhs)

Railway	Achievement		% Variation with Last Year
	April-Dec. 2015	April-Dec. 2014	
Central	17.86	14.88	20.03
Eastern	6.63	6.16	7.63
East Central	12.28	9.59	28.05
East Coast	3.78	2.69	40.52
Northern	7.27	5.81	25.13
North Central	11.86	10.37	14.37
North Eastern	9.02	8.33	8.28
Northeast Frontier	3.46	3.20	8.12
North Western	4.68	4.24	10.38
Southern	6.49	7.48	-13.24
South Central	18.28	14.94	22.36
South Eastern	4.07	4.13	-1.45
South East Central	3.01	2.73	10.26
South Western	3.30	3.00	10.00
Western	15.68	14.35	9.27
West Central	7.34	6.71	- 9.39
TOTAL	135.02	118.6	13.84

Promoting e-tickets

1086. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the over-all cost is very less for issuing e-tickets compared to the tickets issued by Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters;

(b) whether passengers have to shell out more money on e-tickets than the tickets issued by PRS counters like service charges and banking charges etc.; and

(c) whether Railways would provide any incentives to passengers or waive off these charges to promote e-tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) With regard to ticket issued through computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters, the cost is incurred on various inputs such as premises, equipment, their maintenance, manpower cost and other costs such as electricity, furniture, stationery, networking etc., which varies from location to location and hence it is not feasible to determine the overall cost of issuing an e-ticket and PRS ticket to make a comparison. As far as cost of issuing e-tickets is concerned, it is incurred on procurement and maintenance of hardware and software, cost of technical manpower, recurring expenditure like rent, electricity charges, internet bandwidth charges, administrative cost, etc. However, this cost is increasing on account of additional investment on Next Generation e-Ticketing System (NGeT) and further large scale augmentation of the Information Technology (IT) infrastructure for catering to increased number of booking demands.

(b) and (c) In case of e-ticket, a passenger has to pay service charges of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), bank transaction charges and service charges of agents (in case ticket is booked through authorized agents), etc. which are not payable in case of tickets booked through PRS counters. However, booking tickets online provides the benefit/incentive in the form of booking tickets from comfort of home, saving in terms of commuting time, transportation, exertion and pollution. Further, the number of e-tickets sold has been increasing over the years due to its inherent advantages.

Multi Modal Logistics Park in Andhra Pradesh

1087. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Container Corporation of India proposes to set up a Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that due to the setting up of MMLP, the capacity of goods transport will be increased in Andhra Pradesh in view of its huge coastline, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. CONCOR is developing a Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Vishakhapatnam on an area of 98 acres. Container Freight station operations have commenced since June, 2015 and the work of Rail connectivity is under progress.

(b) The facility is expected to handle containerized traffic of about 42,000 TEUs by 2019-20, and will also be handling Bulk cargo in Railway wagons when rail connectivity is established. This will contribute in increasing the goods transport and in developing logistics infrastructure along the Vishakhapatnam coastline.

Railway zones and divisions in the country

1088. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of railway zones and divisions in the country;

(b) whether new zones and divisions have been sanctioned along with the details of those which have not commenced operations; and

(c) the details of the progress of work in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At present there are 17 Railway Zones and 68 Divisions in the country. The details are given below:

Railway/Headquarters	Divisions
Central /Mumbai	Mumbai (CSTM), Bhusawal, Nagpur, Solapur, Pune.
Eastern/Kolkata	Asansol, Howrah, Malda, Sealdah.
East Central/ Hajipur	Danapur, Dhanbad, Mughalsarai, Samastipur, Sonpur.
East Coast/Bhubaneswar	Khurda Road, Sambalpur, Waltair.
Northern/ New Delhi	Ambala, Delhi, Lucknow, Moradabad, Ferozpur.
North Central/Allahabad	Allahabad, Agra, Jhansi.
North Eastern/Gorakhpur	Lucknow, Izzatnager, Varanasi.

Railway/Headquarters	Divisions
Northeast Frontier /Guwahati	Katihar, Alipurduar, Rangiya, Lumding, Tinsukia.
North Western/ Jaipur	Ajmer, Bikaner, Jaipur, Jodhpur.
Southern/Chennai	Chennai, Madurai, Palghat, Trichy, Trivandrum, Salem.
South Central/Secunderabad	Guntakal, Guntur, Hyderabad, Nanded, Secunderabad, Vijayawada.
South Eastern/Kolkata	Adra, Chakradharpur, Kharagpur, Ranchi.
South East Central/Bilaspur	Bilaspur, Nagpur, Raipur.
South Western/Hubli	Bangalore, Hubli, Mysore.
Western/Mumbai	Mumbai (Central), Vadodara, Ratlam, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Bhavnagar.
West Central/Jabalpur	Bhopal, Jabalpur, Kota.
Metro/Kolkata	Not applicable.

(b) and (c) Creation of three new divisions at Gulbarga, Jammu and Silchar was announced by the Hon'ble Minister for Railways during the course of discussions on the "Vote on Account" Budget of Railways 2014-15 in Rajya Sabha on 18.02.2014. Action has been initiated by the Ministry of Railways and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for two of the three divisions viz. Gulbarga and Jammu have already been received from the Zonal Railways concerned. Presently, these three divisions are not functional.

**Investment from foreign institutions for expansion and
modernization of railways**

1089. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are seeking investments from foreign institutions for its expansion and modernization projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details on achievements made so far, Agency /Institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways encourages investment from both domestic and foreign investors. 100% Foreign Direct Investment through automatic route has been permitted in the rail sector in August, 2014 and sectoral guidelines issued in November, 2014.

(c) The details of funding from multilateral/ bilateral lending agencies for projects in progress at present in Ministry of Railways are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Funding Agency	Lender/ Loan No. & Project	Loan Currency	Loan Amount (Millions)	Amount disbursed till 31.01.16	
					(Loan currency in Millions)	Equivalent Amount in Rupees crore
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor	US Dollar	2075	150	922
2.	Japan International Cooperation Agency	Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Phase I	Japanese Yen	230603	27985	1593
3.	Asian Development Bank	Rail Sector Program	US Dollar	280	149	925
4.	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (Phase 2A)	US Dollar	385	182	1071
5.	Japan International Cooperation Agency	Kolkata East West Metro Project II	Japanese Yen	23402	13196	777

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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6. In December 2015, Memorandum of Understanding has been Signed with Japan International Cooperation Agency for funding of High Speed corridor between Mumbai-Ahmedabad.
7. Railways have awarded setting up of Diesel Locomotives and Electric Locomotive factories at Marhowra and Madhepura respectively to M/s General Electric Ltd. and M/s Alstom Ltd.
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High speed trains

1090. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways plan to introduce high-speed trains on certain lines;
- (b) if so, the details of the lines chosen;
- (c) the cost of the projects, project-wise; and
- (d) how does Railways plan to finance these projects, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) It has been decided to implement Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project with financial and technical assistance from Government of Japan.

(c) The total cost of Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project is estimated to be approximately ₹ 97,636 crore.

(d) Government of Japan has agreed to provide loan of approximately 81% of total project cost at 0.1% per annum interest for 50 years with 15 years moratorium with the balance being funded through equity from Ministry of Railways and concerned State Governments.

Setting up of Centres for Railway Research

1091. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to set up Centres for Railway Research in collaboration with IITs all over the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that an MoU has already been entered into with various branches of IITs in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Setting up of four Centres for Railway Research (CRR) on Indian Railways was sanctioned in Railway Budget 2015-16, in addition to the one already functional at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) have been signed by Ministry of Railways with IIT/Kanpur, IIT/Madras, IIT/Roorkee and University of Mumbai during the current year 2015-16 for setting up of these CRRs. MoU with IIT/Kharagpur for setting up of CRR had been signed in February, 2010.

Linke Hofmann Busch coaches

1092. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modified version of Linke Hofmann Busch coaches have been delivered to Southern Railway by Integral Coach Factory, Chennai;

(b) whether they are not put into service because power coaches are not available in required numbers; and

(c) whether Government would see to it that such mismatch between purchase of various items is not repeated leading to delay in implementation of project or to loss of finance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches have been delivered to Southern Railway by Integral Coach Factory, Chennai.

(b) Power Cars have been made available to Southern Railway commensurate with their requirements.

(c) Does not arise.

Rail coach factory in Kanjikode, Kerala

1093. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to build a rail coach factory in Kanjikode, Kerala;

(b) whether there is a proposal to run it as a joint venture between Railways and Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL); and

(c) if not, the alternative proposal being considered by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Request for Qualification (RFQ) floated for selection of Joint Venture Partner was discharged due to inadequate response. Fresh business model has been firmed up after interaction with prospective bidders. A fresh tender shall be issued based on projected requirements of coaches in Indian Railways *vis-a-vis* already available/under construction coach manufacturing capacity.

Revenue from passenger and goods traffic

1094. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of passenger and goods traffic during the last five years, year-wise and Zone-wise;

(b) the details of revenue earned through passenger and goods traffic in the last five years, year-wise and Zone-wise;

(c) whether the passenger traffic is gradually coming down, if so, the reasons for such decline;

(d) whether it is also a fact that in spite of decline in passenger traffic, Railways are getting more revenue on the passenger side; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of passenger and goods traffic during the last five years, year-wise and zone-wise are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The details of revenue earned through passenger and goods traffic in the last five years, year-wise and zone-wise are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) There has been a decline in passenger traffic during Financial Year (FY) 2013-14 and FY 2014-15. The decline in passenger traffic can be attributed to various

factors including the changed norms/ regulations in the issue of concessional tickets particularly in the case of Izzat MSTs, improvement in road infrastructure offering better and faster connectivity leading to increase in the number of personal and commercial vehicles, diversion of passenger traffic to metro rail projects in cities, impact of natural disasters like floods and heavy monsoons, closure of certain sections, etc.

(d) and (e) Though there has been a decline in passenger traffic, there has been a positive growth in revenue on passenger traffic because the decline in passenger traffic is mainly attributable to a fall in the number of unreserved passengers especially short distance passengers, which comprises of about 94% of total passengers traffic. However, the unreserved passenger's traffic contributes about 40% of total revenue earned from passenger traffic. On the other hand, there has been a positive growth in reserved segment which constitutes about 6% of total passenger traffic but contributes about 60% of total revenue earned from passenger traffic.

Statement-I

*Details of passenger and goods traffic during last five years,
year-wise and zone-wise*

(A) No. of Passenger Originating (in millions)

Zonal Railway	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Central	1630	1675	1685	1704	1718
Eastern	1113	1173	1206	1197	1156
East Central	206	222	252	264	258
East Coast	79	86	89	89	90
Northern	654	685	690	668	641
North Central	172	182	185	184	173
North Eastern	240	249	249	247	223
North Frontier	75	88	85	90	88
North Western	147	157	166	168	164
Southern	734	801	831	831	807
South Central	349	377	379	379	358
South Eastern	246	263	272	260	256

Zonal Railway	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
South East Central	120	126	132	134	133
South Western	171	181	186	190	191
Western	1588	1654	1681	1654	1646
West Central	127	138	145	143	139
Metro	0	167	188	195	183
GRAND TOTAL	7651	8224	8421	8397	8224

(B) Freight Revenue Loading (in million tonnes)

Zonal Railway	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Central	54.75	55.69	56.54	55.77	55.63
Eastern	54.85	57.75	60.24	62.56	67.20
East Central	88.13	94.74	102.67	106.24	107.72
East Coast	108.99	120.77	133.41	149.47	161.91
Northern	46.86	47.11	48.02	53.37	54.90
North Central	8.66	8.62	9.15	10.32	11.54
North Eastern	1.70	1.78	1.73	1.62	1.58
Northeast Frontier	13.40	14.38	11.66	13.29	11.98
North Western	18.45	17.76	16.90	19.86	20.30
Southern	35.11	39.40	37.97	42.40	39.14
South Central	96.20	103.17	111.26	107.24	116.80
South Eastern	123.12	117.01	124.62	134.28	124.05
South East Central	140.69	150.84	151.86	150.50	157.19
South Western	35.75	33.19	33.52	35.88	37.50
Western	63.47	70.65	71.96	72.21	87.29
West Central	31.60	36.19	36.58	36.63	40.53
GRAND TOTAL	921.73	969.05	1008.09	1051.64	1095.26

Statement-II

Details of revenue earned through passenger and goods traffic in the last five years, year-wise and zone-wise

(₹ in crore)

Zonal Railway	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
	Passenger	Goods	Passenger	Goods	Passenger	Goods	Passenger	Goods	Passenger	Goods
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Central	3079.25	3889.56	3348.00	4437.14	3669.88	5911.35	4183.54	6460.10	4788.99	6825.94
Eastern	1245.33	2364.77	1355.30	2554.37	1482.71	3070.90	1762.03	3334.96	1999.12	3622.07
East Central	1290.00	4059.14	1481.10	4618.83	1608.50	6115.85	1846.01	6736.79	2080.31	7771.60
East Coast	648.40	8119.51	747.43	8124.59	846.05	9460.99	981.60	11197.78	1154.67	11379.40
Northern	3516.29	4695.49	3764.81	5299.72	4097.40	6243.12	4741.46	6838.91	5646.61	7313.74
North Central	2532.46	5231.69	2741.63	6067.19	3051.30	7430.15	3478.91	7927.37	4024.54	8782.42
North Eastern	841.28	720.68	916.87	877.94	977.21	1060.27	1182.96	1093.67	1374.51	1322.40
Northeast Frontier	586.74	1307.09	659.66	1490.86	782.89	1541.47	904.96	1672.42	1023.03	1871.88
North Western	862.07	2317.35	1015.72	2630.24	1174.33	3617.34	1431.85	3972.33	1656.73	4914.57

Southern	2317.69	1952.91	2565.97	2234.08	2823.61	2536.75	3290.64	2797.28	3719.98	3045.72
South Central	2409.44	5764.51	2600.96	6437.43	2867.84	8272.12	3444.14	9092.42	4011.09	10778.47
South Eastern	831.60	6643.74	899.16	6727.33	1006.48	7986.17	1183.35	8865.94	1369.41	9611.12
South East Central	565.29	5159.18	627.79	5831.91	716.20	7466.54	870.13	8274.47	993.58	9613.06
South Western	809.53	1820.42	869.07	1868.28	947.05	2280.92	1168.81	2418.33	1339.38	3243.40
Western	2565.12	4716.62	2788.04	5547.40	3156.66	6550.15	3600.89	7021.32	4143.48	8146.59
West Central	1605.16	4082.06	1773.56	4800.26	2017.80	5718.49	2330.53	6201.54	2692.56	7548.96
Metro	86.98	0.00	91.36	0.00	96.93	0.00	130.44	0.00	171.62	0.00
TOTAL	25792.63	62844.72	28246.43	69547.59	31322.84	85262.58	36532.25	93905.63	42189.61	105791.34

Written Answers to

[4 March, 2016]

Unstarred Questions

331

E-ticketing curbs to tame touts

1095. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are unable to control the flourishing business of touts; and

(b) whether Railways' new attempt of bringing e-ticketing curbs to tame touts is going to be an effective measure, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Some instances of misuse of reservation system by touts do come to notice from time to time. Regular joint drives are conducted by Commercial, Vigilance and Railway Protection Force against touts. These checks are intensified during peak rush/festival periods. Touts apprehended are prosecuted as per Section 143 of Railways Act.

(b) With a view to keep a check on the unfair activities by unscrupulous elements with regard to e-ticketing, various steps have been taken, some of which are as under:

- (i) Revision of the monthly limit of booking of tickets through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) website by an individual user from 10 tickets in a month to 6 tickets in a month.
- (ii) Introduction of CAPTCHA to check booking in batch mode and through scripting related tools on the IRCTC e-ticketing website.
- (iii) Making One Time Password (OTP) compulsory in all net banking payment options.
- (iv) Debarring agents from booking tickets during first 30 minutes of opening of reservation *i.e.* from 0800 to 0830 hours for general booking, from 1000 hours to 1030 hours for tatkal in air conditioned classes and 1100 hours to 1130 hours for tatkal in non-air conditioned classes.
- (v) Allowing only one Tatkal ticket per day per train to retail service providers.

Taking such measures and their review based on feedback is a continuous and ongoing process.

Train accidents due to negligence of railway employees

1096. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that train accidents are also caused due to negligence of railway employees, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of action taken by the competent authority against the erring employees; and

(c) the number of employees held guilty for negligence during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Negligence of railway staff is one of the causes behind train accidents. During the year 2014-15, there were 60 consequential train accidents, which took place on account of failure of railway staff. In the current year from 1st April, 2015 to 31st January, 2016, this figure decreased from 55 to 47 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) and (c) All consequential train accidents are investigated either by Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation or by the Departmental Inquiry Committees on the Zonal Railways. On the basis of the findings of these inquiry reports, disciplinary action as per the prescribed norms is taken against the staff found guilty and penalties are imposed on the staff found responsible.

As per the findings of the above Inquiry Committees including *prima-facie* causes, out of a total of 292 consequential train accidents during the last three years *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and the current year from 1st April, 2015 to 31st January, 2016, 204 accidents have been attributed to failure of railway staff. A total of 542 employees have been taken up for disciplinary action and penalties imposed in 528 cases.

Increase in incidents of train collisions and derailments

1097. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of train collisions and derailments have increased in the past years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of measures taken by Railways to prevent frequent occurrence of train collisions; and

(c) the details of incidents of train collisions and derailments in last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Collisions and derailments in the last three years *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and in the current year from 1st April, 2015 to 31st January, 2016 are as under:

Year	Collision	Derailment
2012-13	6	49
2013-14	4	53
2014-15	5	63
2014-15 (upto January, 2015)	5	57
2015-16 (upto January, 2016)	2	55

The incidents of collisions and derailments in the current year have shown a declining trend.

(b) Measures taken by Railways to avoid collision of train are as under:

Electrical/Electronic interlocking with centralised operation of points and signals, Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling with LED Signals, Complete Track Circuiting of the station, Block Proving by Axle Counters, Interlocking of Level Crossing Gates etc. are being provided progressively as per the availability of resources. Railways have also taken up various new technologies such as Train Protection Warning System (TPWS)/Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) as a means of Automatic Train Protection on pilot basis on selected sections.

(c) State-wise data of train accidents are not maintained. However, zone-wise details of consequential train accidents (collisions and derailments) during the last three years *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and the current year from 1st April, 2015 to 31st January, 2016 in comparison to corresponding period of the previous year are given in the Statement.

Statement*Zone-wise details of consequential train accidents during the last three years*

Railway	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2014-15 (upto Jan., 2015)		2015-16 (upto Jan., 2016)	
	Coll- ision	Derai- lment	Coll- ision	Derai- lment	Coll- ision	Derai- lment	Coll- ision	Derai- lment	Coll- ision	Derai- lment
Central	0	5	0	6	0	9	0	8	0	6
Eastern	0	4	1	4	0	3	0	3	0	3
East Central	0	6	1	5	3	6	3	6	0	7
East Coast	0	8	1	3	0	5	0	5	0	1
North Central	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	2
North Eastern	0	1	0	1	1	7	1	7	0	2
Northeast Frontier	1	2	0	2	1	2	1	2	0	2
North Western	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	2	0	4
Northern	0	5	0	8	0	8	0	7	1	7
South Central	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1
South Eastern	0	1	0	5	0	4	0	4	0	1
South East Central	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
South Western	2	4	0	1	0	6	0	5	0	5
Southern	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
West Central	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	2
Western	1	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	4
Konkan	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	3	0	1
Metro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	6	49	4	53	5	63	5	57	2	55

Absorption of Volunteer Ticket Collectors

†1098. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta High Court and CAT have issued any directions for absorption of the employees who had worked as Volunteer Ticket Collectors (TC) in Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard so far and the number of Volunteer TCs who had worked in Eastern Railway and have since been regularised; and

(c) whether correspondence has been done by public representatives regarding examination of the said matter and absorption of Volunteer TCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No recent Court/CATs direction has been received by Eastern Railway. However, as per earlier orders of CAT/Kolkata in 1980s, a total of 847 Volunteer Ticket Collectors, who were working had been regularized from time to time.

(c) Yes, Sir. A representation from General Secretary, National Union of Backward Classes, SCs and Minorities, West Bengal State Committee was received first on 17.8.2005. Pursuant to direction of Hon'ble High Court/Kolkata in WPCT No. 311/2010 (in OA. No. 118/2008 of Central Administrative Tribunal, Kolkata), the matter was examined and claim of applicant for regularization was rejected on merit by way of passing of a Speaking Order by General Manager, East Central Railway. The same was also conveyed to the candidates separately.

Survey of pending railway projects in Madhya Pradesh

†1099. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey work of the pending railway projects in Madhya Pradesh has been completed in respect of Jabalpur-Udaipura-Sagour line; Bhind-Lahar-Konch line and Urai-Mahoba line;

(b) if so, whether these projects have been found technically viable as per the report of the survey;

(c) whether these projects have been accorded sanction by the Government; and

(d) if so, the time-frame set to complete these projects and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Surveys for new BG line between Jabalpur-Udaipura-Sagour, Urai-Mahoba and Bhind-Lahar-Konch have been taken up. Surveys for new BG line between Jabalpur-Udaipura-Sagour and Urai-Mahoba as a part of survey for Bhind-Urai-Mahoba (217 km.) has been completed. As per survey report, both the lines have a negative Rate of Return of (-) 91.71% and (-) 12.93% respectively.

(c) and (d) Railways have launched a scheme to take up projects in partnership with State Governments through Joint Ventures (JVs)/Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs). Accordingly, Bhind-Lahar-Konch and Urai-Mahoba new lines have been included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 at a cost of ₹ 1600 crore and ₹ 1800 crore respectively in anticipation of State Governments coming forward to take up these projects through Joint Ventures. No time frame for completion of projects can be given as further course of action depends upon the response of the State Governments.

Locomotives running both on diesel and electricity

1100. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of total trains operating on diesel and electric traction;
- (b) whether Railways have decided to manufacture locomotives that run both on diesel and electricity;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether this move would reduce the cost and increase efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) During 2014-15, percentage of trains run on diesel is 44.56% and that run on electricity is 55.44%.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Indian Railways have decided to develop and manufacture ten dual mode locomotives capable of hauling trains seamlessly over electrified and non-electrified railway lines. Five of these will be electric locomotives with capability to work on diesel and the other five will be diesel electric locomotives with capability to work on overhead electric power. Provision has been made in the Budget 2016-17 for manufacture of five dual mode electric locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works and five dual mode diesel locomotives at Diesel Locomotive Works.

(d) Yes, Sir. Such locomotive, if successful, will bring operational and financial gains to Indian Railways.

Study to assess stress among loco drivers

1101. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Loco Running Mens' Organization has sought the help of NHRC as the Railway Board has rejected their demand seeking toilet breaks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain stress among loco drivers;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the changes made in the engine cabins to remove stress and strain while working in the engines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the instructions of the National Human Rights Commission, a Committee comprising of Director level Officers was formed to look into the grievances of locomotive drivers. The Committee had deliberated that in case of freight and passenger trains, breaks are already inbuilt as there are a number of halts, which allows the crew to attend to "call of nature". The Committee's deliberation was accepted by Railway Board and the same was conveyed to the NHRC also.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No study has been conducted to assess stress in loco drivers with respect to toilet break as stressor. However, three studies have been conducted to assess stress with respect to psychological and social factors which have indicated that stress management programmes including yogic techniques at work places would help them physiologically and psychologically besides improving their quality of life and health.

(e) There is a continual improvement in the loco cabs to improve the comfort of the crew. Economically designed crew chairs, adjustable, cushioned driver's seats, ergonomically designed control desk/cab, improved cab lighting, air conditioning of cabs, provision of cab heaters during winter seasons, reduced noise levels inside the cabs, twin beam headlight, provision of fog pass equipment in foggy weather and conversion of single cab HHP loco to dual cab are some of the features to improve crew comfort.

Railway line projects

†1102. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether immediate action would be taken for implementing the projects of new railway lines declared in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether Railways are concerned about increasing railway facility to Mayurbhanj district of Odisha which is densely covered with forests; and

(c) whether with reference to (b) above, there could be help by extending railway line *via* Udala and Aamadarpur from Baripada to Jeypore and from Baripada to Jamshedpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is Railway's endeavour to implement all ongoing projects on priority as per availability of funds in Chhattisgarh.

(b) Railway projects are not sanctioned State-wise, area-wise or district-wise, but are sanctioned as per Railways' own need or on socio-economic development which may straddle over one or more States. At present, Railways are executing 34 projects at an anticipated cost of ₹ 41,246 crore falling fully or partly in the State of Odisha. Further, an MoU has been signed between Ministry of Railways and Government of Odisha to form State JV for development of railway infrastructure in the State.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to extend railway line *via* Udala and Aamadarpur from Baripada to Jeypore and from Baripada to Jamshedpur. However, Buramara-Chakulia new line sanctioned on SPV mode will connect Baripada to Tatanagar on completion.

Panel to study private sector role in Railways

1103. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up any panel to study the role of private sector in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations received in this regard so far; and

(d) the measures Government would take to protect the interests of passengers and safety at the same time?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Interests of passengers and safety is of paramount importance for Indian Railways. Measures in this respect include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technology for upgradation and maintenance, training of staff and enhancing passenger amenities etc.

Introduction of new train in Gujarat

†1104. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are planning to introduce a new train in Gujarat linking Mumbai-Anand-Nadiad-Modasa-Udaipur in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce a new train in Gujarat linking Mumbai-Anand-Nadiad-Modasa-Udaipur. However, introduction of new train service is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, availability of resources etc.

Incomplete projects under North-Eastern Railway

1105. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incomplete projects under North-Eastern Railway;

(b) whether the pace of work under North-Eastern Railway is extremely slow and that there is lack of transparency and accountability;

(c) since when each of these projects are pending;

(d) the steps being taken to stimulate the North-Eastern Railway; and

(e) by when the pending projects will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (c) At present, there are 12 major ongoing projects viz. 3 new line, 5 gauge conversion and 4 doubling projects under North-Eastern Railway. The details are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Year of inclusion in the Budget
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New Line

1.	Anandnagar-Ghughli <i>via</i> Maharajganj (50 Km)	2013-14
2.	Chhitauni-Tumkuhi Road (59 Km)	2006-07
3.	Hathua-Bhatni (80 Km)	2005-06

Gauge Conversion

1.	Bhojipura-Tanakpur <i>via</i> Pilibhit (102 Km)	2007-08
2.	Gondha-Baharaich (60 Km)	1997-98
3.	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura & Kasganj-Bareilly-Lalkuan incl. MM for extn. from Bareilly to Lalkuan & Mandhana-Brahmavart (553 Km)*	1997-98
4.	Kaptanjan-Thawe-Siwan-Chhapra (234 Km)	1999-2000
5.	Lucknow-Pilibhit <i>via</i> Sitapur, Lakhimpur (263 Km)	2011-12

Doubling

1.	Aunrihar-Manduadih (39 Km)	2011-12
2.	Ballia-Ghazipur (65 Km)	2015-16
3.	Chhapra-Ballia (65 Km)	2012-13
4.	Ghazipur-Aunrihar (40 Km)	2014-15

*Main project (545 Km) has been completed, except Mandhana-Brahmavart (8 Km) which was sanctioned in February, 2014.

In addition, 2 new line and 2 doubling projects have also been included in the Budget subjects to requisite Government approval. The details are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Year of inclusion in the Budget
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New Line

1.	Kapilvastu-Basti <i>via</i> Bansi (91 Km)	2013-14
2.	Mau-Ghazipur-Tarighat (51 Km.)	2015-16

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Year of inclusion in the Budget
Doubling		
1.	Rosa-Sitapur Cantt-Burhwal (175 Km)	2015-16
2.	Varanasi-Madhosingh-Allahabd (122 Km)	2015-16

(b) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) It is Railway's endeavour to complete all ongoing projects including those under North-Eastern Railway. Various steps taken/being taken by the Government to fast-track implementation of projects include substantial increase in allocation of funds, prioritization of projects, delegation of powers at field level, nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments, etc.

Establishment of railway factories in West Bengal

1106. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sixteen railway factories in West Bengal were promised to be established by the then Railway Minister in her Rail Budget speech during UPA II;

(b) if so, whether they have been established; and

(c) the details of those sixteen factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details along with the status of the 16 factories are as under:

Sl. No.	Industrial Unit	Status
1.	Manufacture of components & sub-assemblies for High Horse Power locos and institute for training at Dankuni.	Construction of factory completed.
2.	Electric loco assembly and ancillary unit of Chittaranjan	Construction of the factory has been completed and assembly of locomotives has

Sl. No.	Industrial Unit	Status
	Locomotive Works at Dankuni.	started.
3.	Noapara Rake Rehabilitation facility.	Civil & Electrical works have since been completed. Some of the M&P items have been received.
4.	Coach manufacturing factory in the Kanchrapara Halisahar Railway Complex.	Request For Qualification (RFQ) finalized in 2010, has been annulled. Fresh RFQ applications for selection of Joint Venture (JV) partner has been invited.
5.	Setting up of cold storage and temperature controlled perishable cargo centres under Kisan Vision project at Singur.	The perishable cargo centre was made functional on 18.12.2011. However, due to very low utilization, the service provider has abandoned the contract.
6.	Development of automobile and ancillary hub at Shalimar.	Automobile and ancillary hub has been notified and is functional since 13th March, 2010.
7.	Centre of Excellence for wagon prototyping at Kharagpur workshop.	Work awarded on turnkey basis to RVNL. However, work has been kept on hold at present.
8.	Wagon manufacturing factory at Burdwan (Kulti).	Joint Venture between RITES and SAIL has been incorporated in Dec.,2010. An assured off take agreement to manufacture 1200 new wagons and rehabilitation 300 old wagons per year was signed between Kulti and Indian Railway. The factory will commence production shortly.
9.	2x660 Mega Watt Railways' captive, coal based thermal power plant at Adra, District Prurulia, in joint venture with National Thermal Power Corporation.	A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 31.10.2010 between NTPC and Railways for setting up of a 2x660 MW coal based power plant at Adra, West Bengal. Coal block allocation and water allocation for this plant is yet to be finalized.
10.	Coach Mid Life Rehabilitation workshop at Anara (Adra).	Work given to RVNL for turnkey execution. The work is yet to commence.

Sl. No.	Industrial Unit	Status
11.	Factory for Composite Brake Blocks at Tindharia.	Expression of Interest was floated but there was no response.
12.	Rail axle manufacturing factory at Jalpaiguri.	The factory is to be set up by Rastriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL). The assured off take agreement is under finalization.
13.	Fiat Bogie frame and refrigerated container factory at Budge Budge.	The factory is under commissioning.
14.	Electronic signal production unit at New Cooch Behar.	Railway land measuring 177mt x 274mt (approx.12 acres) has been earmarked by North Frontier Railway for the factory. Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the unit has been prepared and the implementation plan for setting up the factory is under review.
15.	Wagon component factory for manufacture of high capacity bogies, couplers and draft gear at Jellingham.	The need for factory is under review.
16.	Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) manufacturing factory at Haldia.	Phase-I of the project has been completed and production has commenced.

Model railway station's

1107. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many model railway stations are there in the country and which are they;
- (b) who is responsible for maintaining those railway stations;
- (c) the hindrance in implementing the same model in all the important and major railway stations of the country; and
- (d) the cost of maintaining such stations and how is the expenditure met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Development of stations under 'Model' Station scheme was in

vogue from June, 1999 to November, 2008. Under this scheme, 594 stations were identified for development and all stations have already been developed. A list of 'Model' stations is given in Statement-I (*See below*). Subsequently, 'Adarsh' Station Scheme was launched in 2009. 962 stations have been developed under this scheme so far. A list of such stations is given in Statement-II (*See below*). Maintenance of stations including those developed under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme is undertaken through departmental means and outsourcing.

(c) The norms for amenities to be provided at different stations are decided on the basis of the category of a station based on the annual passenger earnings of the station, number of passenger handled and importance of the station. Based on this criteria stations are categorized as 'A1, 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F'. Since requirement of amenities at a station varies based on its category, it is not feasible to implement the same model in all the important and major stations of the country. However, stations are presently being developed under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme with a view to provide identified facilities for improvement of amenities at the selected stations.

(d) The expenditure on maintenance of stations including those developed under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme is generally funded from Revenue Budget of Railway. ₹ 476 Cr. have been provided for maintenance of stations in the Revised Estimates of 2015-16.

Statement-I

List of 'Model' Stations

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
1.	Abohar	11.	Akola
2.	Abu Road	12.	Akshaywat Rai
3.	Adoni	13.	Alappuzha
4.	Adra	14.	Aligarh
5.	Agra Cantt.	15.	Alipurduar
6.	Agra Fort	16.	Allahabad
7.	Ahmedabad	17.	Allahabad City
8.	Ahmednagar	18.	Alnavar
9.	Ajmer Jn.	19.	Aluabari Road
10.	Akbarpur	20.	Aluva (Alwaye)

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
21.	Alwar	51.	Balasore
22.	Ambala Cantt.	52.	Ballabhgarh
23.	Ambur	53.	Ballarshah
24.	Amravati	54.	Ballia
25.	Amritsar	55.	Balugaon
26.	Anakapalli	56.	Bamania
27.	Anand	57.	Banda
28.	Anandpur Sahib	58.	Bandel
29.	Anantapur	59.	Bandra Terminus
30.	Andal	60.	Bangalore Cantt.
31.	Ankleshwar	61.	Bangalore City
32.	Annavaram	62.	Bangaon
33.	Anugraha Narayan	63.	Bangarapet Jn.
34.	Ara Jn.	64.	Barabanki
35.	Arakkonam Jn.	65.	Barasat
36.	Arariya Court	66.	Barauni Jn.
37.	Asansol	67.	Baraut
38.	Aurangabad	68.	Bardhaman
39.	Ayodhya	69.	Bareilly
40.	Azamgarh	70.	Barh
41.	Babina	71.	Barharwa
42.	Badagara (Vadakara)	72.	Barhni
43.	Badakhandita (PH)	73.	Bariarpur
44.	Badnera	74.	Barka Kana Jn.
45.	Badshah Nagar	75.	Barrackpore
46.	Baghpat Road	76.	Baruipur
47.	Bagnan	77.	Basar
48.	Bahraich	78.	Basirhat
49.	Baidyanathdham	79.	Basti
50.	Bakhtiyarpur Jn.	80.	Bathinda Jn.

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
81.	Beas	111.	Bikaner
82.	Beawar	112.	Bilaspur
83.	Begusarai	113.	Billimora
84.	Belgaum	114.	Bina
85.	Bellary	115.	Bishnupur
86.	Belthra Road	116.	Bokaro Steel City
87.	Betiah	117.	Bolpur
88.	Betul	118.	Bongaigaon
89.	Bhabhua Road	119.	Brahmapur
90.	Bhadohi	120.	Budge Budge
91.	Bhadrachalam Road	121.	Burhanpur
92.	Bhadrak	122.	Buxar
93.	Bhagalpur	123.	Byree
94.	Bharatpur Jn.	124.	Canning
95.	Bharuch	125.	Chakki Bank
96.	Bhatapara	126.	Chakradharpur
97.	Bhatni Jn.	127.	Chalisgaon
98.	Bhavnagar Terminus	128.	Champa
99.	Bhilwara	129.	Chandannagar
100.	Bhimavaram Jn.	130.	Chandausi
101.	Bhimavaram Town	131.	Chandi Mandir
102.	Bhiwani	132.	Chandigarh
103.	Bhodwal Majri	133.	Chandrapur
104.	Bhopal	134.	Chengalpattu
105.	Bhubaneswar	135.	Chengannur
106.	Bhusawal	136.	Chennai Beach
107.	Bidar	137.	Chennai Central
108.	Bidhannagar	138.	Chennai Egmore
109.	Biharsharif	139.	Chhapra Jn.
110.	Bijapur	140.	Chindwara

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
141.	Chirala	171.	Devlali
142.	Chitrakootdham	172.	Dewas
143.	Chittorgarh Jn.	173.	Dhakuria
144.	Chopan	174.	Dhanbad Jn.
145.	Coimbatore Jn.	175.	Dharangaon
146.	Contai Rd. (Belda)	176.	Dharmanagar
147.	Cooch Behar	177.	Dharmavaram
148.	CST Mumbai	178.	Dharwad
149.	Cuddapah	179.	Dhenkanal
150.	Cuttack	180.	Dhone
151.	Dadar	181.	Dhuri Jn.
152.	Dadar (CR)	182.	Dibrugarh Town
153.	Dahod	183.	Dimapur
154.	Dalkolha	184.	Dindigul Jn.
155.	Dalsinghsarai	185.	Dornakal
156.	Daltonganj	186.	Dumdum
157.	Damoh	187.	Durg
158.	Danapur	188.	Durgapur
159.	Dankuni	189.	Dwarka
160.	Darbhangra Jn.	190.	Eluru
161.	Daund	191.	Ernakulam Jn.
162.	Davangere	192.	Ernakulam Town
163.	Dehradun	193.	Erode Jn.
164.	Dehri-on-Sone	194.	Etawah
165.	Delhi Cantt.	195.	Faizabad
166.	Delhi Jn.	196.	Falna
167.	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	197.	Faridabad
168.	Delhi Shahadara	198.	Farrukhabad Jn.
169.	Deoband	199.	Fatehpur
170.	Deoria Sadar	200.	Firozabad

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
201.	Firozpur Cantt.	231.	Habibganj
202.	Gadag	232.	Hajipur Jn.
203.	Gandhidham	233.	Hanumangarh
204.	Gandhigram	234.	Hapa
205.	Gangapur City	235.	Hapur
206.	Garbeta	236.	Hardoi
207.	Garh Muktesar	237.	Haridwar
208.	Garhwa Road Jn.	238.	Harishchandrapur
209.	Garia	239.	Hassan Jn.
210.	Gaya Jn.	240.	Hatia
211.	Ghaziabad	241.	Hazrat Nizamuddin
212.	Ghazipur City	242.	Hazur Sahib
213.	Ghum	243.	Hisar
214.	Ghutiarisarif	244.	Hoshangabad
215.	Godavari	245.	Hoshiarpur
216.	Golanthra	246.	Hospet
217.	Gonda Jn.	247.	Hosur
218.	Gondia	248.	Howrah
219.	Gooty	249.	Hubli Jn.
220.	Gorakhpur Jn.	250.	Hyderabad
221.	Gosaigaonhat	251.	Indore
222.	Gudivada	252.	Itarsi
223.	Gudur	253.	Izzatnagar
224.	Gulbarga	254.	Jabalpur
225.	Guna	255.	Jagadhri
226.	Guntakal	256.	Jaipur
227.	Guntur	257.	Jaisalmer
228.	Gurdaspur	258.	Jajpur-Keonjhar
229.	Guwahati	259.	Jalgaon
230.	Gwalior	260.	Jalandhar Cantt.

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
261.	Jallandhar City	291.	Karad
262.	Jalna	292.	Karnal
263.	Jalpaiguri	293.	Kasganj Jn.
264.	Jamalpur	294.	Kashipur Jn.
265.	Jammu Tawi	295.	Kathgodam
266.	Jamnagar	296.	Kathua
267.	Jamui	297.	Katihar
268.	Janakpur Road	298.	Katni
269.	Janghai	299.	Katpadi
270.	Jasidih	300.	Katra (UP)
271.	Jaunpur	301.	Kayankulam jn.
272.	Jhajha	302.	Kazipet
273.	Jhansi	303.	Kesinga
274.	Jhargram	304.	Khagaria Jn.
275.	Jharsuguda	305.	Khalilabad
276.	Jodhpur	306.	Khammam
277.	Jogbani	307.	Khandwa
278.	Jolarpettai	308.	Kharagpur
279.	Jorhat Town	309.	Khurda Road
280.	Junagadh	310.	Kishanganj
281.	Kacheguda	311.	Kishanganrh
282.	Karimganj	312.	Kiul Jn.
283.	Kakinada Town	313.	Koderma
284.	Kalka	314.	Kokrajhar
285.	Kalyan	315.	Kolaghat
286.	Kamakhya Jn.	316.	Kolhapur
287.	Kanniyakumari	317.	Kollam (Quilon Jn.)
288.	Kannur	318.	Kosli
289.	Kanpur	319.	Kota Jn.
290.	Kapilas Road	320.	Kottayam

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
321.	Kovilpatti	351.	Mal Bazar
322.	Kozhikkode	352.	Malda Town
323.	Krishnanagar City	353.	Malkapur
324.	Krishnarajapuram	354.	Mambalam
325.	Kulti	355.	Mananpur
326.	Kurla	356.	Manchiryal
327.	Kurnool Town	357.	Mandsaur
328.	Kurukshetra	358.	Manduadih
329.	Labpur	359.	Mangalore Central
330.	Lakhimpur	360.	Mangalore Jn.
331.	Lalitpur	361.	Maninagar
332.	Lalkuan	362.	Manmad
333.	Lonavala	363.	Mantralayam Road
334.	Londa	364.	Marwar Jn.
335.	Lucknow	365.	Matheran
336.	Lucknow City	366.	Mathura Jn.
337.	Lucknow Jn.	367.	Mau Jn.
338.	Ludhiana	368.	Mecheda
339.	Lukhee Sarai	369.	Meerut Cantt.
340.	Lumding	370.	Meerut City
341.	Machilipatnam	371.	Mhow
342.	Madanmahal	372.	Midnapur
343.	Madgaon	373.	Miraj
344.	Madhubani	374.	Mirzapur
345.	Madhupur	375.	Mokama
346.	Madhyamgram	376.	Moradabad
347.	Madurai Jn.	377.	Morena
348.	Mahesana	378.	Motihari
349.	Maihar	379.	Mudkhed
350.	Makrana	380.	Mughalsarai Jn.

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
381.	Mumbai Central	411.	New Cooch Behar
382.	Murshidabad	412.	New Delhi
383.	Muzaffarnagar	413.	New Farakka
384.	Muzaffarpur Jn.	414.	New Jalpaiguri
385.	Mysore Jn.	415.	New Mal Jn.
386.	Nabadwipdham	416.	New Tinsukia Jn.
387.	Nadiad	417.	Nidadavolu
388.	Nadikudi	418.	Nimach
389.	Nagarsol	419.	Nimbahera
390.	Nagaur	420.	Nizamabad
391.	Nagda	421.	Okha
392.	Nagercoil Jn.	422.	Ongole
393.	Nagpur	423.	Orai
394.	Naihati	424.	Pakala
395.	Naini	425.	Palakkad Jn.
396.	Najibabad	426.	Palakollu
397.	Nalanda	427.	Palanpur
398.	Nalgonda	428.	Palasa
399.	Nandurbar	429.	Pali Marwar
400.	Nandyal	430.	Palwal
401.	Nangloi	431.	Panipat
402.	Narkatiaganj Jn.	432.	Parasnath
403.	Nasik Road	433.	Parbhani
404.	Navsari	434.	Parli Vaijnath
405.	Nawadah	435.	Pathankot
406.	Nayagaon	436.	Patiala
407.	Nellore	437.	Patna Jn.
408.	New Alipurduar	438.	Patna Sahib Jn.
409.	New Bhuj	439.	Phagwara
410.	New Bongaigaon	440.	Phulwarisarif

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
441.	Pilibhit Jn.	471.	Ranchi Jn.
442.	Pipariya	472.	Rangiya Jn.
443.	Porbander	473.	Rani
444.	Pratapgarh	474.	Raniganj
445.	Prayag	475.	Ratlam
446.	Puducherry	476.	Rauxaul Jn.
447.	Pune	477.	Rawatpur
448.	Puri	478.	Rayagada
449.	Purna	479.	Renigunta
450.	Purnea Jn.	480.	Renukut
451.	Purulia	481.	Rewa
452.	Rae Bareli Jn.	482.	Rewari
453.	Rahama	483.	Rishikesh
454.	Raichur	484.	Rishra
455.	Raiganj	485.	Rohtak
456.	Raigarh	486.	Roorkee
457.	Raipur	487.	Rourkela
458.	Raja Ki Mandi	488.	Sagauli Jn.
459.	Rajahmundry	489.	Saharanpur Jn.
460.	Rajendra Nagar (T)	490.	Saharsa Jn.
461.	Rajgir	491.	Sahibganj
462.	Rajkot	492.	Sainthia
463.	Rajnandgaon	493.	Salem Jn.
464.	Rajpura Jn.	494.	Salempur Jn.
465.	Ramagundam	495.	Samalkot
466.	Rameswaram	496.	Samastipur Jn.
467.	Rampur	497.	Sambalpur
468.	Rampurhat	498.	Sambalpur Road
469.	Rana Pratapnagar	499.	Sangli
470.	Ranaghat	500.	Santragachi

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
501.	Sasaram Jn.	531.	Srikhalahasti
502.	Satara	532.	Srirampur
503.	Satna	533.	Srirampur Assam
504.	Saugor	534.	Subzi Mandi
505.	Sawai Madhopur	535.	Sultanganj
506.	Sealdah	536.	Sultanpur
507.	Secunderabad	537.	Surat
508.	Shahdol	538.	Suratgarh
509.	Shahganj	539.	Surendranagar
510.	Shahjahanpur	540.	Surla Road
511.	Shakurbasti	541.	Tadepalligudem
512.	Shegaon	542.	Tamluk
513.	Sheikhpura	543.	Tandur
514.	Sheoraphuli	544.	Tanuku
515.	Shimla	545.	Tarakeswar
516.	Shimoga Town	546.	Tatanagar
517.	Shoranur Jn.	547.	Tenali
518.	Silchar	548.	Tezapore
519.	Singrauli	549.	Thalasseri
520.	Sirhind Jn.	550.	Thane
521.	Sirsa	551.	Thanjavur Jn.
522.	Sitamarhi	552.	Thrisur (Trichur)
523.	Sitapur	553.	Tilda
524.	Siwan Jn.	554.	Tinsukia Jn.
525.	Solapur	555.	Tiruchchirappalli Jn.
526.	Sonarpur	556.	Tirunelveli Jn.
527.	Sonepur	557.	Tirupati
528.	Sonipat	558.	Tiruppur
529.	Sri Ganga Nagar	559.	Tirur
530.	Srikakulam Road	560.	Tiruttani

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
561.	Tiruvalla	578.	Vapi
562.	Tiruvananthapuram	579.	Varanasi
563.	Titlagarh Jn.	580.	Varanasi City
564.	Tollygunj	581.	Varkala
565.	Tornagallu	582.	Vasco-Da-Gama
566.	Tumkur	583.	Veraval
567.	Tundla	584.	Vidisha
568.	Tuni	585.	Vijayawada
569.	Tuticorin	586.	Vikarabad
570.	Udaipur City	587.	Villupuram
571.	Udhana	588.	Virudunagar Jn.
572.	Ujjain	589.	Visakhapatnam
573.	Ultadanga	590.	Vizianagram
574.	Uluberia	591.	Warangal
575.	Unnao	592.	Wardha
576.	Vadodara	593.	Yadgir
577.	Valsad	594.	Yesvantpur

Statement-II*List of 'Adarsh' Stations*

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
1.	Abhaipur	9.	Agarpara
2.	Abohar	10.	Ahamedpur
3.	Abu Road	11.	Ahmednagar
4.	Acharya Narendra Dev Nagar	12.	Ajni
5.	Achhnera	13.	Akra
6.	Adi Saptagram	14.	Alappuzha (Alleppey)
7.	Adilabad	15.	Aler
8.	Adra Jn.	16.	Aligarh

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
17.	Alipurduar	46.	Arariya Court
18.	Alipurduar Court	47.	Ariyalur
19.	Alipurduar Jn.	48.	Asansol Jn.
20.	Almatti	49.	Ashok Nagar
21.	Aluabari Road	50.	Asoknagar Road
22.	Aluva	51.	Atarra
23.	Alwar	52.	Aurangabad
24.	Amalner	53.	Auvaneeswaram
25.	Ambala Cantt.	54.	Avadi
26.	Ambalapuzha	55.	Ayodhya
27.	Ambalgram	56.	Azamgarh
28.	Ambari Falakata	57.	Azimganj City
29.	Ambernath	58.	Azimganj Jn.
30.	Ambika Kalna (Kalna)	59.	Badagara (Vadakara)
31.	Ambikapur	60.	Badami
32.	Amethi	61.	Badarpur Jn.
33.	Amta	62.	Badkulla
34.	Anantapur	63.	Bagalkot
35.	Anara	64.	Bagbazar
36.	Andal	65.	Baghajatin
37.	Andheri	66.	Baghdogra
38.	Andul Jn.	67.	Bagnan
39.	Angamaly	68.	Bagula
40.	Angul	69.	Bahadurgarh
41.	Anugraha Narayan Road	70.	Bahadurpur
42.	Anupgarh	71.	Baharu
43.	Anuppur	72.	Bahirgachhi
44.	Aranghata	73.	Bahirpuya
45.	Arariya	74.	Bahraich
		75.	Baidyabati

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
76.	Bakhrabad	106.	Bansh Beria
77.	Bala Mau	107.	Banspani
78.	Balagarh	108.	Banstala
79.	Balangir	109.	Bapatla
80.	Balarambati	110.	Barabanki
81.	Balasore	111.	Barabhum
82.	Balgona	112.	Baragaon
83.	Ballalpur	113.	Barakar
84.	Ballia	114.	Baranagar Road
85.	Ballichak	115.	Barasat Jn.
86.	Bally	116.	Bardhaman
87.	Ballyghat	117.	Bareta
88.	Ballygunge	118.	Bargachia
89.	Balotra	119.	Bargarh Road
90.	Balrampur	120.	Barhni
91.	Balugaon	121.	Baripada
92.	Balurghat	122.	Barmer
93.	Bamangachhi	123.	Bamala
94.	Bamangram Halt	124.	Barpeta Road
95.	Bamanhat	125.	Barrackpore
96.	Banarhat	126.	Barsoi Jn.
97.	Banda	127.	Baruipara
98.	Bandel Jn.	128.	Baruipur
99.	Bandra	129.	Basar
100.	Baneswar	130.	Basirhat
101.	Bani	131.	Basti
102.	Banka Pasi	132.	Basudevpur
103.	Bankimnagar	133.	Basugaon
104.	Bankura	134.	Basuldanga
105.	Banpur	135.	Batasi

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
136.	Bathnakrittiba	166.	Bhatar
137.	Bauria Jn.	167.	Bhatariya
138.	BBD Bag	168.	Bhayander
139.	Bechraji	169.	Bhedia (Ausgram)
140.	Begampur	170.	Bhilai Power House
141.	Begusarai	171.	Bhimgarh
142.	Belakoba	172.	Bhiwani
143.	Belanagar	173.	Bhongir
144.	Belapur	174.	Bhuteshwar
145.	Beldanga	175.	Bidar
146.	Belerhat	176.	Bidhannagar Road
147.	Belgharia	177.	Bidyadharpur
148.	Beliaghata Rd.	178.	Bihar Sharif
149.	Beliatore	179.	Bijni
150.	Bellary	180.	Bilaspur Road
151.	Belpahar	181.	Bilhar Ghat
152.	Belur	182.	Bilhaur
153.	Belurmath	183.	Biman Bandar
154.	Berhampur Court	184.	Bina
155.	Betberia Ghola	185.	Biora Rajgarh
156.	Bethudahari	186.	Bira
157.	Bhadaiyan	187.	Birati
158.	Bhadreswar	188.	Birla Nagar
159.	Bhagalpur	189.	Birnagar
160.	Bhagwangola	190.	Birshibpur
161.	Bhandup	191.	Bishnupur
162.	Bhanvad	192.	Boinchi
163.	Bharat Kund	193.	Bokaro
164.	Bharwari	194.	Bolpur
165.	Bhasila	195.	Bongaon Jn.

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
196.	Borivali	226.	Chatra
197.	Brace Bridge	227.	Chatterhat
198.	Brindabanpur	228.	Chembur
199.	Budge Budge	229.	Chengannur
200.	Buniyadpur	230.	Chengel
201.	Burhanpur	231.	Chennai Beach Jn.
202.	Burhwal	232.	Chennai Chetpat
203.	Burnpur	233.	Chennai Park
204.	Burrabazar	234.	Cherthala (Shertalai)
205.	Canning	235.	Chhapra Jn.
206.	Chakda	236.	Chhatna
207.	Chakradharpur	237.	Chhindwara Jn.
208.	Chalakudi	238.	Chikballapur
209.	Chamagram	239.	Chinchwad
210.	Chamaraja Nagar	240.	Chingavanam
211.	Champa	241.	Chintamani
212.	Champa Pukur	242.	Chirimiri
213.	Champahati	243.	Chitrakootdham
214.	Chanchai		Karwi
215.	Chandannagar	244.	Chittaranjan
216.	Chandanpur	245.	Chittoor
217.	Chandauli Majhwar	246.	Chittorgarh Jn.
218.	Chandausi Jn.	247.	Chola
219.	Chandpara	248.	Choti Khatu
220.	Chandrakona Road	249.	Chouri-Choura
221.	Chandrapura	250.	Chowrigacha
222.	Changanasseri	251.	Chromepet
223.	Changrabandha		
224.	Charvathur		
225.	Chas Road		

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
252.	Chuchura	282.	Devlali
253.	Churu	283.	Dhakuria
254.	Coimbatore Jn.	284.	Dhanbad
255.	Contai Rd. (Belda)	285.	Dhaniakhali
256.	Cooch Behar	286.	Dhanuvachapuram
257.	Currey Road	287.	Dhapdhapi
258.	Dadar	288.	Dhatrigram
259.	Dadar (CR)	289.	Dhaulpur
260.	Dahanu Road	290.	Dhenkanal
261.	Dahisar	291.	Dhubulia
262.	Dahod	292.	Dhulabari
263.	Dainhat	293.	Dhupguri
264.	Dakshineswar	294.	Dhuri
265.	Dalkolha	295.	Diamond Harbour
266.	Damoh		Road
267.	Dankuni Jn.	296.	Dildarnagar
268.	Dantan	297.	Dimapur
269.	Dapsaura	298.	Dinhata
270.	Daraganj	299.	Diwa
271.	Darjeeling	300.	Dock Yard Road
272.	Daryabad	301.	Dodballapur
273.	Dasnagar	302.	Doikallu
274.	Dausa	303.	Dombivali
275.	Debagram	304.	Domjur
276.	Delhi Kishanganj	305.	Dongargarh
277.	Deoghar	306.	Dubrajpur
278.	Dera Baba Nanak	307.	Dum Dum Cantt.
279.	Deula	308.	Dum Dum Jn.
280.	Deulti	309.	Dumka
281.	Devanahalli	310.	Dumurdaha

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
311.	Durganagar	341.	Gauribidanur
312.	Durgapur	342.	Gazole
313.	Duttapukur	343.	Gede
314.	Dwarapudi	344.	Ghanpur
315.	Eden Garden	345.	Ghatera (Patharia)
316.	Eklakhi	346.	Ghatkopar
317.	Etakkot	347.	Ghogha
318.	Ettumanur	348.	Ghoksadanga
319.	Fakiragram	349.	Ghoragata
320.	Falakata	350.	Ghum
321.	Faridkot	351.	Ghutuari Shariff
322.	Farrukhabad	352.	Gidhni
323.	Fatehpur	353.	Giri Maidan
324.	Fatehpur Sikri	354.	Gobordanga
325.	Fazilka	355.	Gobra
326.	Ferok	356.	Gokak Road
327.	Firozabad	357.	Gokulpur
328.	Forbesganj	358.	Gomoh Jn.
329.	Fuleswar	359.	Gonda Jn.
330.	Gadadharpur	360.	Gopalnagar
331.	Gadag	361.	Goregaon
332.	Gadarwara	362.	Goreswar
333.	Galsi	363.	Gosaigaon Hat
334.	Gandhigram	364.	Gourinathdham
335.	Gangakhed	365.	Gudur
336.	Gangnapur	366.	Gulbarga
337.	Garbeta	367.	Guma
338.	Garhwa Road Jn.	368.	Guntakal Jn.
339.	Garia	369.	Guntur
340.	Gaura	370.	Guptipara

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
371.	Gurap	401.	Hosur
372.	Gurdaspur	402.	Hotar
373.	Gurgaon	403.	Hridaypur
374.	Guruvayur	404.	Hubli
375.	Guskara	405.	Ichhapur
376.	Gwalior	406.	Indore
377.	Habibpur	407.	Irinjalakuda
378.	Habra	408.	Itarsi
379.	Haider Garh	409.	Itwari
380.	Haldibari	410.	Jabalpur
381.	Halisahar	411.	Jadabpur
382.	Hapur	412.	Jagaddal
383.	Hardoi	413.	Jagadishpur
384.	Haripad	414.	Jaganath Temple Gate
385.	Haripal	415.	Jaipur
386.	Harishchandrapur	416.	Jaisalmer
387.	Harishdadpur	417.	Jajpur-Keonjhar Road
388.	Harua Road	418.	Jakhalabandha
389.	Hasimara	419.	Jaleswar
390.	Hasnabad	420.	Jalgaon
391.	Haur	421.	Jalna
392.	Flaveri	422.	Jalore
393.	Hijli	423.	Jalpaiguri
394.	Himmatnagar	424.	Jalpaiguri Road
395.	Hindmotor	425.	Jamalpur
396.	Hindupur	426.	Jamikunta
397.	Hingoli	427.	Jamnagar
398.	Hojai	428.	Jamuria
399.	Hooghly		
400.	Hoshiarpur		

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
429.	Janai Road	458.	Kalaikunda
430.	Jangaon	459.	Kalanour
431.	Jangipur Road	460.	Kalchini
432.	Jasidih	461.	Kalikapur
433.	Jaunpur	462.	Kalinagar
434.	Jaunpur City	463.	Kalinarayanpur
435.	Jayasinghpur	464.	Kaliyaganj
436.	Jehanabad	465.	Kalmeshwar
437.	Jessore Road	466.	Kalpi
438.	Jhantipahari	467.	Kalyani
439.	Jhargram	468.	Kalyani Ghoshpara
440.	Jharsuguda	469.	Kalyani Silpanchal
441.	Jhusi	470.	Kalyanpur
442.	Jiaganj	471.	Kamakhyaguri
443.	Jiradai	472.	Kamareddy
444.	Jirat	473.	Kamarkundu Jn.
445.	Jodhpur	474.	Kamptee
446.	Jogbani	475.	Kanchrapara
447.	Jorhat Town	476.	Kandivli
448.	Joychandipahar	477.	Kanjiramittam
449.	Joynagar Majilpur	478.	Kankinara
450.	Junnerdeo (Jamai)	479.	Kannapuram
451.	Jwalaji (Jawalamukhi Road)	480.	Kannur
452.	Kabakaputtur	481.	Kantabanji
453.	Kadi	482.	Kanthi
454.	Kahalgaon	483.	Karad
455.	Kaikala	484.	Kareli
456.	Kakdwip	485.	Karim Nagar
457.	Kakinada Town	486.	Karimganj Jn.
		487.	Karjat

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
488.	Karunagappally	518.	Kiraoli
489.	Karuvatta	519.	Kirnahar
490.	Kasara	520.	Kishanganj
491.	Kasargod	521.	Kochuveli
492.	Kashinagar Halt	522.	Kodialia-Bisharpara
493.	Kathgodam	523.	Kokrajhar
494.	Katni Murwara	524.	Kolaghat
495.	Katol	525.	Kolar
496.	Katwa Jn.	526.	Kolayat
497.	Kayankulam Jn.	527.	Konnagar
498.	Kazipet	528.	Kopergaon
499.	Kesinga	529.	Koppal
500.	Khadki	530.	Koraput
501.	Khagraghat Rd.	531.	Korba
502.	Khairthal	532.	Korukkupet
503.	Khajuraho	533.	Kosamba
504.	Khalilabad	534.	Kosli
505.	Khaltipur	535.	Kotdwara
506.	Khambliya	536.	Kotikulam
507.	Khammam	537.	Kotshila
508.	Khana Jn	538.	Kottarakara
509.	Khandwa	539.	Kottyam
510.	Khardah	540.	Kozhikkode
511.	Khariar Road	541.	Krishnagar City Jn.
512.	Khemasuli	542.	Kulgachia
513.	Khidirpur	543.	Kulpi
514.	Khopoli	544.	Kulti
515.	Khurda Road Jn.	545.	Kumbakonam
516.	Khurja Jn.	546.	Kunda Harnam Ganj
517.	King's Circle	547.	Kurla

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
548.	Kurnool Town	578.	Maghar
549.	Kurukshetra	579.	Magrahat
550.	Kuruppantara	580.	Mahaboobnagar
551.	Labpur	581.	Mahasamund
552.	Lahargaga	582.	Mahe
553.	Lake Gardens	583.	Mahisadal
554.	Lakshmikantapur	584.	Maihar
555.	Lalgarh Jn.	585.	Majhdia
556.	Lalgola	586.	Majhergram
557.	Lalitpur	587.	Makronia
558.	Lalpurjam	588.	Malad
559.	Lanjigarh Road	589.	Malatipur
560.	Lapanga	590.	Malda Court
561.	Latur	591.	Malda Town
562.	Liluah	592.	Malkangiri
563.	Lingampalli	593.	Malkapur
564.	Lohapur	594.	Mallikpur
565.	Lohardaga	595.	Manavur
566.	Loknath	596.	Manendragarh
567.	Londa Jn.	597.	Manigram
568.	Lower Parel	598.	Manikpur
569.	Lunkaransar	599.	Maninagar
570.	Macherla	600.	Manjeswaram
571.	Madanmahal	601.	Mankundu
572.	Madanpur	602.	Mansi
573.	Madarihat	603.	Mararikulam
574.	Madhubani	604.	Masagram
575.	Madhupur Jn.	605.	Masalandapur
576.	Madhusudanpur	606.	Matigara
577.	Madhyamgram	607.	Matunga

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
608.	Mau Jn.	638.	Murshidabad
609.	Maur	639.	Nabadwip Ghat
610.	Mavelikara	640.	Nabadwipdham
611.	Mayiladuturai	641.	Nabagram
612.	Mecheda	642.	Nagappattinam
613.	Meerut Cantt.	643.	Nagarsol
614.	Meerut City	644.	Nagore
615.	Meghnagar	645.	Nagrakata
616.	Memari	646.	Nahur
617.	Midnapur	647.	Naigaon
618.	Mira Road	648.	Naihati Jn.
619.	Miraj	649.	Naimisharanya
620.	Mirzapur	650.	Naini
621.	Moga	651.	Nalgonda
622.	Mollarpur	652.	Naihati Jn.
623.	Moth	653.	Nalikul
624.	Mourigram	654.	Namkhana
625.	Mughalasarai	655.	Nandakumar
626.	Muktsar	656.	Nandura
627.	Mulanturutti	657.	Nandurbar
628.	Multai	658.	Nandyal
629.	Mulund	659.	Nanjangud Town
630.	Mumbai (Charni Road)	660.	Narasaraopet
631.	Mumbai (Churchgate)	661.	Narayan Pakuria
632.	Mumbai (Marine Lines)		Murail
633.	Mumbai Central (L)	662.	Narayangarh
634.	Munderwa	663.	Narendrapur
635.	Muniguda	664.	Narkher
636.	Muragachha	665.	Nasibpur
637.	Murarai	666.	Nasik Road

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
667.	Naugachia	695.	Palanpur
668.	Naugarh (Siddharth Nagar)	696.	Palla Road
669.	Navsari	697.	Palpara
670.	Nekurseni	698.	Palsit
671.	Nellore	699.	Palta
672.	Netra	700.	Panagarh
673.	New Alipore (Kolkata)	701.	Pandaveswar
674.	New Alipurduar	702.	Pandhurna
675.	New Barrackpore	703.	Pandooah
676.	New Bhuj	704.	Panipat
677.	New Bongaigaon	705.	Panjipara
678.	New Cooch Behar	706.	Panskura Jn.
679.	New Domohni	707.	Panvel
680.	New Farakka	708.	Pappiniseri
681.	New Maynaguri	709.	Paradeep
682.	Nilambur Road	710.	Parappanangadi
683.	Nileswar	711.	Parasia
684.	Nimbhora	712.	Parasnath
685.	Nischindapur Market	713.	Paravur
686.	Nizamabad	714.	Parbhani
687.	Nokha	715.	Parkcircus
688.	Ochira	716.	Parli Vaijnath
689.	Okha	717.	Partapgarh Jn.
690.	Old Malda	718.	Partapur
691.	Orai	719.	Patharia
692.	Padrauna	720.	Patipukur
693.	Paglachandi	721.	Patna Saheb
694.	Pakur	722.	Patranga
		723.	Pattikkad

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
724.	Patuli	753.	Rafiganj
725.	Payangadi	754.	Raghunathpalli
726.	Payyanaur	755.	Raiganj
727.	Peelamudu	756.	Raigarh
728.	Perambur Carriage WKS	757.	Raipur
729.	Phagwara	758.	Raisingh Nagar
730.	Phulia	759.	Rajapalayam
731.	Phulpur	760.	Rajbandh
732.	Phusro	761.	Rajgarh
733.	Piduguralla	762.	Rajgoda
734.	Pilibhit Jn.	763.	Rajnandgaon
735.	Pipariya	764.	Ramagundam
736.	Piravam Road	765.	Ramnagar
737.	Pirtala	766.	Rampurhat
738.	Plassey	767.	Ramrajatala
739.	Pokarni Narsimha	768.	Ramtek
740.	Pokhrayan	769.	Ranaghat Jn.
741.	Prantik	770.	Ranchi
742.	Prayag	771.	Rangapara North
743.	Prayag Ghat	772.	Rangiya
744.	Princepghat	773.	Raniganj
745.	Puducherry	774.	Rasulpur
746.	Pudukottai	775.	Ratangarh
747.	Punalur	776.	Ratlam
748.	Purbasthali	777.	Rayagada
749.	Purna	778.	Remount Road
750.	Purulia Jn.	779.	Rengali
751.	Quilandi	780.	Renigunta
752.	Radhamohanpur	781.	Rishikesh
		782.	Rishra

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
783.	Rohtak Jn.	813.	Santoshpur
784.	Rourkela	814.	Saphala
785.	Rowta Bagan	815.	Sardiha
786.	Rudauli	816.	Sasaram Jn.
787.	Rupnarayanpur	817.	Sasthankotta
788.	Ruthiyai	818.	Satna
789.	Sabarmati	819.	Sattenapalli
790.	Sadulpur	820.	Saugor
791.	Sagardighi	821.	Savda
792.	Sahibganj	822.	Sawai Madhopur Jn.
793.	Sainthia Jn.	823.	Senjipanambakam Halt
794.	Sakoti Tanda	824.	Sewri
795.	Salakati	825.	Shahdol
796.	Salanpur	826.	Shahganj
797.	Salar	827.	Shaktigarh
798.	Salboni	828.	Shantipur Jn.
799.	Salem	829.	Sheoraphully Jn.
800.	Salempur Jn.	830.	Shikohabad Jn.
801.	Sambre	831.	Shirdi
802.	Samsi	832.	Shivajinagar
803.	Samudragarh	833.	Shivnarayanpur
804.	Sandila	834.	Shivpuri
805.	Sangli	835.	Shohratgarh
806.	Sangrampur Halt	836.	Shyamnagar
807.	Sangrur	837.	Siddhpur
808.	Sankarankoil	838.	Sidlaghatta
809.	Sankrail	839.	Silchar
810.	Sanpada	840.	Siliguri Jn.
811.	Santacruz		
812.	Santaldih		

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
841.	Silli	871.	St. Thomas Mount
842.	Simlagarh	872.	Subhasgram
843.	Simraha	873.	Subzi Mandi
844.	Simurali	874.	Sujangarh
845.	Singrauli	875.	Sukna
846.	Singur	876.	Sultanganj
847.	Sirathu	877.	Sultanpur
848.	Sirsa	878.	Sunam
849.	Sitamarhi	879.	Suryapur
850.	Sitapur	880.	Taki Road
851.	Sitarampur Jn.	881.	Tala
852.	Siuri	882.	Taldi
853.	Sivok	883.	Talit
854.	Sodepur	884.	Tambaram
855.	Sohawal	885.	Tamluk
856.	Solapur	886.	Tandur
857.	Sonada	887.	Tangla
858.	Sonamukhi	888.	Tapa
859.	Sonarpur Jn.	889.	Tarakeswar
860.	Sondalia	890.	Tarapith Rd.
861.	Sonipat	891.	Tarntaran
862.	Soro	892.	Tatanagar
863.	Sri Dungar Garh	893.	Teni
864.	Sri Satya Sai Prasanthi Nilayam	894.	Tenkasi
865.	Srikakulam Road	895.	Thakurganj
866.	Srinivaspura	896.	Thakurnagar
867.	Srirampur (H)	897.	Thalasseri
868.	Srirampur Assam	898.	Thanabihpur
869.	Srirangam	899.	Thiruverumbur
870.	Srivilliputhur	900.	Tihu
		901.	Tikiapara

Sl. No.	Station	Sl. No.	Station
902.	Tilak Nagar	933.	Unchahar
903.	Tildanga	934.	Unjha
904.	Tipkai	935.	Uttarpara
905.	Tiruchirappalli Jn.	936.	Vadnagar
906.	Tiruninravur	937.	Vaikam Road
907.	Tiruppur	938.	Valapattinam
908.	Tirur	939.	Vangaon
909.	Tiruvalangadu	940.	Varangaon
910.	Tiruvalla	941.	Vasco-Da-Gama
911.	Tiruvallur	942.	Vashi
912.	Tiruvarur	943.	Vayalar
913.	Tiruvizha	944.	Vellarakkad
914.	Titagarh	945.	Vijapur
915.	Titlagarh Jn.	946.	Vikarabad
916.	Tollygunge	947.	Vinukonda
917.	Tribeni	948.	Virar
918.	Trichur (Trisur)	949.	Virudunagar
919.	Tripunittura	950.	Visakhapatnam (Vizag)
920.	Tundla	951.	Vishrambag
921.	Turbhe APM Complex	952.	Visnagar
922.	Tuticorin	953.	Vizianagram Jn.
923.	Udalguri	954.	Vridhdhachalam Jn.
924.	Udgir	955.	Vrindaban Road
925.	Udhampur	956.	Vyara
926.	Udhana	957.	Wadakancheire
927.	Ujjain	958.	Wadi
928.	Ulhasnagar	959.	Warangal
929.	Ulubaria	960.	Wardha
930.	Umaria	961.	Yelahanka Jn.
931.	Umrer	962.	Zahirabad
932.	Una		

Demands of All India Railwaymen's Federation

1108. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Railwaymen's Federation has raised various demands, including review of new pension scheme and filling up of large number of vacant posts in Railways;

(b) whether the Federation has also threatened to go on strike for implementation of the said demands; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. All India Railwaymen's Federation, a recognized Railway Staff Federation, has raised various demands, including the items mentioned in the question.

(b) All India Railwaymen's Federation has not given any notice so far, for going on strike. However, they have informed that strike notice may be served on 11th March, 2016 for 'Indefinite Strike' from 11th April, 2016 in case there is no negotiated settlement on their Charter of Demands by that time.

(c) On the Railways, there is well established system of Permanent Negotiating Machinery (PNM) and Departmental Council under the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) with the recognized Unions/Federations. Regular dialogue with the organized labour is maintained through these fora to sort out staff grievances. The Permanent Negotiating Machinery functions at three tiers - Divisional level, Zonal Headquarter level and Apex level at Railway Board. Departmental Council under JCM functions at the Apex level at Railway Board. Further, recognized Unions/Federations are also members of the group on Participation of Railway Employees in Management (PREM).

Revival of EMU train on a circular route around Delhi

1109. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance of the EMU train that runs on a circular route from the Hazrat Nizamuddin station in Delhi, covering a distance of 35.5 km. connecting 22 stations, has deteriorated over the years and the number of commuters have deeply gone down to about 3700 last year against the capacity of 20,000;

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

(c) whether Railways have any plan to revive this cheapest mode of transport in Delhi, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) 1. Till 5th May, 2011, Northern Railway was running 13 service (7 Down and 6 Up) on Ring Railway. Owing to, however, less occupancy of these services, the frequency was reduced to 5, from 6th May, 2011.

2. The average number of passenger travelled per day was 3693 in 2014-2015.
3. The reasons for reduction in the passenger service on the Ring Railway, *intra-railia*, is due to non-availability of connectivity of the road side stations by feeder road services.

Electrification of railway line between Basti and Gorakhpur

†1110. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when is the electrification work of railway line between Basti and Gorakhpur under North Eastern Railway going on and by when it is likely to be completed;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a massive increase in its cost due to excessive time being taken to complete it;

(c) the cost at the time of tender and the amount to which it has increased now; and

(d) whether anyone has been identified for this delay and if so, the action taken against the people responsible for this, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Electrification of Gorakhpur-Basti is a part of Barabanki-Gonda-Gorakhpur-Barauni including Siwan—Thawe electrification project (757 Route Kilometres), which was sanctioned in 2007-08. The project is being completed in phases/stretches. The last remaining stretch of Gorakhpur-Basti is planned for completion during 2016-17.

(b) and (c) The contract for electrification of Barabanki-Gonda-Basti-Gorakhpur section was awarded to M/s Avadh Transformer Private Limited (JV) at a cost of ₹ 49.43 crores *vide* Letter of Acceptance (LoA) dated 14.03.2008. This contract was terminated on 16.11.2015, as the contractor was not able to complete the work. A fresh contract for balance portion of work in Basti-Gorakhpur section has been awarded to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

M/s Fedders Lloyd Corporation Limited *vide* LoA dated 19.01.2016 at a cost of ₹17.88 crores. After recovery of ₹ 5.73 crores from M/s Avadh Transformer Private Limited (JV), in terms of the condition of the contract, towards recovery of damage, there is an increase in cost of the project by ₹ 6.19 crore.

(d) The contract awarded to M/s Avadh Transformer Private Limited (JV) was terminated as the firm failed to execute work in time. As per terms and conditions of contract, an amount of ₹ 5.73 crore have been recovered from the firm by way of encashment of Performance Guarantee, forfeiting the Security Deposit and recovery of penalty.

**Meetings with Members of Parliament in the region serviced
by North Eastern Railway**

†1111. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held with Members of Parliament in regions serviced by North-Eastern Railway during last five years and details of action taken on suggestions given by them in these meetings;

(b) the number of such meetings held in railway campuses and in hotels;

(c) the reasons for arranging meetings in hotels, total cost involved in organizing the meetings, head-wise, the number of guests participated in these meetings and number of rooms booked for such meetings; and

(d) whether Government is considering to issue guidelines to hold the meetings in railway campuses to check wasteful expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) 11 meetings with Members of Parliament (MP) in regions serviced by North Eastern Railway were held during last five years. Details of action taken on suggestions given by Hon'ble MPs in these meetings have been circulated to them as compliance to the minutes of meeting issued.

(b) 6 (Six) such meetings were held in Railway Campuses and 5 (Five) meetings were held in hotels.

(c) At times due to non-availability of sufficient infrastructure in Railway campuses, both for lodging and for holding meetings with Hon'ble MPs, alternative arrangements outside Railway premises are made. Details of expenditure incurred in holding 5 (Five) meetings in the hotels during last five years are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Expenditure incurred head wise				No. of persons attended the meeting.	No. of rooms booked
Lodging	Transportation	Others	Total		
₹ 2,09,629	₹ 3,40,963	₹ 9,85,526	₹ 15,36,118	59	24

(d) Guidelines for economy in expenditure already exist.

Handing over of the catering system to IRCTC

†1112. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to hand over the catering system of Railways to IRCTC once again, is under consideration;

(b) if so, the reasons for taking away this task from IRCTC and handing it over to the Railways;

(c) the reasons for considering to shift the task of catering from Railways to IRCTC once again and whether there is any guarantee that the same problems will not be faced once again on handing over the task of catering to IRCTC; and

(d) the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. As announced in the Rail Budget Speech 2016-17, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) would begin to manage catering service in a phased manner.

(b) The objectives of transferring the catering services from Railways to IRCTC were not fulfilled, as IRCTC could not professionalize the catering services. Therefore, the management of catering services were taken back by Railways from IRCTC as per the provisions of Catering Policy, 2010.

(c) and (d) In 2015, Sreedhran Committee, set up by the Ministry of Railways recommended transfer of catering services back to IRCTC, since IRCTC was set up as an extended arm of the Indian Railways to professionalize catering services on Indian Railways. It has been decided to give back the catering services to IRCTC in a phased manner with unbundling catering services by creating a distinction primarily between food preparation and food distribution. In order to address the problems faced earlier,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

it has been decided that there will be no complete handing over of catering service by IRCTC to private licensees and Zonal Railways will have powers of supervision and monitoring.

Setting up of Urban Haats in Rajasthan

†1113. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan has sent the project report to the Central Government for setting up Urban Haat at Sikar and Alwar;

(b) if so, by when the administrative and financial approvals would be granted to it;

(c) whether Government of Rajasthan has requested the Central Government for approval of Central assistance under Enforcement Scheme;

(d) if so, whether Government intends to accord the said approval; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir. Government of Rajasthan has submitted the project proposal for setting up of Urban Haat at Sikar and Alwar.

(b) Administrative and financial approval would be considered for sanction subject to submission of proper land documents, commitment letter from the State Government towards their own contribution and Architecture Design and Plan and fulfilling the requirement as per scheme guidelines by the implementing agency.

(c) to (e) Not applicable.

Performance of textile sector

1114. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of segments that are doing well in Textile and Clothing sectors in the last two years and the current year, year-wise and segment-wise;

(b) to what extent the global gloom is impacting export of our clothing and textile exports and how the Ministry is planning to push it further;

(c) whether it is a fact that exports of handicrafts, including handmade carpets, has shown improvement in the first half of 2015-16 as compared to the same period in the last year; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, how the Ministry is planning to push the exports by taking advantage of this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The details of exports segment-wise and year-wise of textiles and clothing in the last two years and the current year is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The segments that are doing well are apparel, handloom and handicrafts. Due to global slowdown, the exports of total textiles and clothing including handicraft has shown a negative growth of 0.01% during April-December, 2016 in US\$ terms compared to the same period previous year.

The Government is implementing schemes like Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Schemes for the development of the Power-loom Sector, Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITPs), Integrated Skill Development Scheme etc. to modernize textile industry, increase production and global competitiveness.

Besides, the Government has taken following initiatives to augment the textile exports:

- (i) MEIS Scheme under new Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20.
- (ii) Restoring Interest rate subvention for pre and post shipment credit for the textile sector.
- (iii) Expanding the scope of Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) since 29.10.2015 to 110 new tariff lines and increase rates or country coverage or both for 2228 existing tariff lines.
- (iv) Increased Duty Drawback rates for some textile articles.
- (v) Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme.
- (vi) Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme.
- (vii) Duty Free import of trimmings, embellishments and other specified item under Export Performance Certificate Entitlement Scheme.

(c) and (d) Yes, as per details given in the Statement-II (*See* below), the exports of Handicrafts has increased from ₹ 13,460 in April-December, 2014 to ₹ 14,782 crores in April-December, 2015 by 10% in rupees term. In dollar terms, the exports has increased from US\$ 2,215 million to US\$ 2,282 million by 3% over the similar period Government is providing assistance to all exports as mentioned in part (a) and (b) above.

Statement-I*India's textiles exports at a glance (Principal Commodities)*

Sl.No.	Item	2013-2014 (Apr-March)		2014-15 (Apr-March.)		% change US\$ Mn	2014-15 (Apr-Dec.)		2015-16 (Apr-Dec.)		% Change US\$ Mn
		Crore	US\$ Mn	Crore	US\$ Mn		Crore	US\$ Mn	Crore	US\$ Mn	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A.	Readymade Garment	87412.35	14445.90	99173.82	16216.18	12%	70789.10	11655.47	77645.70	12002.21	3%
	RMG of cotton incl. accessories	55092.95	9106.39	56753.38	9281.28		40873.34	6729.71	42506.12	6566.81	
	RMG of Man-made fibre	19045.91	3148.83	24431.49	3994.43		17074.33	2812.32	19766.38	3059.26	
	RMG of other textile material	13273.49	2190.68	17988.95	2940.47		12841.43	2113.44	15373.20	2376.14	
B.	Cotton Textiles	83563.95	13728.35	71912.55	11752.61	-14%	52831.18	8686.90	53864.75	8299.26	-0.04%
	Cotton Yarn	27617.48	4550.26	24104.13	3937.57		17686.33	2906.43	17849.04	2755.48	
	Other Textile Yam, Fabric, Madeup Article	2562.80	422.09	2443.16	399.46		1841.07	302.73	1629.05	251.45	
	Cotton raw including waste	22337.84	3637.53	11642.64	1900.19		8211.46	1348.96	8804.33	1343.86	
	Cotton fabrics & madeups	31045.83	5118.47	33722.62	5515.39		25092.32	4128.78	25582.33	3948.47	
C.	Man-made textiles	35017.75	5781.26	35627.86	5826.39	1%	26740.71	4398.47	25725.18	3972.23	-0.10%
	Man-made staple fibres	3622.66	597.79	3374.77	551.60		2524.89	415.05	2578.56	397.30	
	Man-made yarn, fab. & madeups	31395.09	5183.47	32253.09	5274.79		24215.82	3983.42	23146.62	3574.93	

D.	Wool & Woolen textiles	2640.83	434.74	3136.61	513.50	18%	2453.21	403.72	2409.82	372.28	-0.08%
	RMG of Wool	1871.11	307.47	1901.76	311.53		1558.19	256.35	1457.59	225.30	
	Wool raw	1.19	0.20	0.24	0.04		0.10	0.02	1.55	0.24	
	Woollen yarn, fabrics & madeups	768.53	127.07	1234.61	201.93		894.92	147.35	950.68	146.74	
E.	Silk	2399.14	395.76	2735.41	447.76	13%	2011.03	331.31	1778.37	275.61	-0.17%
	RMG of Silk	1434.04	236.54	1862.36	304.77		1336.77	220.28	1273.10	197.46	
	Natural silk yarn, fab. & madeups	865.53	142.93	763.24	125.02		586.19	96.57	431.19	66.72	
	Silk Raw	0.27	0.04	0.69	0.11		0.34	0.05	1.36	0.21	
	Silk waste	99.30	16.25	109.12	17.86		87.73	14.41	72.72	11.22	
F.	Handloom Product	2250.22	373.01	2263.85	370.22	-1%	1612.31	265.24	1835.94	283.63	7%
G.	Carpets	7,127.44	1,178.30	8,317.97	1,360.82	15%	6,684.36	1,099.58	7,042.86	1,086.89	-0.01%
	Carpets (excluding silk) handmade	7111.73	1175.73	8301.53	1358.13		6672.78	1097.68	7031.90	1085.19	
	Silk carpets	15.71	2.57	16.44	2.69		11.58	1.90	10.96	1.70	
H.	Jute	2428.44	400.39	2228.76	364.79	-9%	1640.91	270.12	2372.66	365.13	0.35%
	Floor covering of jute	384.75	63.60	522.63	85.61		391.69	64.56	337.22	52.09	
	Other jute manufactures	927.17	152.82	685.93	112.39		552.18	90.87	1325.61	203.42	
	Jute Raw	113.35	18.81	119.20	19.41		84.59	13.85	49.45	7.66	

Written Answers to

[4 March, 2016]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Jute yarn	143.58	23.46	139.12	22.70		93.44	15.37	100.11	15.60	
	Jute hessian	859.59	141.70	761.88	124.68		519.01	85.47	560.27	86.36	
I.	Coir and Coir Manufacturers	1396.64	229.85	1742.35	285.06	24%	1058.54	174.28	1120.55	173.19	-1%
Sum of A to I	Total Textile and Clothing	224236.76	36967.56	227139.18	37137.33	0.004%	165821.35	27285.09	173795.83	26830.43	-0.02%
J.	Handicrafts (Excl. Handmade Crpts)	9129.65	1499.45	8414.35	1376.02	-8%	6346.53	1043.79	7926.03	1221.38	17%
Sum of A to J	Total T&C including Handicrafts	233366.41	38467.01	235553.53	38513.35	0.001%	172167.88	28328.88	181721.86	28051.81	-0.01%
K.	% Textile Exports	21.60%	21.22%	20.98%	20.71%		15.34%	15.23%	14.27%	14.26%	
L.	India's overall exports	1080203.41	181234.98	1122499.75	185970.07		1122499.75	185970.07	1273734.34	196679.50	

Source: Foreign Trade Statistics of India (Principal Commodities and Countries), DGCI&S.

Statement-II*Details of Exports of Handicrafts from India*

The exports of Handicrafts has increased from ₹ 13,460 in April-December 2014 to ₹ 14,782 crores in April-December 2015 by 10% in rupees term. In dollar terms, the exports has increased from US\$ 2,215 million to US\$ 2,282 million by 3% over the similar period. Details are as under:

Table 1: *Exports of Handicrafts from India during 2015-16 (April- December) in comparison to 2014-15 (April- December)*

Description	Apr.- Dec.		% change	Apr.- Dec.		% change
	(In ₹ Crores) 2014-15	2015-16		(In US\$ Million) 2014-15	2015-16	
Artmetal wares	3,724	3,943	6%	613	609	-1%
Woodwares	2,333	2,564	10%	384	396	3%
Handprinted textiles and scaraves	591	699	18%	97	108	11%
Embroidered and crochettet goods	1,795	1,933	8%	295	298	1%
Shawls as artwares	8	11	31%	1	2	23%
Zari and zari goods	0.4	0.7	67%	0.1	0.1	67%
Immitation jewellery	1,403	1,599	14%	231	247	7%
Misc.Handicrafts	3,605	4,033	12%	593	622	5%
TOTAL	13,460	14,782	10%	2,215	2,282	3%

Source: EPCH

Price defficiency payment system to safeguard interests of cotton growers

1115. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed a Price Deficiency Payment System as an alternative to MSP, to promote cotton, to be started on pilot basis in Wardha district of Maharashtra, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether such a step will reduce outflow from public exchequer and increase returns to farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to reduce excise duty on manmade fibres from the current 12 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Finance Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes. Madam. The Government of India through Government of Maharashtra made a proposal to implement direct transfer of funds to the account of cotton farmers in the cotton season 2015-16 through the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd. (MSCCGMFL) in Wardha district of Maharashtra on a pilot basis, if the price of cotton drops below the Minimum Support Prices (MSP). The Price Deficiency Payment System is aimed at direct transfer of funds to cotton farmers and also to reduce transaction costs.

(c) and (d) The proposal for reduction of excise duty on manmade fibre from current 12.5 per cent to 6 per cent has not been considered in the Union Budget 2016-17.

Rural textile industries

1116. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken or plans to undertake measures to promote rural textile industries in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of rural textile industries set up in the country, particularly in Odisha, during the last three years and the current year along with the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the same, along with the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to promote rural textile industries in Odisha in the coming year, particularly in the KBK districts, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) In order to promote and develop various sectors/segments of the textile industry in the country including in rural areas, Government is implementing a number of policy initiatives and schemes, such as the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Development of Technical Textiles, Schemes for the Development of the Powerloom Sector, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP),

Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Schemes for Development of Silk and Sericulture sectors, National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Yarn Supply Scheme, National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP), North East Region Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), etc. These schemes are aimed at promoting textile industry all over the country including the rural areas.

(b) to (d) Government does not set up/establish new textile industries/units. However, the Government has approved setting up of 24 textile parks in the country including in rural areas, in the last three years under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks. The State-wise list of Parks approved in the last three years is given in the Statement (*See below*). An amount of ₹ 303.10 crores has been released in the last three years under the Schemes for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)- The role of the Government is to ensure conducive policy environment, facilitating in creating enabling conditions for the industry and private entrepreneurs to set up units through its various policy initiatives and schemes. The textile sector schemes mentioned above support the setting up of new units as well as expansion of the existing units in the country including Odisha.

Statement

State-wise list of parks approved in last three years

Sl. No.	Park	State
1.	Gautum Budhha Textile Park	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Guntur Integrated Textile Park	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Rangaraya Textile Park	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Tareshkewara Textile Park Pvt. Ltd	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Prag Jyoti Textile Park	Assam
6.	JVL Textile Park	Bihar
7.	Shanti Integrated Textile Park	Gujarat
8.	Palsana Integrated Textile Park	Gujarat
9.	Amitara Green Hi Tech Textile Park	Gujarat
10.	Madhav Textile Park	Gujarat

Sl. No.	Park	State
11.	NSP Infrastructure	Gujarat
12.	Karanj Textile Park	Gujarat
13.	Alishan Eco Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana
14.	Kashmir Wool and Silk Textile Park	J&K
15.	Dhule Textile Park	Maharashtra
16.	Satyaraj Integrated Textile Park	Maharashtra
17.	Shree Ganesh Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
18.	Hinganghat Integrated Textile Park	Maharashtra
19.	Progressive Integrated Textile Park	Punjab
20.	Srinath Integrated Textile Park	Rajasthan
21.	Avantika Textile Park	Telangana
22.	Ecotex Textile and Apparel park pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh
23.	Sri Lakshmi Textile Park	Uttar Pradesh
24.	Farrukhabad Textile Park	Uttar Pradesh

Promotion of traditional weaving craft

1117. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

KUMARI SELJA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and salient features of various schemes being implemented by Central Government to promote age old traditional weaving craft; and

(b) the financial, technical marketing and other assistance and support provided to the traditional weavers of the country under each of these schemes, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing following schemes during the Twelfth Plan for development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers including promotion of age old traditional weaving craft throughout the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme.
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.
3. Yarn Supply Scheme.
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme.

1. **National Handloom Development Programme:**

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) is being implemented for development of handlooms, having following components:

a. Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) package for the handloom sector:

RRR package covered waiver of overdue loan 100% principal and 25% of interest as on 31/3/2010 and recapitalization assistance of eligible apex and primary weavers of the cooperative societies & individual weavers and also provides fresh loan at 6% interest rate along with credit guarantee for 3 years. The RRR Package was approved for implementation upto 28.02.2014. However, for providing access to subsidized term loan as well as working capital loan to handloom weavers not covered under loan waiver package, Government has approved Concessional Credit Component. The loan is sanctioned to weavers at 6% interest and Government of India interest subvention is max.7% and to leverage the loan, Government provides margin money assistance upto ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee through Credit guarantee Trust Fund for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).

b. Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme (CHDS): The Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme CHDS has been formulated by merging the components of Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS), Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme (MEPS) and Diversified Handloom Development Scheme (DHDS), implemented during the Eleventh Plan. Sub-components of the CHDS are as follows:

- Development of handloom clusters of different sizes
- Marketing Incentive
- Organizing handloom exhibitions, both in India and abroad for marketing of handloom products
- Strengthening of handloom organizations/institutions
- Handloom Census

- Publicity, monitoring, supervision, training and evaluation of the scheme

2. **Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme:**

This scheme has two components namely:

- (i) Health Insurance Scheme (HIS):
- (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).

3. **Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS):**

This scheme makes available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom agencies and the transport and depot operating expenses are being borne by the Government of India.

Further, to provide the subsidized yarn to handloom weavers in order to compete with powerloom and mill sector, a new component of 10% price subsidy on cotton hank yarn, domestic silk yarn and woolen yarn is also provided.

4. **Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme:**

Mega handloom cluster covers 25,000 handlooms and is developed at an upper GoI share of ₹ 70.00 crore each in a period of 5 years. So far, six mega handloom clusters at Varanasi, Sivasagar, Murshidabad, Godda, Virudhnagar and Prakasham (A.P.) have been taken up for development in handloom sector.

Through 28 Weavers Service Centres, Government of India playing a vital role in imparting training to the weavers to upgrade their skill and increase productivity in the handloom sector. For the purpose, various short terms stipendiary and Non-stipendiary training courses in the field of weaving, designing and dyeing and printing are provided in the centers concerned. Under the National Handloom Development Programme, financial assistance is being provided for skill upgradation in the block level cluster for imparting training in technical and managerial areas. Training provided to the handloom weavers for upgrading their skills in weaving, dyeing and printing and design development area so as to provide support to the traditional weavers of the country to produce a technical, marketing, diversified range of products in keeping with the latest market trends.

The details of funds released to various States for improving the financial condition of weavers in the country. District-wise releases are not available as the funds are released to implementing agencies/States concerned. The State-wise releases of funds are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of funds released during the last three years (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.81	5.55	1.51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.25	1.32	0.35
3.	Assam	15.31	20.07	4.96
4.	Bihar	0.43	0.04	0.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.25	1.78	0.51
6.	Delhi	0.26	0.00	0.04
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	1.36	0.50	0.53
9.	Haryana	0.05	0.10	0.31
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.20	0.55	0.18
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.44	0.56	1.53
12.	Jharkhand	0.05	0.82	2.52
13.	Karnataka	1.77	2.69	1.66
14.	Kerala	2.34	1.64	0.19
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4.75	0.85	0.83
16.	Maharashtra	2.65	2.20	1.68
17.	Manipur	5.09	10.80	2.41
18.	Meghalaya	0.92	1.16	0.37
19.	Mizoram	0.72	0.30	0.28

Sl. No.	Name of State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
20.	Nagaland	6.40	3.89	2.65
21.	Odisha	7.51	2.94	0.66
22.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Rajasthan	0.60	0.85	0.57
25.	Sikkim	0.69	0.72	0.60
26.	Tamil Nadu	32.86	32.64	10.17
27.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.84
28.	Tripura	4.89	2.63	3.47
29.	Uttar Pradesh	18.73	13.50	28.16
30.	Uttarakhand	0.90	0.57	0.71
31.	West Bengal	4.68	4.68	5.77

Promotion of linen as dress material

1118. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is promoting linen as a dress material; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Ministry of Textiles is implementing a large number of schemes for the promotion of various segments of the textile sector. These include the schemes for Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks, Schemes for Promotion of Sericulture through the Central Silk Board, Scheme for promotion of Geo-Textiles and Agro Textiles in the North Eastern region, Powerloom Sector Schemes, Handloom Sector Schemes, Schemes for promotion of Handicrafts and Schemes for promotion of Jute sector under the National Jute Board for meeting the diverse requirements of the textile sector. However, there is no specific scheme for promotion of linen as dress material under the Ministry of Textiles.

Textile Parks

†1119. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total number of Textile Parks in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number of Textile Parks set up in various regions of the country during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up new Textile Parks in Madhya Pradesh and other States in the current or next financial year; and
- (d) if so, the details of the places, including those in Madhya Pradesh, identified for establishing Textile Parks, State-Wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) State-wise list of Textile Parks sanctioned by the Ministry, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Thirty Eight (38) Textile Parks have been sanctioned in the various regions of the country during last five years.

(c) and (d) Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) is a demand driven scheme implemented in public Private Partnership mode. Proposals are invited from The Industry Association/Group of Entrepreneurs/State IIDCs from all the States including the State of Madhya Pradesh who are willing to participate in the scheme. Additional Textile Parks are included under the scheme from time to time based on the receipt of proposals from interested partners, subject to fulfillment of the guidelines under the scheme.

Statement*State-wise list of sanctioned Textile Parks*

Sl. No.	Name of Park	State
1.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Hindupur Vyapar Apparel Park Limited	Andhra Pradesh
3.	MAS Fabric (India) Park Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Guntur Textile Park	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Rangaraya Textile Park, Godavari	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Tareshkewara Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of Park	State
7.	Goutham Budha Textile Park	Andhra Pradesh
8.	Prag Jyoti Textile Park	Assam
9.	JVL Textile Park	Bihar
10.	Gujarat Eco Textile Park Limited	Gujarat
11.	Mundra SEZ Textile and Apparel Park Limited	Gujarat
12.	Fairdeal Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat
13.	Vraj Integrated Textile Park Limited	Gujarat
14.	Sayana Textile Park Ltd.	Gujarat
15.	Surat Super Yarn Park Limited	Gujarat
16.	RJD Integrated Textile Park	Gujarat
17.	Kejriwal Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat
18.	Madhav Textile Park	Gujarat
19.	Amitara Green Hi Tech Textile Park	Gujarat
20.	Palsana Textile Park	Gujarat
21.	Shanti Textile Park Gujarat	Gujarat
22.	NSP Infrastructure, Surat	Gujarat
23.	Karanj Textile Park Ltd.	Gujarat
24.	Alishan Eco Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana
25.	Himachal Textiles Park, Una	Himachal Pradesh
26.	Kashmir Wool and Silk Textile Park	J&K
27.	Jammu and Kashmir Integrated Textiles Park	J&K
28.	Doddabalapur Integerated Textile Park	Karnataka
29.	Gulbarga Textiles Park, Gulbarga	Karnataka
30.	CLC Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of Park	State
31.	Baramati Hi Tech Textile Park Limited	Maharashtra
32.	Islampur Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
33.	Latur Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
34.	Metro Hi-Tech Cooperative Park Limited	Maharashtra
35.	Pride India Cooperative Textile Park Limited	Maharashtra
36.	Purna Global Textile Park Ltd.	Maharashtra
37.	Asiatic Cooperative Powerloom Textiles Park	Maharashtra
38.	Deesan Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
39.	Asmeeta Infratech Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
40.	Kallappana Awade Textiles Park, Kolhapur	Maharashtra
41.	Khed Textile Park	Maharashtra
42.	Sundararao Solanke Cooperative Textile Park	Maharashtra
43.	Dhule Textile Park	Maharashtra
44.	Satyaraj Integrated Textile Park	Maharashtra
45.	Shree Ganesh Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra
46.	Hinganghat Textile Park	Maharashtra
47.	Lotus Integrated Textile Park	Punjab
48.	Rhythm Textile and Apparel Park Ltd.	Punjab
49.	Ludhiana Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	Punjab
50.	Progressive Integrated Textile Park	Punjab
51.	Jaipur Inegrated Texcraft Park Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan
52.	Jaipur Texweaving Park Limited	Rajasthan
53.	Kishangarh Hi-Tech Textile Park Limited	Rajasthan
54.	Next Gen Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan

Sl. No.	Name of Park	State
55.	Jaipur Kaleen Park Ltd.	Rajasthan
56.	Himmada Integrated Textiles Park	Rajasthan
57.	Shreenath Integrated Textile Park	Rajasthan
58.	Palladam Hi-Tech Weaving Park	Tamil Nadu
59.	Karur Integrated Textile Park	Tamil Nadu
60.	Madurai Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	Tamil Nadu
61.	The Great Indian Linen and Textile Infrastructure Company	Tamil Nadu
62.	SIMA Textile Processing Centre	Tamil Nadu
63.	Komarapalayam Hi-Tech Weaving Park Ltd.	Tamil Nadu
64.	Kanchipuram Arigrar Anna	Tamil Nadu
65.	SLS Textile Park, Bagalur	Tamil Nadu
66.	Pallavada Technical Textiles Park Ltd., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
67.	Pochampally Handloom Park Limited	Telangana
68.	Whitegold Integrated Spentex Park	Telangana
69.	Avantika Textile Park	Telangana
70.	Ecotex Textile and apparel park Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh
71.	Lakshmi Textile Park, Fatehpur	Uttar Pradesh
72.	Farrukhabad Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh
73.	EIGMEF Apparel Park Limited	West Bengal
74.	Hosiery Park, Howrah	West Bengal

RE. DEMAND TO ADJOURN BOTH THE HOUSES - *Contd.*

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I understand that there is a broad consensus amongst a large number of Members that the House should be adjourned on the sad demise of Mr. Sangma, as they want to go to his residence to pay tributes to him. So, would the Chair consider dispensing with or postponing the after-lunch sitting today?

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I think the Leader of the House is very correct. It is not just that the hon. Members would like to participate in his last rites, but he, also being a Cabinet Minister for a long time, a Chief Minister and the Speaker of the other House and, more so, hailing from the North-Eastern State, —he was one of the tallest leaders in the recent past —I think it will be appropriate that, after 1 o' clock, we adjourn the House as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, if the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition, both of them concur with this sentiment, I would also request you to please consider it because his unfortunate death has taken place in Delhi and, therefore, his body is here. It will be taken to his native place, but, I think, before the body is flown out of Delhi for people to pay respects, there is this strong feeling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, what is the suggestion, a longer lunch time adjournment?
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, let me complete. Today, I would suggest that Private Members' Business be postponed for another day and we can adjourn the House now.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Rajasthan): Adjourn as a mark of respect.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. I have got the sense of the House, but just one minute. I would like to inform the Members, those who are not aware of it, and put it on record that our practice in this House has been to adjourn when a sitting Member passes away. Now, actually, the original practice was to adjourn when the funeral of a former Member or a sitting Member was in Delhi. This was diluted over a period of years, and I won't go into it. Although Dr. Gill is not in the House, he has made a proposal, which is pending before some Committee or the other, that we should go back to the old practice because the intent was to enable Members to participate. Now, all I would like to know from all sections of the House is this. Yes, we all have very great respects for Sangmaji and his stature, but he was a sitting Member of the other House.
...(Interruptions)... Was he a Member of this House? ...(Interruptions)... No.
...(Interruptions)... If he was a Member of this House, then, the question does not arise.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: He was the Member of the other House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the point. What I was trying to say was, we do it for a sitting Member of our House. Now, if we are going to deviate from it, is this a one-time deviation? I ask this because only the other day, I think, a few days back, I read a reference from the Chair to a former speaker of Lok Sabha, that is, late Dr. Balram Jakhar: So I do not want different practices to become the norm. If we are doing it, ...(Interruptions)... Are we doing it as a very special gesture over and above our practice?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the Chair may consider it as a one-time case, particularly, because he has passed away in Delhi and his body is likely to be taken to Meghalaya. He was a very important leader of the country and a number of Members may want to visit his residence to pay respects to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. All right; that is the sense of the House. So, we will do it. In other words, we will not reconvene after lunch. Is that the suggestion?

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, there is one more suggestion. Afternoon business can be postponed to another day.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I have made this suggestion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Postponed to when?

SHRI D. RAJA: To the next Private Members' Business day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, we will examine that, because if a process has already started for the next Friday, then we cannot, automatically, transfer this Friday's business to next Friday, but I will ask the Secretariat to examine.

SHRI D. RAJA: It may be postponed to the next available working day or any other day.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: What Mr. Raja means is, let it not lapse and let it be listed on any day in future, so that it does not collapse.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let that be examined and be done. Thank you very much.

The House stands adjourned till 11 o' clock on Tuesday the 8th of March.

The House then adjourned at one of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 8th of March, 2016.