

Vol. 238

No. 13



Friday

11 March, 2016

21 Phalguna, 1937 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Felicitations to the Scientists, Engineers and Technicians of ISRO for the successful launch of IRNSS-1F (page 1)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1-9)

Statements by Ministers — *Laid on the Table*

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance (page 9)

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Sixth Report, Ninth Report and Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology (page 10)

Statement regarding Government Business (pages 10-12)

Re. Ecological Destruction on the Yamuna flood plain by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar event (pages 12-15)

Re. Matter raised about Shri Vijay Mallya (pages 15-17)

Re. Demand for withdrawing Notification to lay GAIL pipeline in Tamil Nadu (page 17)

[P.T.O.]

©

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Matters raised with permission —

Need for release 67 fishermen and their boats from Tuticorin district (pages 18-19)

Serious situation arising due to dispute over the Punjab waters (pages 19-21 and 31-34)

Need for disclosure of data of clinical trial of Rota-virus vaccine (pages 21-23)

Need for reforms in primary and secondary level of school education (page 23)

Deteriorating law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh (pages 23-25)

Under-utilization of Tribal Sub-Plan funds (pages 25-26)

Non-implementation of OBC reservations in the services of the Central Government and PSUs (pages 26-27)

Fall in the price of natural rubber due to uncontrolled import in the country (pages 28-30)

Pitiable condition of the E.S.I. Hospital in Gulbarga, Karnataka (page 31)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 34-66)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 67-83)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 84-326)

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2015-16 — *Laid on the Table* (page 326-327)

Special Mentions — *Laid on the table*

Demand to take steps for immediate release of Tamil fishermen arrested by Sri Lankan Navy (page 327)

Demand for complete utilization of collected cess for welfare of Beedi workers in Tamil Nadu (page 328)

Demand to clarify the policy of the Government on the revival of CAPART, the promoter of rural development in the country (pages 328-329)

Demand to take urgent measures to protect the employment of lakhs of workers and the economic viability of Cashew Industry (pages 329-330)

Demand to declare the children affected by Polavaram Dam as "Project-Affected-Persons" and give them compensation at par with elders (pages 370-371)

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

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 11th March, 2016/21st Phalguna, 1937 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

Felicitations to the Scientists, Engineers and Technicians of ISRO for the successful launch of IRNSS-1F

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you might be aware, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its sixth satellite of the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System, IRNSS-1F, using PSLV-C32, on the 10th of March, 2016, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh, adding yet another precious milestone in the success story of the Indian space history.

The credit for this landmark achievement undoubtedly, goes to our scientific community, particularly those working with ISRO.

On behalf of the entire House and on my own behalf, I congratulate the scientists, engineers and technicians, who were associated with this project and do hope that they will continue to scale greater heights and make the country proud of their achievements.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

I. Report (2015) of the Law Commission of India

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and related papers

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

- I. Two Hundred and Fifty-seventh Report of the Law Commission of India on the Reforms in Guardianship and Custody Laws in India, May, 2015.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4213/16/16]

- II. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Performance Report of the above Academy, for the year 2013-14.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4212/16/16]

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

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 Ramvilas Paswan, I lay on the Table:—

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 94 (E), dated the 21st January, 2016, publishing the Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Amendment Rules, 2016 Under sub-section (4) of Section 52 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4144/16/16]

I. Report and Accounts (2013-14 and 2014-15) of Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi and related papers**II. Outcome Budget (2016-17) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development**

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- I. (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4518/16/16]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4519/16/16]

- II. Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4241/16/16]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**II. Outcome Budget (2016-17) of the Department of Posts**

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

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

- (1) F. No.16-2/2012-B&CS, dated the 25th March, 2015, publishing the Standards of Quality of Service (Digital Addressable Cable TV Systems) (Amendment) Regulations, 2015 (4 of 2015).
- (2) No.6-30/2015-B&CS, dated the 14th September, 2015, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Ninth Amendment) Regulation, 2015 (6 of 2015).
- (3) No.6-29/2015-B&CS, dated the 14th September, 2015, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Digital Addressable Cable Television Systems) (Fifth Amendment) Regulation, 2015 (7 of 2015).
- (4) No.3-106/2015-B&CS, dated the 7th January, 2016, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Digital Addressable Cable Television Systems) (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2016 (1 of 2016).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4429/16/16]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Department of Posts.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5309/16/16]

Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles

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

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

- (i) (1) G.S.R. 2335, dated the 26th December, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 2333 (E), dated the 22nd September, 2010, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (2) G.S.R. 2336, dated the 26th December, 2015, notifying minimum quantity standards and conditions for notified kinds or varieties of silkworm and seed cocoons, and respective areas thereof, in the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Assam and Chhattisgarh.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4218/16/16]

- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. S.O. 35 (E), dated the 6th January, 2016, regarding nomination of Members in the National Jute Board for a period of two years from the date of this notification, under Section 23 of the National Jute Board Act, 2008.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4217/16/16]

- (iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Textiles Notification No. S.O. 382 (E), dated the 5th February, 2016, publishing the Jute and Jute Textiles Control Order, 2016, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4445/16/16]

I. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD), Gurgaon and related papers

II. Outcome Budgets (2016-17) of various Departments

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

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 14 and Section 16 of the National Oilseed and Vegetable Oils Development Board Act, 1983:—

(a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD), Gurgaon, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4148/16/16]

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

(i) Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4256/16/16]

(ii) Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4257/16/16]

I. Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of the various Corporations and Companies and related papers**II. Outcome Budget (2016-17) of the Department of Fertilizers**

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

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

- (i) (a) Thirteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), Dibrugarh, Assam, 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.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4462/16/16]

- (b) Seventy-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Udyoga Mandal, Kochi, Kerala, 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.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4464/16/16]

- (c) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL), Jodhpur, Rajasthan, 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.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4460/16/16]

- (d) Fifty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), 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. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4458/16/16]

- (e) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL), 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. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4457/16/16]

- (f) Forty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL), Chennai, 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.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4451/16/16]

- (g) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), 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.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4456/16/16]

- (h) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL), NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, 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.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4461/16/16]

- (i) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Chemical and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4463/16/16]

- (ii) (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL), Bangalore, 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. 4152/16/16]

- (iii) (a) Thirty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL), Jaipur, 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. 4153/16/16]

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

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Department of Fertilizers.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4394/16/16]

Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), 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 Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the above Authority.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4466/16/16]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

II. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the various companies and related papers

III. Outcome Budget (2016-17) of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education

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 Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) Notification No. S.O. 156 (E), dated the 19th January, 2016, amending Notification No. 974 (E), dated the 14th December, 2010, to insert certain entries in the original Notification, under sub-section (1) of Section 44 of the Prevention and Control of the Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4407/16/16]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (i) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Livestock Processing Development Corporation Limited, 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) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4405/16/16]

- (ii) (a) Forty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panaji, Goa, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panaji, Goa, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4405/16/16]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Agrinnovate India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the Annual Accounts and Audit Report of the above Company.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4159/16/16]

- III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2016-17, in respect of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4406/16/16]

Reports (2014-15) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

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

Under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2015—Union Government, Department of Revenue (Indirect Taxes-Service Tax), Report No. 1 of 2016;

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4262/16/16]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2015—Union Government, Department of Revenue (Indirect Taxes-Central Excise), Report No. 2 of 2016;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4263/16/16]
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2015—Union Government, Department of Revenue-Direct Taxes, Report No. 3 of 2016; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4264/16/16]
- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Sharing of Revenue by Private Telecom Service Providers during the year 2006-07 to 2009-10—Union Government (Communication and IT Sector), Report No. 4 of 2016; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4265/16/16]
- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2015—Union Government, Department of Revenue Customs (Compliance Audit), Report No. 5 of 2016;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4266/16/16]
- (vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme—Union Government, Ministry of Textiles, Report No. 52 of 2015 (Performance Audit); and
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4260/16/16]
- (vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2014—Union Government (Communication and IT Sector), Report No. 55 of 2015. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4261/16/16]

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I rise to make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance (16th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2015-16), relating to the Departments of Economic Affairs, Financial Services, Expenditure and Disinvestment.

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Sixth Report, Ninth Report and Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD), Sir, I rise to make the following statements on the:

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Electronics and Information Technology.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on "Revival of Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) Limited" pertaining to the Department of Telecommunications.
- (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on "IT induction and modernization in the Department of Posts" pertaining to the Department of Posts.

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 बजट सत्र के पहले भाग की शेष अवधि के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिए जाएंगे:

1. आज की कार्य सूची से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार अर्थात:
 - (क) वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए बजट (रेल) पर सामान्य चर्चा।*
 - (ख) लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में सूचना प्रदाता संरक्षण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।*
2. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:
 - (क) विनियोग (रेल) लेखानुदान विधेयक, 2016
 - (ख) विनियोग (रेल) विधेयक, 2016
3. वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए बजट (सामान्य) पर सामान्य चर्चा।*

4. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात निम्नलिखित मांगों से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना:

(क) वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए लेखानुदान मांगें (सामान्य)

(ख) वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए अनुपूरक अनुदान मांगें (सामान्य)

5. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में शत्रु सम्पत्ति (संशोधन और विधिमाम्यकरण) विधेयक, 2016 पर विचार और पारित करना — अध्यादेश को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, यह कब तय हुआ था? क्या यह कल बीएसी में तय हुआ था? ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, कार्य मंत्रणा समिति में तो ऐसा तय नहीं हुआ था। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: 6. बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध और विनियमन) संशोधन विधेयक, 2012 पर विचार और पारित करना।

7. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:—

(क) आधार (वित्तीय और अन्य सहायिकियों, प्रसुविधाओं और सेवाओं का लक्षित परिदान) विधेयक, 2016

(ख) संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2016

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, जब कल कार्य मंत्रणा समिति में यह पास ही नहीं हुआ है, तो माननीय मंत्री जी कैसे इसको रख रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I think we decided to sit again and then, finally, decide. We didn't decide it finally.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: आप बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी में समय दीजिएगा। यह हमने प्रपोज़ किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Naqviji, the question is that you have, in your statement, mentioned that time has been allotted for various business. But in the copy given to me, the time is not mentioned. That is what I am asking. So, why is there the difference?

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, the time has not been allotted. That is why we requested the Business Advisory Committee to allot the time, and, I think, today, there is the Business Advisory Committee meeting. They will decide ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: आप तो टाइम अलॉट करके बता रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, this was the Government's suggestion but not approved by the Business Advisory Committee.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: आपने ठीक से नहीं सुना है, मैंने इस पर टाइम नहीं दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: आपने बोला है कि इस पर 10 घंटे और उस पर आठ घंटे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: वह ऊपर वाले बिजनेस का है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसमें हमने कोई टाइम नहीं दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, हमने इस पर कोई समय नहीं बताया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस पर बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी तय करेगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमने इस पर समय नहीं बताया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me make it clear. Now, please, Nareshji, आपने जो बोला है, वह ठीक है। The point is, it is only the Government's intention to take up the aforesaid business. The time was to be allotted by the Business Advisory Committee. As I understand, it has not been done. So, it will be done by the Business Advisory Committee. Okay? That is all.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: The time will be allotted by the Business Advisory Committee. हमारा कहना यह है कि यह गवर्नमेंट का बिजनेस है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: लेकिन आपने टाइम भी मेंशन कर दिया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: सर, टाइम मेंशन नहीं किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बिल्कुल नहीं किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, आप रिकॉर्ड निकाल कर देख लीजिए कि मैं सही कह रहा हूँ या नरेश अग्रवाल जी सही कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। हो गया। Now, he says that he has not mentioned any time. If, inadvertently, time has been mentioned, it will be expunged. That is all. वह expunge कर दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: आप देख लीजिए कि मैं सही कह रहा हूँ या नरेश अग्रवाल जी सही कह रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। हो गया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

RE. ECOLOGICAL DESTRUCTION ON THE YAMUNA FLOOD PLAIN BY SRI SRI RAVI SHANKAR EVENT

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Bihar): Sir, I am on a different point. पांच किलोमीटर दूर, इस देश में आप सरकार की व्यवस्था और उसका काम देखिए। यह सदन बैठा है। पांच किलोमीटर पर जो नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We had already discussed it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शरद यादव: नहीं, सर। यह देश का मामला है। ऐसा कैसे हो गया? यह कोई बात है? यह सरकार इसका समर्थन ...(व्यवधान)... जो नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल है, उसको चुनौती दे रहे हैं। वह कह रहा है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है।

श्री शरद यादव: मैंने कल नोटिस दिया था। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है।

श्री शरद यादव: सर, यह नोटिस का मामला नहीं है। आप यह बताइए कि एक आदमी, सीपीडब्ल्यूडी कह रहा है कि यह स्टेज ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: इस बात को हम पहले डिस्कस कर चुके हैं।

श्री शरद यादव: पूरे एन्वायरन्मेंट के बारे में कह रहा है ...(व्यवधान)... आपके इंजीनियर्स कह रहे हैं कि यह ठीक नहीं है। वहां बड़ा हादसा हो सकता है। देश में बाहर से लोग आएंगे, वहां 35 लाख आदमी आएंगे। बताया जा रहा है कि बाहर से आतंकवादी यहां आए हुए हैं। पूरी दिल्ली में जब किसान और मजदूर आते हैं, तो कहते हैं कि जाम हो गया। अब पूरी दिल्ली जाम होने वाली है, लाखों रुपए लगाकर आप लोग इस तरह से ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: शरद जी, इस पर पहले डिस्कशन हो चुका है। Let me take up the Zero Hour Submissions. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शरद यादव: नहीं, सर। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि पांच किलोमीटर दूर ...(व्यवधान)... हम लोग सदन में बैठे हैं और पांच किलोमीटर दूर यह कौन सी तबाही हो रही है? ...(व्यवधान)... ये लोग नमामि गंगे कह रहे हैं। नमामि गंगे की बरबादी तो यमुना से हो जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In any case, it is under the consideration of the Court.

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): शरद जी, आपको इससे क्या नाराज़गी है? ...(व्यवधान)... वहां सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... उसमें देश-विदेश के बहुत से लोग शामिल हो रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: वहां प्रधानमंत्री जी जा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: आपको भी जाना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... हम भी जाएंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... आपको भी जाना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आपको भी आमंत्रित किया होगा।(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: हमें बताइए ...(व्यवधान)... उस आदमी पर जुर्माना हुआ है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: इसमें क्या प्रॉब्लम है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल ने जुर्माना किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: हमें लगता है कि इस इश्यू की ओर ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शरद यादव: कोर्ट ने उस पर जुर्माना किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: जहां तक पर्यावरण से संबंधित बात है, श्री श्री रविशंकर जी खुद पर्यावरण के प्रति बहुत ही संवेदनशील हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पूरे देश में पर्यावरण को ठीक करने के लिए वे हमेशा प्रयत्नशील हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनके लाखों अनुयायी हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनके लिए राजनीतिक पूर्वाग्रह की कोई भी बात कहना ठीक नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसको राजनीतिक ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो अच्छा लगे उसे अपना लो और जो बुरा लगे, उसे जाने दो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: शरद जी, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग मेरी बात सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... In any case, this is a matter under the consideration of the court. So, what are we going to do now? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शरद यादव: यह तो ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल ने फैसला किया हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पांच करोड़ का जुर्माना किया हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can I do? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): वे ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल कोर्ट का फैसला नहीं मानेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं कुछ नहीं कर सकता। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शरद यादव: वे सरकार से ऊपर हो गए हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... वे पूरे सिस्टम से ऊपर हो गए हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: उन्होंने कहा है कि कोर्ट का फैसला ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या कहा है, क्या नहीं कहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can I do? ...**(Interruptions)**... Yadavji, you have not given notice. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, listen to me. If you have given a Zero Hour notice on this, I am ready to allow. But you have not given any notice.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: आप इस इश्यू को क्लोज़ करिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस पर राजनीति करना ठीक नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. The first thing is, there is no notice on this subject. There is no notice even for Zero Hour mention. Then, what can I do? I have to take up Zero Hour. What can I do? ...**(Interruptions)**... आपने बोला, हो गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शरद यादव: पांच करोड़ का जुर्माना हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वह कहता है कि मैं जुर्माना नहीं दूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वह सिस्टम से ऊपर हो गया है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: चेयर कुछ नहीं कर सकती। ...*(व्यवधान)*... The system will take care of it. There is a court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शरद यादव: ये उससे मिले हुए हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The court will take care of it. Don't worry.

श्री शरद यादव: इसलिए तो मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Court will take care of it. Don't worry. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is it, Shri Jairam Ramesh?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have been the Minister of Environment and Forest. The hon. Minister for Environment and Forest is right here walking around in the House. So, whether it is the Akshardham Temple, whether it is Commonwealth Games Village, whether it is the Sri Sri Ravi Shankar event, this is a complete ecological destruction on the Yamuna flood plain. I request the Environment and Forest Minister to do his job. He has to protect the environment. He should raise his voice and ...*(Interruptions)*... The NGT ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you please take your seats. Nobody is allowed to speak. Only the hon. Leader of the Opposition will speak. All of you take your seats. I have to go to Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... What do you want to say, Shri Azad? ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please listen to the hon. Leader of the Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only LoP is allowed and then we will take up the Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Seema, you have your Zero Hour. Do you want to block it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

RE. MATTER RAISED ABOUT SHRI VIJAY MALLYA

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I will not take more than two minutes. At the outset, I would like to associate myself with Shri Sharad Yadav, with the issue that he has taken up. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming to another subject. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. Let me listen to what Shri Azad says. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me understand. ...*(Interruptions)*... After that, I will allow the Minister for Environment and Forest.

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया (राजस्थान) क्वात्रोची को किसने बचाया? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I said, while associating myself with Sharadji and other friends, and I am sure after I am done the Environment and Forest Minister will reply to the queries which we all have collectively raised yesterday and, today again, Sharadji has raised it.

But, Sir, I am putting another question. This is in continuation to the query and the question which I raised that how Shri Vijay Mallya was allowed to flee from our country. Now, it has come to my notice since yesterday morning that on 16th October, 2015, the CBI informed the immigration authorities that Shri Mallya intends or tries to leave this country, he should be detained. So, detention orders were issued by CBI. But on 15th, exactly a month later, on 15th of October, the CBI changed its order and told immigration that they should be only informed. So, what has happened from 16th October to 15th of November that made the CBI to change to its original order from 'detention' to 'inform'. That was my charge yesterday that Government is party for his fleeing from this country and we were also told that there were no court orders, but let me quote it from The Times of India: "On 14th of January a senior campaigner with Green Peace India and an environment NGO was stopped at IG airport from boarding a flight to London on Sunday. Priya Pillai who works on climate and energy and on the rights of tribal people in Mahan in Madhya Pradesh, was stopped at the immigration counter despite having a valid visa. Her passport was stamped with 'offloaded'." So, there was no court. It was only the Government order which stopped her travelling from Delhi to London, but in this case, we are being told that since there was no court order we couldn't stop this. So, my question is, what made the Government, the CBI to change its original order of 16th October on 15th of November and what were the reasons that Ms. Pillai was not allowed? But on the same grounds, the Government has said that since there was no court order, we could not allow her. This is a double speak and double talk on the part of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Zero Hour submissions. Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth. ...(*Interruptions*)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, ऑनरेबल लीडर ऑफ द अपोजिशन ने जो बात की है, उनका जो अनुभव है ...(*व्यवधान*)... उसके आधार पर बात हो रही होगी। ...(*व्यवधान*)... विजय माल्या के बारे में बहुत स्पष्ट तौर पर सरकार ने कहा है ...(*व्यवधान*)... देश का खाना-पानी ...(*व्यवधान*)... देश को वापस ...(*व्यवधान*)... लौटाया जाएगा ...(*व्यवधान*)... हम इसमें क्वात्रोची की तरह डिस्मिशन ...(*व्यवधान*)... देने वाले नहीं हैं। ...(*व्यवधान*)... अगर उनका ...(*व्यवधान*)... भी शायद अनुभव है ...(*व्यवधान*)... तो उस अनुभव के आधार पर यदि वे कोई बात कह रहे हैं ...(*व्यवधान*)... तो हम उनको स्पष्ट बता दें कि हम उनको इस तरह की छूट नहीं देने वाले हैं ...(*व्यवधान*)... जिस तरह की छूट उन्होंने क्वात्रोची को दी थी। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is it, Dr. Ramalingam? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, please allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Vijay Mallya and other big leaders are free to escape from the country. . Shri Vijay Mallya, who is indebted of ₹ 9000 crores, is allowed to flee! But a farmer from Tanjore in Tamil Nadu has been beaten up on the street by the Police and his tractor was captured for non-payment of ₹ 56,000 dues by the private bank with the help of Tamil Nadu Police. Now, the Human Rights Commission has given notice to C.S and DGP. What is the Government doing? On what rule the private bank has provided Police help to recover the loan of the farmer?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, what do you say?

RE. DEMAND FOR WITHDRAWING NOTIFICATION TO LAY GAIL PIPELINE IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, thank you. Please give me one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What do you want to say? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramalingam, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: In Tamil Nadu, the GAIL is laying a pipeline cutting across seven districts of Tamil Nadu. Our hon. Chief Minister has addressed a letter to the hon. Prime Minister to withdraw the Notification which enables GAIL to lay the pipeline in the agricultural lands. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You had raised it earlier in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, GAIL is not stopping. Since GAIL is permitted by the Central Government to lay the pipeline, cutting across seven districts in the lands of the farmers, that Notification must be withdrawn. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chief Minister Amma has addressed a letter to the hon. Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Smt. Vijila Sathyananth's Zero Hour mention. *(Interruptions)*

Need for release 67 fishermen and their boats from Tuticorin district

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue which, time and again, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been reiterating. ...*(Interruptions)*... She has been reiterating the release of Indian fishermen who have been apprehended on 3.3.2016, and 4 fishermen on board, along with their mechanized fishing boat from Tamil Nadu set out to fish from Kottaiappattinam fishing base of Pudukottai District on 9.3.2016, and were taken to Karainagar, Sri Lanka. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only what Smt. Vijila Sathyananth says will go on record. Nothing else will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: The right historically enjoyed by our fishermen in Tamil Nadu to fish in the traditional waters of Palk Bay is now being repeatedly infringed upon by the Sri Lankan Navy. We and Amma vehemently oppose the Sri Lankan Navy's actions. Time and again, they have been encroaching upon our waters and they are apprehending our poor fishermen. They bring a lot of revenue. They bring the maximum revenue to the country. They work in hazardous and pitiable conditions. Their families are suffering. Already, the maritime borders have been challenged in the hon. Supreme Court. The Government of Tamil Nadu has taken a stand and the Government of India should not tweak the International Maritime issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Because there is an unsettled problem. The 1974 and 1976 Agreements have to be announced as null and void. In the absence of mandatory Constitutional Amendment ...*(Interruptions)*... We also demand to restore Katchatheevu to India. Otherwise, that will influence the traditional rights of India. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have now brought this fact to this august House. I now request, on behalf of Amma. Amma has requested the hon. Prime Minister that the Ministry of External Affairs should take it very seriously and take proactive action through diplomatic channels to secure the immediate release of 68 fishermen and 78 fishing boats including the four fishermen and mechanized fishing boats apprehended on 10.3.2016.

I request the Government's immediate intervention. What will be the permanent solution to these poor fishermen? Every time they have been affected. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over, Mrs. Vijila. Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. All those who associate may do so.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised.

SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised.

SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised.

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised.

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please stop since your time is over. Now, I have to say something to the agitating Congress Members. You have not even given a notice. It is not in the Zero Hour. It is not permitted here. Sit down...(Interruptions)... I will allow you, Dr. M. S. Gill. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. M. S. Gill has given notice, I will allow him. ...(Interruptions)... That is allowed. ...(Interruptions)... You can go and associate. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)... Your notice was time-barred. That is what you want to know. ...(Interruptions)... No; I said that Dr. Gill will be allowed, you can associate. ...(Interruptions)... Go and associate. ...(Interruptions)... So, please go back. ...(Interruptions)... I said, I will allow you to associate. Please go back. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Dr. M.S. Gill's Calling Attention on ...(Interruptions)... Sorry, Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Balagopal, don't be angry. There can be a slip of the tongue also. ...(Interruptions)... Yes, Zero Hour. Please. ...(Interruptions)...

Serious situation arising due to dispute over the Punjab waters

डा. एम. एस. गिल (पंजाब): उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)... Sir, give me my time of three minutes. उपसभापति जी, आपका धन्यवाद। मैं अपने साथियों को इस हाउस में एक बात गंभीरता से समझाना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि मैं 1958 का, पुराने पंजाब से IAS हूँ, उस समय ये भी साथ थे। 1960 में नेहरू जी और लियाकत अली के बीच पंजाब के दरियाओं की जो बांट हुई, वह सब घटना मैं जानता हूँ। उसमें उस समय के पंजाब को मिला 15.2 million acre feet only. Pakistan got two-thirds; we got one-third, बड़ा है। And then, the way our history went, we had no capital. I have said here before that it was the partition of Punjab, not of India, essentially of Punjab, brutal and total. All of you know it. ...(Interruptions)... Yes, but I am focussing here ...(Interruptions)... Please don't disturb me. उसके बाद ...(व्यवधान)... एक सेकेंड, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... उसके बाद हमारी कैपिटल भी लाहौर चली गई। Nehru made Chandigarh and Bhakhra to revive Punjab. Chandigarh has a Joint Secretary who rules that a thanedar can take Mr. Badal and put him in jail; that is

[डा. एम. एस. गिल]

the law. As a DM, I can tell you. That is where we are for ever and ever. We will never have a capital. भाखड़ा भी ले लिया। Now, in 1976, the then Prime Minister took an administrative decision because they had Governments on both sides. The Punjab Chief Minister, Shri Darbara Singh, I will name him, was summoned here. पहले तो, eight million acre feet out of fifteen was given to Rajasthan. They have taken it to Barmer, I have been there. They are taking it to the Gujarat border, even lift irrigation. इस तरह हमारा वह तो गया। We have only salinity in our great canal in my district. Then, out of the seven million of the old Punjab, she said, "50-50". So, Punjab, today, out of 15.2, is left with 3.5. The water cycle of 20 years has shown that the water has gone down. Our glaciers in Himalayas are dead. I have been the DM there also in Himachal. Then, where are we going to go? And we will always be without a capital, without water, without the Bhakra, without anything. I have said it while speaking on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address also; those of you who have noted will know what I am trying to say is that river waters cannot be settled by court orders. This order was given eight-ten years ago and it is lying there. कावेरी का नहीं हो रहा है, you can't do it. तुंगभद्रा का नहीं हो रहा है, कृष्णा का नहीं हो रहा है। This is the world over. And I have said in an address once that in this century, there will be water wars between countries and inter-countries. So, this has to be settled coolly with all the parties applying their mind calmly, not by saying that ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; Kumari Selja, you can associate. Are you associating? ...*(Interruptions)*...

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I have to say because I am from Haryana and he is from Punjab. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, may I say? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, kindly allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me make it clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to make one point clear. ...*(Interruptions)*...

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, he is from Punjab ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Seljaji, listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... With all respect

I have to make one point clear. I don't know the details or the nitty-gritty of the dispute. I am only saying, the rule allows only to associate, not to contradict. ...(Interruptions)... Are you going to associate or contradict? ...(Interruptions)...

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, I have also given a notice. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I only want to say that the Supreme Court has given its ruling that Punjab must complete S.Y.L. and give Haryana its due share of water and the Presidential Reference is pending in the Supreme Court. But, Punjab, arbitrarily, with an eye on polls,...

श्री वी. पी. सिंह बदनौर (राजस्थान): सर, ...(व्यवधान)... राजस्थान का क्या होगा? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Nothing more. ...(Interruptions)... Okay. Now, Dr. T. N. Seema. ...(Interruptions)... You can only associate. ...(Interruptions)... That is the problem. I told you. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I draw the attention of this august House. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Seljaji, you give another notice. ...(Interruptions)... You give another notice. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. N. SEEMA: Sir, I am losing my time. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You repeat your notice. ...(Interruptions)...

KUMARI SELJA: No, Sir. I have given notice. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Seljaji, your notice was late. ...(Interruptions)... It was time barred. You repeat your notice on Monday. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Dr. T. N. Seema. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing else will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

Need for disclosure of data of clinical trial of Rota-virus vaccine

DR. T. N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I draw the attention of this august House towards an important issue regarding non-disclosure of data of clinical trial.

The trial of the Rota-virus Vaccine, called 116E Vaccine, in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, by the Christian Medical College, Vellore, and the Department of Bio-technology of the Government of India, has raised doubt about 'ethical standards' in clinical trials. ...(Interruptions)...

This trial involving six-week-old infants! Their parents trustingly allow their babies to be experimented on. The 116E Rotavirus Vaccine was tested in three centres — Delhi, Pune and Vellore. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing else will go on record except Dr. T. N. Seema's Zero Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. T. N. SEEMA: A dreaded complication of this vaccine is intussusceptions, an instance of the inversion of one portion of their intestine within another, and there is a risk of bacterial infection and death. However, the trial doctors have so far refused to disclose the figures from Vellore of how many babies developed clinical evidence of intussusceptions among the vaccinated. ...(*Interruptions*)...

The WHO has strongly advocated for public disclosure of all clinical trial results. Without disclosing this data, there is a plan to do a study of the same vaccine on 1 lakh more children exposing them to this risk without their knowledge. ...(*Interruptions*)... This violates the basic rules of ethical clinical research. The data on adverse events in Vellore has not even been shared with the Government's advisory body — the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization — despite repeated requests. ...(*Interruptions*)...

More tellingly, the PMO has requested analysis of the segregated Vellore data twice; but, it has been denied. Under the Right to Information Act, 2005, this data, acquired with GOI funding, must be supplied on the request to any citizen of this country. It is this information that has been denied even to the PMO! ...(*Interruptions*)...

It may be noted that the patent of this so called 'Indian vaccine' is held by the US Department of Health and Human Services. It is clear that they are to profit from its sales. This explains the impunity with which PMO and the interests of the country's children are being disregarded. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, I urge the Government to ensure the disclosure of study data of clinical trial of Rota-virus vaccine in Vellore Christian Medical College and the Department of Biotechnology before going in for further trials.

Thank you.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by my colleagues, Dr. Seema.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by my colleagues, Dr. Seema.

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by my colleagues, Dr. Seema.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by my colleagues, Dr. Seema.

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by my colleagues, Dr. Seema.

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): सर, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): सर, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Praveen Rashtrapal.

Need for reforms in primary and secondary level of school education

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Sir, the education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and hence both the Central Government and the State Governments can make laws. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing else will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: As far as the Government of Gujarat is concerned, it has cancelled examination in the public schools, in the Governments schools, whereas, in private schools, there are regular examinations. ...(Interruptions)...

I am of the considered opinion that not taking examination up to XI will harm the interest of students. ...(Interruptions)...

Regular examination will help students to pass X and XII standards with very good marks. ...(Interruptions)...

I, therefore, request the Central Government to see to it that there is a pucca examination system in the primary and secondary schools also so that all poor students who are taking the education in the Government schools will get opportunity to compete in MBBS and other higher courses. Thank you very much, Sir.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kumari Selja, I would request you to repeat your notice for Monday, and the hon. Chairman will consider it. ...(Interruptions)...

Please go back to your seats. ...(Interruptions)...

No, no; today it was late. So, you repeat your notice for Monday in time. ...(Interruptions)...

Now, go back. Go back, please. ...(Interruptions)...

It is unfair; it is unfair. ...(Interruptions)...

Now, Dr. Sanjay Sinh. ...(Interruptions)...

It is unfair. ...(Interruptions)...

It is unfair. ...(Interruptions)...

Shri K. C. Tyagi, you are a very senior Member. Kumari Selja was a Cabinet Minister. ...(Interruptions)...

How can you do all that? ...(Interruptions)...

Deteriorating law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh

डा. संजय सिंह (असम) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ मंत्री कभी-कभार ...(व्यवधान)... उत्तर प्रदेश में बढ़ा अमन-चैन है, शांति व्यवस्था है और वहां पर देश के कई सारे राज्यों से बेहतर शांति व्यवस्था है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सदन का ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश की

[डा. संजय सिंह]

बिगड़ती हुई कानून व्यवस्था के संबंध में विशेषकर सुलतानपुर एवं अमेठी की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। अपराध के लिहाज से शांति पूर्ण माने जाने वाले अमेठी एवं सुलतानपुर में कुछ महीनों से तमाम ऐसी वारदातें एवं घटनाएं हो रही हैं, जिनको लेकर बहुत ही चिंता है और लोगों में अशांति है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहली घटना सुलतानपुर में चांदा की है, जब एक ईंट व्यवसायी श्री उमाशंकर मौर्य की 3 मार्च, 2016 को गोली मारकर हत्या कर दी गई, जबकि कुछ महीने पहले ही उनके भाई श्री रमाकांत मौर्य की 4 सितम्बर, 2015 को गोली मारकर हत्या कर दी गई थी। उनका शव पांच-छः दिन तक पड़ा रहा। उसके बाद माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी द्वारा घोषणा की गई कि उनके परिजनों को 10 लाख रुपए का मुआवजा मिलेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लोगों ने यह मांग की कि इसकी सीबीआई जांच हो। इस संबंध में मैंने जिलाधिकारी से कई बार बात की है, लेकिन अभी तक ऐसा आदेश नहीं हो पाया है।

दूसरी घटना अमेठी की है, एक बीमा अभिकर्ता, श्री अशोक कुमार सरोज को सायं 5.30 बजे उस वक्त गोली मार दी गई, जब वे रामगंज से ज्ञानीपुर अपने घर जा रहे थे और उनकी मौके पर ही मौत हो गई। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्री अशोक कुमार सरोज का 10 जनवरी, 2016 को कुछ लोगों से एक विवाद हुआ था, जिसमें उन्हें चोटें भी आई थीं, किन्तु जब उन्होंने पीपरपुर थाने में एफआईआर दर्ज करानी चाही, तो पुलिस ने धारा 151 लगा कर उनका चालान कर दिया और बाद में उत्पीड़ित अशोक कुमार सरोज के खिलाफ 307 का मुकदमा दर्ज हो गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

माननीय महोदय, अगर पुलिस प्रशासन उसी समय इसकी जांच सीरियसली करती, तो शायद यह अपराध न हो पाता। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, कुछ घटनाएं ऐसी हैं, जिनका मैं यहां जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ। महोदय, 10 जनवरी, 2016 को अमेठी के छीड़ा गांव के निकट अपराधी ट्रक चालक एवं खलासी को बंधक बना कर ट्रक एवं नकदी लेकर फरार हो गए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसका आज तक पता नहीं चला है। 12 जनवरी को सुलतानपुर के सूरपुर बाजार में सर्राफा व्यवसायी छोटेला सोनी को गोली मार दी गई और लाखों लूट लिया गया। 24 जनवरी को वहां पर श्री कमला प्रसाद पाण्डेय की धारदार हथियार से हत्या कर दी गई। कुछ महीने पहले अमेठी में डॉ. बी. पी. सिंह की हत्या हुई, लेकिन आज तक उसकी जानकारी नहीं हो पाई, पुलिस आज तक जांच नहीं कर पाई। ...**(व्यवधान)**... महोदय, मृतक अशोक कुमार सरोज के परिजनों ने मांग की है कि उनकी विधवा पत्नी श्रीमती मंजू को सरकारी नौकरी दी जाए, उन्हें 50 लाख रुपए का मुआवजा दिया जाए तथा इस घटना की सीबीआई से जांच कराई जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...
...**(समय की घंटी)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The time is over. ...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. संजय सिंह : महोदय, मैं सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि अशोक कुमार सरोज की विधवा पत्नी को सरकारी नौकरी दी जाए, उन्हें 50 लाख रुपए का मुआवजा दिया जाए तथा इस घटना की सीबीआई जांच कराई जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point? ...**(Interruptions)**... See, you go back to your seat, and tell me what you want. ...**(Interruptions)**... Go back to your seat. I will allow you. But go back to your seat and keep quiet. I will allow you. ...**(Interruptions)**... But when I will ask you only. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, I will allow you also. *...(Interruptions)...* I will allow you also. *...(Interruptions)...* Yes, I will do that also. *...(Interruptions)...* Gill Saheb, you go back to your seat. *...(Interruptions)...* Gill Saheb, you are a very senior Member. *...(Interruptions)...* Go back to your seat. I will allow both of you. Go back to your seats. *...(Interruptions)...*

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, he has already spoken. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, I know that. *...(Interruptions)...* I will allow. Now, Shri Husain Dalwai. *...(Interruptions)...* See, I will allow you. Shri Husain Dalwai is to speak now. *...(Interruptions)...*

Under-utilization of Tribal Sub-Plan funds

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, a dedicated component, within the Budget, was created during the Fifth Five Year Plan. It was called the Tribal Sub-Plan. It had the objective of socio-economic development and protection of the Scheduled Tribes against exploitation. As per the Census of 2011, the population of the Scheduled Tribes is 8.6 per cent of the total population of the country, but they comprise just 2.8 per cent of the urban population. They lag behind in the country in many other social indicators as well. Only 22.6 per cent of the ST households have latrine facilities within the premises. As many as 87.5 per cent of the ST households rely on unclean fuels like firewood, coal, crop residue, etc. Only 19.7 per cent of the households have drinking water facilities available within the premises. In rural areas, as much as 47 per cent of the ST population is illiterate.

Despite this, there has been no seriousness to focus on their development and there have been serious mishandling of the Tribal Sub-Plan funds meant for their welfare. As per the 2015 Performance Audit of Tribal Sub-Plan by the CAG, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, despite being the nodal Ministry for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes, was not invited for consultation when other Central Ministries were preparing their Annual Plans. Because of this, there has been no proper planning of implementation of schemes through proper utilization of TSP fund. The Report noted that there have been many instances of under-utilization and diversion of funds earmarked for TSP.

Similar is the fate of minorities and Scheduled Castes who lag behind the country in many development indicators and yet are not included in the larger development discourse. I am disappointed to note that the Union Budget has actually reduced the budgeted expenditure for the Ministry of Minority Affairs. This has been a

[Shri Husain Dalwai]

continuous trend. As against the actual expenditure of ₹ 3,088 crore in 2014-15, there was a budgeted estimate of just ₹ 2,494 crore in 2015 Budget. Similarly, as against a revised estimate of ₹ 3,735 crore in 2015-16, the budgeted expenditure is just ₹ 2,824 crore in the 2016 Budget. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Your time is over. Now, Shri Hanumantha Rao. ...(*Interruptions*)...

कुमारी शैलजा (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Non-implementation of OBC reservations in the services of the Central Government and PSUs

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Telangana): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the OBCs constitute nearly 60 per cent of the Indian population. Based on Mandal Commission Report, they are provided just 27 per cent reservation in jobs of the Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings But even after 23 years, the representation of OBCs has not gone beyond 10 per cent in many departments.

On the contrary, the outside people think that OBCs have taken all the posts. However, it is not so. Here, I would like to give you some data. In the public sector banks, out of 450 General Manager posts, only 5 are from the OBC category, which is just one per cent. Similarly, out of 1255 posts of Deputy General Manager, only 16 are from the OBC category. Such is the pathetic situation of OBC representation in the banking sector. Similarly, in ten Ministries there is not even a single OBC category officer in Group 'A' post. We are zero, Sir.

After nearly 70 years of Independence, such is the pathetic condition of the OBCs. Where should they go and represent? Who is responsible for all this? Who is accountable for all this?

The Parliamentary Committee on OBC has repeatedly requested to give constitutional powers to the NCBC. But the Government is not considering that.

The 'Creamy Layer' imposed on the OBCs has prevented the eligible OBC candidates from getting the reservation benefits.

Now, nearly 400 Judges are going to be appointed in various High Courts. Unless reservation is provided for OBC, SC, ST and minority categories, they will not get any chance to become Judges. Even after 25 years, they will not get any chance to become the judges. Now, various upper caste communities are fighting to include them in the 'OBC' category. But we, the original OBCs, still could not get

our share. Where will we go, Sir? If these OBCs — 60 per cent of the population — also come to the streets, what will happen? Our OBCs are waiting. A day will come when they will also come unitedly to the streets to get justice. Sir, as Dr. Ambedkar warned in 1950, how long can we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? We must remove these contradictions at the earliest possible moment, or else, those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of the political democracy. That is why I am cautioning the Government to seriously consider the matter raised by me. Thank you very much.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the point made by the hon. Member.

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

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

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

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

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

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ। मंत्री जी को इस पर जबाव देना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

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

डा. चंद्रपाल सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the point made by the hon. Member.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we associate ourselves with the point made by the hon. Member.

....(Interruptions)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri K. N. Balagopal.

**Fall in the price of natural rubber due to
uncontrolled import in the country**

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is a very serious issue — sharp fall in the price of natural rubber. This is a subject which might have been dealt in this House as Zero Hour or any other matter like Calling Attention, maximum number of times in the last few years. I came to this House in 2010. Now, we are going to retire. All these times, we have raised this issue. It started from when it was ₹ 180 per kg. Now, after all these six years, the price of natural rubber has come to ₹ 80 per kg. It is because of the Indo-ASEAN Agreement. The hon. former Prime Minister is there. We fought in the streets against this Indo-ASEAN Agreement at that time, Sir, stating that the prices of rubber and other plantation crops will fall down. At that time, they said, "No; it will benefit." But what has actually happened? Sir, from ₹ 240/- per kg., it has come to ₹ 80/-! Now, rubber farmers in Kerala have started to commit suicide. It is a very serious situation. We, about 11,00,000 farmers, are producing around 9,00,000 tonnes per year. Now, the production has come down to 6,00,000 tonnes per year, and farmers, on an average, because of the price fall, are losing around ₹ 15,000 crores per annum. Sir, the tyre companies are not reducing their price. Tyre price is the same as it was earlier. The price of Maruti tyre, five years back, was ₹ 3,000 per tyre, and even now, it is the same. Whenever we raise this issue, it falls on deaf ears of the Government. This Government is here for two years, but they are also not considering anything. We are asking for a special package. Earlier, they said, there is a fund of ₹ 500 crores for price stabilisation. Earlier Government said this, and this Government is also saying this, but they are not giving anything. A special package is needed, Sir. The Government is additionally going to get ₹ 2,00,000 crore from excise duty in the coming year. If they could put at least ₹ 1,000 crores or ₹ 2,000 crores for this thing, it will be very helpful, Sir. It is our humble request, Sir. For Kingfisher, the earlier Government suggested for a bail out package. Because of some industrial houses, they were not ready. There was a package of about ₹ 3,000 crores, or, ₹ 4,000 crores, or, ₹ 5,000 crores to bail that out. For Kingfisher, the former Finance Minister, was ready for a bail-out package. Now, this company fled with ₹ 9,000 crores. But for the poor farmers, 11,00,000 families, the Government is not ready to give anything. The Rubber Board was elected. No meeting was held. So, the Government have to say something. Give a special package. *...(Interruptions)...* There was a contest in this House. I contested with my fellow Member. There was a contest, and the the Rubber Board never met. So, this is the attitude of the Government! *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; now time over. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down.

...(Interruptions).. Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... All of you take your seats. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Ragesh, sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... All of you take your seats. ...(Interruptions)... I am requesting you to take your seats. ...(Interruptions).. No. ...(Interruptions)... I have to say something about this. You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... No, please sit down. ...(Interruptions).. I have to say something about it. You sit down. You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Naqvi, see, you have to convey it to the Commerce Minister. See, the price of the natural rubber was two hundred and fifty rupees. A Committee headed by Chandan Mitraji visited Kerala, and he has personally understood the problem and recommended also. Now the price is eighty rupees. See, the rubber was cultivated and encouraged to be cultivated as an import substitute. Now the people are cutting their trees. Ultimately, what will happen is, you will have to import the entire rubber at the cost of the precious foreign exchange. So, something has to be done. Something has to be done. The request from all Members was there for the last one year. You please report to the Commerce Minister that this has to be attended to, and something has to be done. I can tell you my experience. I have one acre of rubber plantation. That is not being tapped because what you get from the yield is not sufficient to pay to the tapper. So, I am also not tapping it. ...(Interruptions)... No, listen, listen. But I have no problem. ...(Interruptions)... But for an ordinary farmer, who is having one acre or two acres or three acres, it is a problem. They have nothing. If they resort to committing suicide, you cannot do anything. ...(Interruptions)... So, please do something. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): There is no full-time Chairman in the Rubber Board. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: For 18 months. ...(Interruptions)... Please convey it. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. ...(Interruptions)... I agree with hon. Jairam Ramesh. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will give you time. This Rubber Board is an Undertaking of the Central Government. For the last 18 months, there is no Chairman. ...(Interruptions)... Why is it not being done? ...(Interruptions)... Yes, Dr. Chandan Mitra.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, I am very glad that you have brought up this issue because this is a very serious matter and you rightly said that we, our Committee, the Commerce Committee, undertook a visit to Kerala and we went and spoke to a lot of rubber cultivators and farmers. Their distress is really pathetic. There is no doubt it. And, the problem is that they are all demanding that, at least, let us impose some kind of a duty against the import of cheap synthetic rubber ...(Interruptions)... or natural rubber from Malaysia, Thailand and the other places. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Why is it your Government doing? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. ...(Interruptions)... Let him complete. ...(Interruptions)... Let him complete. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Mr. Ramesh, we should not have any dispute on this. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. Need not. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: It is an all-party Committee. We have recommended, the Committee has recommended, Sir. The report has been tabled in this House. The Committee has recommended that the Government should impose a kind of an offset duty or countervailing duty to...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government may consider that recommendation also. Thank you. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)... That's over. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down.... Sit down.(Interruptions)... That's over. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. I have directed. ...(Interruptions)... That is enough. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing else will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: *

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. no. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)... All of you sit down. ...(Interruptions)... I have asked the Government to examine it. ...(Interruptions)... That is enough. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ..(Interruptions)... You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Basawaraj Patil. ...(Interruptions)...

Pitiable condition of the E.S.I. Hospital in Gulbarga, Karnataka

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक): उपसभापति महोदय, कर्णाटक प्रदेश के ...(व्यवधान)... गुलबर्गा सिटी के अंदर भारत सरकार की लेबर मिनिस्ट्री के द्वारा एक E.S.I. Hospital बना है। ...(व्यवधान)... सरकार के मंत्री ...(व्यवधान)... नेता द्वारा उद्घाटन किया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)... लगभग बारह सौ करोड़ रुपए का hospital है। यह पचास एकड़ जमीन में बना है। ...(व्यवधान)... उस hospital में मैडिकल कॉलेज होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... वह नाम मात्र के लिए प्रारम्भ हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... पूरा hospital उपयोग में नहीं है। वहां पर नर्सिंग कॉलेज प्रारम्भ नहीं हो रहा है। उसका इन्फ्रेशन हुए दो साल हो गए हैं। उसके 95 per cent स्टाफ क्वार्टर्स खाली हैं। वह हॉस्पिटल बहुत बड़ा है, वह दो हजार करोड़ रुपये की कीमत का है, जो गरीब लेबर्स के खून से बना हुआ है, उसका लेबर्स के हित में अगर ठीक उपयोग नहीं होगा, तो यह देश हित में नहीं होगा। मैं सरकार से विनती करता हूं कि पूरे दक्षिण भारत के जो लेबर्स पेशेंट्स होते हैं, उनके लिए एक अच्छी ट्रीटमेंट की दृष्टि से, एक परिपूर्ण व्यवस्था से वहां पर हॉस्पिटल बने। उसका इतना बड़ा इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर बनाया गया है कि वहां पर रोज कम से कम 50 हजार पेशेंट्स आने चाहिए, लेकिन आज वहां पर उसके अंदर 500 लोग भी नहीं आते हैं। एक तरफ हम रोते हैं कि पैसा नहीं है और दूसरी तरफ दो हजार करोड़ रुपये की सम्पति बेकार पड़ी है। इसीलिए मैं लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से, प्रधान मंत्री से विनती करता हूं कि जल्दी से जल्दी इस पूरी प्रॉपर्टी का सदुपयोग हो और वह बेकार न जाए। गुलबर्गा धारा 371 के अंदर आने वाला एक पिछड़ा इलाका है, अगर इसको वहां पर फुल फेज में किया जाएगा और उसके बाद बाजू में आंध्र प्रदेश है, महाराष्ट्र है, कर्णाटक है, इन तीनों प्रदेशों के गरीब लेबर्स के लिए अगर ट्रीटमेंट देने की अच्छी व्यवस्था की जाएगी, तो यह एक monumental काम होगा। मैं समझता हूं कि सरकार इसको बेकार नहीं जाने देगी। इसका जनता के हित में जितनी जल्दी उपयोग हो सके, उतना ही अच्छा है। पिछले इतिहास में कुछ भी हुआ होगा, अब जो चीज़ बनी है, उसका पूरा उपयोग हो, यह मैं सरकार से विनती करता हूं। मैं सरकार से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि जल्दी से जल्दी इसका काम पूरा हो, धन्यवाद।

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, very much. Now, Seljaji. Take two minutes and say what you have to say. Nobody else should disturb. ...(Interruptions)... I will allow you also.

Serious situation arising due to dispute over the Punjab waters — Contd.

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I would take just two minutes.

सर, पंजाब हमारा बड़ा भाई है। पंजाब के किसान बहुत मेहनतकश हैं और उनके कारण आज देश ने "ग्रीन रिवॉल्यूशन" भी देखा। सर, हरियाणा और पंजाब एक समय में एक था और छोटे-बड़े भाई में कभी डिफरेंस नहीं होना चाहिए। सर, 2004 में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने फैसला दिया कि पानी को कैसे तकसीम करेंगे, एसवाईएल पर फैसला दिया। इसके बारे में प्रेजिडेंट ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट से रेफरेंस मांगा।

[Kumari Selja]

सर, अभी उसका फैसला आना है। सर, पंजाब में चुनाव आ रहे हैं। अकाली सरकार ने वहां पर arbitrarily, illegally यह फैसला लिया है कि जो 1977 में ज़मीन एक्वायर हुई थी, जैसा कि गिल साहब ने कहा है कि हरियाणा और पंजाब में पानी का बहुत पहले से ही मामला चल रहा है, एसवाईएल के लिए 1977 में ज़मीन एक्वायर की गई और एसवाईएल का कंस्ट्रक्शन 95 प्रतिशत पूरा हो भी गया है, लेकिन जब-जब अकाली आए हैं, अकालियों ने सिवाय वोट की राजनीति के कुछ नहीं किया। अब पंजाब का चुनाव आ रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पंजाब को अकालियों ने destroy कर दिया है। पंजाब के लोगों को destroy कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पंजाब के यूथ को destroy कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पंजाब के किसान को destroy कर दिया है पंजाब की सरकार ने ...**(व्यवधान)**...

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री (श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल): सर, यह बिल्कुल गलत है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

कुमारी शैलजा: अब चुनाव आ रहे हैं। चुनाव के लिए इन्होंने ऐसा फैसला किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: No, Sir. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, I take serious objection. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, I take serious objection. ...**(Interruptions)**...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THEH MINISTRY OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): Sir, how can you allow them to say this?...**(Interruptions)**... They are bringing a low level of politics into the House. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: शैलजा जी, दो मिनट का समय हो गया। श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Shrimati Ambika Soni. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, you take your seat. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shrimati Ambika Soni. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shrimati Ambika Soni. You may start. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir, I am sorry to say I do not quite agree. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What you said is on record. Sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shrimati Ambika Soni. Only what Ambika Soni says will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing else will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, I do not quite agree. ...**(Interruptions)**... It is not a matter to take pride. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. Let her complete. ...**(Interruptions)**... Let her complete. I will allow you too. ...**(Interruptions)**...

12.00 Noon

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, it is not just about Punjab. *...(Interruptions)...*
The Akali Dal does not have any.....*(Interruptions)...* in Punjab. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, these are not true. *...(Interruptions)...*
Allow me to speak, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record and if there is anything that needs to be expunged, I will expunge it. Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Shrimati Ambika Soni, please speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I will go through the records and expunge what needs to be expunged. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, Punjab..*(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: No, Sir. It is not about expunction. Punjab....*(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, Punjab was a land of five rivers, but today, because of all the land which was given up.....*(Interruptions)...* arbitrators, Punjab has gone dry. 144 blocks of the total land which were given are today absolutely dry. Only 23 blocks have water. *...(Interruptions)...* The water which has dried up. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, the mikes are not working. We are not able to hear them. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: No, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, she has made untrue allegations. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल: सर, पंजाब ने हक नहीं मारा है। वे गलत बोल रही हैं। *...(व्यवधान)...* पंजाब के राइट्स इन्होंने मारे हैं और वे गलत आरोप लगा रही हैं। *...(व्यवधान)...* पंजाब को इन्होंने खत्म किया है। *...(व्यवधान)...* पंजाब में आतंकवाद को *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* I will allow you also. You will get time. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, it is time for Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...* It is the time for Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...*

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence please. *...(Interruptions)...* Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...* Please sit down everyone. *...(Interruptions)...* The Zero Hour is over. *...(Interruptions)...* This is Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...* Please sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down everybody. *...(Interruptions)...* I am afraid not.

...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... What is this going on?
 ...(Interruptions)... This is Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Ambikaji, Seljaji, please
 sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members who want to debate a subject not on
 the agenda are welcome to go outside and continue the debate. ...(Interruptions)...
 Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... What is this going on?
 ...(Interruptions)... Nobody is listening to anyone. ...(Interruptions)... What is the
 purpose of this shouting? ...(Interruptions)... Question No. 151 ...(Interruptions)...
 Let the answer be given. ...(Interruptions)... Question No. 151 ...(Interruptions)...
 Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... The House
 is adjourned for ten minutes. ...(Interruptions)... I would request those who want to
 carry out a debate, which has nothing to do with Question Hour, can go out and
 carry out the debate.

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

*The House reassembled at eleven minutes past twelve of the clock,
 MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

उचित दर की दुकानों पर 'इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्वाइंट ऑफ सेल' उपकरणों की व्यवस्था किया जाना

*151. श्री हरिवंश: क्या उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने
 ने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में सभी उचित दर की दुकानों पर 'इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्वाइंट ऑफ सेल' उपकरणों की
 व्यवस्था कब तक कर दी जाएगी;

(ख) क्या केंद्र सरकार द्वारा राज्य सरकारों को उक्त उपकरण की व्यवस्था करने के लिए
 कोई वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की जा रही है;

(ग) क्या सभी राशन कार्डों को 'आधार' से जोड़े जाने की कोई योजना है और प्रत्यक्ष लाभ
 अंतरण योजना को कब तक आरम्भ कर दिया जाएगा; और

(घ) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली में भ्रष्टाचार के कारण प्रतिवर्ष कितनी धनराशि नष्ट हो
 जाती है?

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): (क) से
 (घ) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से प्राप्त रिपोर्टों के अनुसार अब तक 91,000 से अधिक उचित दर दुकानों का स्वचालन किए जाने की सूचना प्राप्त हुई है। सरकार का उद्देश्य 5.35 लाख उचित दर दुकानों में से मार्च, 2017 तक 3 लाख उचित दर दुकानों में स्वचालन सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराना है।

जहां तक वित्तीय सहायता का संबंध है, राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम के अंतर्गत सरकार ने सामान्य श्रेणी के 23 राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों हेतु 87 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल की दर से और विशेष श्रेणी के 13 राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों हेतु 160 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल की दर से एफपीएस डीलरों के मार्जिन के लिए मानदंड अनुमोदित किए हैं, जिनमें उचित दर दुकान पर स्वाचलन हेतु पीओएस उपकरण की खरीद एवं प्रचालन हेतु किए गए व्यय के लिए 17 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल की प्रतिपूर्ति भी शामिल है। ऐसा व्यय केंद्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार के बीच विशेष श्रेणी के राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के लिए 75:25 आधार पर और सामान्य श्रेणी के राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के लिए 50:50 आधार पर वहन किया जाएगा।

(ग) यह विभाग सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से अपने लाभभोगियों के डाटाबेस का डिजिटीकरण पूरा करने और इसे उपलब्ध "आधार" नम्बरों से जोड़ने के लिए समय-समय पर अनुरोध कर रहा है। परन्तु राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि किसी भी लाभभोगी को, यदि वह पात्र है, "आधार" नम्बर न होने के कारण टीपीडीएस/एनएफएसए के लाभ से वंचित नहीं किया जाना चाहिए। राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से प्राप्त रिपोर्टों के अनुसार राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर फिलहाल 45% राशन कार्डों को "आधार" नम्बरों के साथ जोड़ा जा चुका है।

"खाद्य राजसहायता का नकद अंतरण नियम, 2015", जिन्हें राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम, 2013 के अंतर्गत दिनांक 21.8.2015 को अधिसूचित किया गया था, के अनुसार पात्र परिवारों को खुले बाजार से खाद्यान्नों की खरीद हेतु समर्थ बनाने के लिए उनके बैंक खाते में खाद्य राजसहायता नकद प्रदान करने संबंधी स्कीम पहचान किए गए क्षेत्रों में शुरू की जा सकती है, जिसके लिए राज्य सरकार/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन की लिखित सहमति आवश्यक है। संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की सहमति से इस स्कीम का कार्यान्वयन पाइलट आधार पर चंडीगढ़ और पुदुचेरी में दिनांक 1.9.2015 से शुरू किया गया है और दादरा और नगर हवेली संघ राज्य क्षेत्र में इसकी शुरुआत दिनांक 1.3.2016 से आंशिक रूप से की गई है।

(घ) ऐसी कोई सूचना केंद्रीय स्तर पर नहीं रखी जाती है, क्योंकि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली (टीपीडीएस) का प्रचालन केंद्र सरकार और राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र सरकारों के संयुक्त दायित्व के अंतर्गत किया जाता है, जिसमें एनएफएसए/टीपीडीएस के अंतर्गत पात्र लाभभोगियों की पहचान करने, उन्हें राशन कार्ड जारी करने और उचित दर दुकानों के कार्यकरण की निगरानी के पर्यवेक्षण का प्रचालनात्मक दायित्व संबंधित राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र की सरकार का होता है। जब कभी केंद्र सरकार को व्यक्तियों/संगठनों और प्रेस रिपोर्टों के माध्यम से कोई शिकायत प्राप्त होती है, तो उसे जांच और समुचित कार्रवाई के लिए संबंधित राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र सरकार को भिजवा दिया जाता है।

Installing ePoS devices at FPSs

†*151. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) by when electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices will be installed at all Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the country;

(b) whether Central Government is extending any financial assistance to State Governments for installing this device;

(c) whether there is any scheme to connect all ration cards with Aadhaar and by when Direct Benefit Transfer scheme will be introduced therein; and

(d) the amount getting wasted annually in PDS due to corruption?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) Based on States/UTs' reports, till now more than 91,000 Fair Price Shops (FPSs) have been reported to be automated. Government aims to provide automation facilities in 3 lakh FPSs by March, 2017 out of total 5.35 lakh FPSs.

As regards financial assistance, under NFSA Government has approved norms for FPS dealers' margins @ ₹ 87/qtl. for 23 general category States/UTs and @ ₹ 160/qtl. for 13 special category States/UTs, which also includes reimbursement of ₹ 17/qtl. for their expenditure towards purchase, operations and maintenance of Point of Sale (PoS) device at the FPS for automation. Such expenditure would be shared between Centre and State Governments on 75:25 basis for special category States/UTs and on 50:50 basis for General category States/UTs.

(c) Department from time to time has been requesting all the States/UTs to complete the digitization of their beneficiary database and also to seed available Aadhaar numbers therein. However, States/UTs have to ensure that no beneficiary should be denied benefits under NFSA/TPDS for not getting the Aadhaar number, if entitled. At present, Aadhaar seeding at National level stands at 45% in the ration cards as per the reports received from States/UTs.

As per the 'Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015', which was notified on 21-08-2015 under the National Food Security Act, 2013, scheme of providing

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

food subsidy in cash into the bank account of entitled households to enable them to purchase foodgrains from open market, can be taken up in the identified areas for which there is a written consent of the State Government/UT Administration. With the consent of UTs, the scheme has been implemented on pilot basis in Chandigarh and Puducherry w.e.f. 01.09.2015 and it has been partially launched in Dadra and Nagar Haveli UT from 01.03.2016.

(d) No such information is maintained at the Central level as the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments wherein operational responsibilities of identification of eligible beneficiaries under NFSA/TPDS and issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. As and when any complaints are received by the Central Government from individuals/Organizations as well as through press reports etc., they are sent to concerned State/UT Government for inquiry and appropriate action thereof.

श्री हरिवंश: सभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से सवाल है कि Electronic Point of Sale यानी ePoS डिवाइस की विश्वसनीयता और प्रामाणिकता कैसी है? यह डिवाइस परचेज़र का बायमेट्रिक कैप्चर करेगी और आधार डाटा बेस से बैरिफाई करेगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसे लागू करने से पहले पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के रूप में इसे कहां परखा गया, इस परीक्षण का रिजल्ट क्या था और इसके वेरिफ़िकेशन क्या थे? इस डिवाइस की निर्माता कंपनी कौन-सी है?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सभापति जी, यह क्वेश्चन तीन पार्ट्स में है। पहला पार्ट तो प्वाइंट ऑफ़ सेल का है। इलेक्ट्रॉनिक point of sale के संबंध में माननीय सदस्य ने जो जानकारी मांगी है, उस संबंध में हमने बता दिया है कि इस देश में टोटल दुकानों की जो संख्या है, जो फ़ेयर प्राइस शॉप्स हैं, वे 5,35,000 हैं। जो Electronic Point of Sale डिवाइस है, वह मार्च, 2016 तक 91,000 की संख्या तक पहुंची हुई है। हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा जो टारगेट है, वह एक साल के अंदर 3 लाख दुकानों का है। Electronic Point of Sale का मतलब होता है कि एक ही दुकान पर जाइए, अंगूठे का निशान लगाइए, बटन दबाइए, आपका सारा का सारा रिकॉर्ड मिल जाएगा। हम इसको मार्च, 2019 तक 5,35,000 की संख्या तक करेंगे, क्योंकि सभी जगहों पर हमारा टारगेट है, हो सकता है कि जो हिली एरियाज़ हैं, या दूसरी जगहें हैं, जहां बिजली नहीं है, कुछ साधन नहीं हैं, वहां ऐसी समस्याएं हो सकती हैं, लेकिन हमारा टारगेट है कि मार्च, 2019 तक इसको सभी जगह करवा दें।

माननीय सदस्य ने जो दूसरा प्रश्न पूछा है, अभी आपका यही प्रश्न है, आपने अभी राशि के संबंध में प्रश्न नहीं पूछा है, आपने सिर्फ़ Electronic Point of Sale के संबंध में प्रश्न पूछा है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप एक वक्त में एक प्रश्न का जवाब दीजिए। हरिवंश जी, आप दूसरा प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री हरिवंश: माननीय सभापति जी, मेरे लिखित सवालों का मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है। ये जिस इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्वाइंट ऑफ सेल इंस्ट्रूमेंट को सारी दुकानों में इंस्टॉल करने की बात कर रहे हैं, मैंने अभी उसी के बारे में पूछा था। मेरा दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न है कि खबरों के अनुसार आंध्र प्रदेश में 28,000 पीडीएस दुकानों पर Electronic Point of Sale लगाए गए हैं। इससे 800 करोड़ रुपये सालाना बचत की उम्मीद है। इस तरह देश के स्तर पर यह डिवाइस लगने से क्या लीकेज में बचत की उम्मीद है? क्या मंत्रालय ने इसका कोई सर्वे कराया है? क्या इस डिवाइस की टेक्नीकल ट्रेनिंग की भी राज्यों में बड़े पैमाने पर व्यवस्था हुई है? क्या पीडीएस में भी DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) स्कीम लागू करने की कोई योजना सरकार के पास है?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सभापति जी, इनका जो लास्ट प्वाइंट है, मैं पहले उसका जवाब दूंगा कि जो डायरेक्ट बेनिफिट ट्रांसफर है या जो सिस्टम है, उसके तहत हमने पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के रूप में इसको तीन जगहों पर शुरू किया है। एक तो पुदुच्चेरी में किया है, दूसरा चंडीगढ़ में और तीसरा दादरा एवं नगर हवेली में किया है। हमने दादरा एवं नगर हवेली में इसको सिर्फ town area में किया है। चूंकि ऐसा है कि जब तक इसके परफेक्टली 100 परसेंट रिजल्ट नहीं आते, तब तक यदि जरा सी भी लीकेज होगी, तो उससे गरीब व्यक्ति परेशान हो जाएगा।

एक तो यह बात है। आपका दूसरा प्रश्न क्या था?

श्री हरिवंश: माननीय मंत्री जी, मैंने यह सवाल किया था कि Electronic Point of Sale device के बारे में सूचना है कि आंध्र प्रदेश में 28..

श्री रामविलास पासवान: ठीक है।

जहां तक बचत का सवाल है, इसमें बचत ही बचत है। Food Security Act 2013 में लागू हुआ था और यह कहा गया था कि यह एक साल के अन्दर 5 जुलाई तक सभी राज्यों में लागू हो जाएगा, लेकिन अभी यह सभी राज्यों में लागू नहीं हुआ है। जब हम यहां आए थे, तो यह 11 राज्यों में लागू था, लेकिन अभी तक यह 30 राज्यों में लागू हो गया है। अभी तक हमने ePoS का पूरा इस्तेमाल भी नहीं किया है। जहां तक राशन कार्ड के आधार लिंक की बात है, वैसे तो सभी जगह राशन कार्ड्स का डिजिटलीकरण हो गया है, लेकिन इसमें जो आधार कार्ड से लिंक करने का मामला है, वह केवल 45 परसेंट जगहों पर ही हुआ है। इतना होने पर पिछले डेढ़-दो साल में 3.75 लाख जाली राशन कार्ड्स या बोगस राशन कार्ड्स निकले हैं। इससे हजारों करोड़ रुपये की बचत हुई है। जब यह ePoS आधार कार्ड से linked हो जाएगा, तो इसमें हम 100 परसेंट तो नहीं कह सकते हैं, लेकिन 99 परसेंट लीकेज खत्म हो जाएगी और इससे करप्शन दूर हो जाएगा।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: सभापति महोदय, आदरणीय मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जवाब में यह उल्लेख किया है कि "खाद्य राजसहायता का नकद अंतरण नियम, 2015, जिन्हें राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम, 2013 के अन्तर्गत दिनांक 21.8.2015 को अधिसूचित किया गया था, के अनुसार पात्र परिवारों को खुले बाजार से खाद्यान्न की खरीद हेतु समर्थ बनाने के लिए उनके बैंक खाते में खाद्य राजसहायता नकद प्रदान करने संबंधी स्कीम की पहचान की ली गई है।" इसमें आगे लिखा है कि "इसके लिए राज्य सरकारों की लिखित सहमति आवश्यक है।"

श्री सभापति: आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि अभी जैसे भारत सरकार द्वारा पेट्रोलियम विभाग में गैस पर जो सहायता दी जा रही थी, उसको उसने सीधे लागू करके देश भर में उपभोक्ताओं को सीधे लाभ पहुंचाया था, तो मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या भारत सरकार ठीक इसी प्रकार खाद्य सहायता भी सीधे उपभोक्ताओं तक पहुंचाने के लिए कोई नियम ला रही है? नंबर 2,...

श्री सभापति: आप एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: यदि नहीं, तो मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि कितने राज्यों ने अभी तक सहायता के लिए अपनी सहमति इसमें दे दी है?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सर, मैंने इसका पहले ही जवाब दे दिया था कि अभी तक पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के रूप में हमने तीन छोटे-छोटे राज्यों में इसकी शुरुआत की है, जिसमें दादरा नगर हवेली भी है। हम इसको देहाती इलाकों में नहीं कर रहे हैं, सिर्फ शहरों में कर रहे हैं।

जहां तक माननीय सदस्य का सवाल है, हम बताना चाहते हैं कि इसका सबसे बड़ा कारण end to end computerization है। यदि आदि से अंत तक computerization हो जाए, सारा का सारा website पर आ जाए, सारी चीज, जो हम जानना चाहें कि अनाज किस राज्य में जा रहा है, कहां से कहां जा रहा है, जिले में कहां जा रहा है, जिले में Fair Price Shop पर कहां जा रहा है, ट्रक से जा रहा है या कैसे जा रहा है, माननीय सदस्य का 'घ' में जो प्रश्न था कि उससे कितनी हानि होती है, यह सारा का सारा मैं समझता हूं कि ठीक हो जाएगा। उसके लिए 2012 में जो पंचवर्षीय योजना थी, उसमें 884 करोड़ रुपए अनुमोदित किए गए थे। उसमें जो साझेदारी थी, जो पूर्वोत्तर राज्य हैं, वहां 90 परसेंट भारत सरकार का और 10 परसेंट राज्य सरकार का हिस्सा था। जो बाकी राज्य हैं, वहां 50-50 परसेंट की साझेदारी है। उसके मुताबिक 489 करोड़ रुपए भारत सरकार के हिस्से में आते हैं और 394 करोड़ रुपए राज्य सरकार के हिस्से में आते हैं। यदि आप इसमें खर्च के बारे में जानना चाहेंगे, तो अभी तक 315 करोड़ रुपए जारी कर दिए गए हैं। हमारे पास इसकी राज्यवार सूची भी है। अगर आप कहेंगे, तो हम पढ़ कर सुना देंगे, अगर नहीं कहेंगे, तो सभा पटल पर रख देंगे।

श्री सभापति: आप उनको इसके बारे में बता दीजिएगा। श्री अली अनवर अंसारी।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी: माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जिस मशीन के बारे में बताया है, हालांकि प्रश्न में यह पूछा गया है कि किन-किन राज्यों में कितनी मशीनें लगी हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने इसका उत्तर नहीं दिया है। उत्तर में ये बता रहे हैं कि 2017 तक 3 लाख मशीनें लग जाएंगी। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूं कि 3 लाख मशीनें लग जाने के बाद भी 2.5 लाख से ज्यादा संख्या बच जाती है, वहां आप कब तक इन मशीनों को लगाने का काम पूरा करेंगे?

कृपा करके यह भी बता दें कि एक मशीन की कीमत कितनी है? राज्यों को आप इसमें जो सहायता देते हैं, वह कितनी देते हैं?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: हमने पहले ही बता दिया है कि हमारा 2017 तक 3 लाख मशीनें लगवाने का टारगेट है और अभी तक 91,000 मशीनें लगवाई जा चुकी हैं। 2019 तक पूरी की पूरी 5.35 लाख दुकानों में मशीनें लगवाने का काम पूरा हो जाएगा।

फिर आपने इसकी कीमत के बारे में पूछा है, इसकी कीमत 20,000 रुपये है, हालांकि इसकी कीमत 20,000 रुपये से लेकर 30,000 रुपये होती है, वैसे इसकी कीमत 20,000 रुपये ही है। मैं आपको यह भी बता दूँ कि ePoS का जो सिस्टम हमने बनाया है, उसमें तीन तरह की बातें हैं। एक तो यह है कि यदि राज्य चाहे, तो राज्य सरकार ePoS की खरीद करके, स्वयं उसे फेयर प्राइस डीलर को दे सकती है। दूसरा यह है कि जो फेयर प्राइस डीलर्स हैं, वे अपने आप सिस्टम खरीद कर उसे लगवा सकते हैं। तीसरा यह है कि यदि राज्य सरकार चाहे तो सारा का सारा काम, टेंडर के आधार पर प्राइवेट वालों को दे सकती हैं और चौथा यह है कि यदि राज्य सरकार चाहे, तो मशीन को खरीद कर उसे प्राइवेट संचालन के लिए दे सकती है। इतना ही नहीं, हमने एक काम और भी किया है, जो डीलर का मार्जिन होता है, उस मार्जिन को हमने 87 रुपये कर दिया है। 87 रुपये में से 70 रुपये डीलर का मार्जिन है और 17 रुपये ePoS लगाने के लिए हैं। जैसा हमने आपको बताया, राज्य सरकार और केंद्र सरकार में 50:50 का बंटवारा है और नॉर्थ-ईस्ट राज्यों के लिए 90:10 का बंटवारा है।

श्री अविनाश पांडे: महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि आज देश में कितनी functional Fair Price Shops हैं और कितने राज्यों में Aadhaar enabled Smart Cards का वितरण हो चुका है।

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सर, जैसा हमने बताया, हमारे पास टोटल 5.35 लाख Fair Price Shops हैं और सारी की सारी कार्यरत हैं। अभी तक 91,000 Shops आधार कार्ड के द्वारा लिंक हो चुकी हैं। हमने उसमें यह भी बताया है कि 2019 तक हम इस कार्य को पूरा कर लेंगे। यदि आप इसका राज्यवार ब्यौरा चाहेंगे, तो वह भी हम आपको भिजवा देंगे।

[The questioner (SHRI RAJIV CHANDRASEKHAR) was absent.]

Legislative sanction for Aadhaar

*152. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Aadhaar programme is world's single largest biometric database and is operational without legislative sanction and, therefore, without legislative safeguards for individual data privacy and protection;

(b) if so, whether Government intends to review and re-introduce the UIDAI Bill in Parliament to ensure that the programme is subject to adequate Parliamentary scrutiny with legislative sanction; 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) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The Aadhaar Scheme is the largest biometric based identity programme in the world seeking to provide a unique identification number to more than 121 crore residents of India. The Aadhaar biometric system design has followed global best practices and in designing Aadhaar biometric system, existing state-of-the-art biometric systems were reviewed, the world's top biometric experts from universities were consulted, proof of concept study was conducted and biometric system built that is currently considered to be state-of-the art and world's best.

While the enrolment process for generation of Aadhaar had begun in September 2010 and the very first Aadhaar number was generated, the 'National Identification Authority of India Bill, 2010' was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in December 2010. Thereafter, the Government, pursuant to considering the Report of the Standing Committee, had moved the Official Amendments to the NIDAI Bill during the Winter Session, 2013. However, the same could not be taken up for discussion.

The absence of specific legislation on Aadhaar however does not mean that resident data is insecure or no legal support is available to UIDAI. The extant legal framework, ensuring protection of resident data is as given below in brief:

- (i) Indian Penal Code.
- (ii) Information Technology Act, 2000, as amended:
 - (a) Section 66C — Punishment for identity theft
 - (b) Section 66D — Punishment for cheating by impersonation using a computer resource
 - (c) Section 72 and 72A — Breach of confidentiality and privacy and Punishment for disclosure of information in breach of a lawful contract.
- (iii) Other laws:
 - (a) Credit Information Companies (Regulation) Act, 2005 contains privacy principles to be followed and consequences for breach.

(a) and (c) To bring the legislation, in line with emerging issues related to Aadhaar and Aadhaar Project, the Government has introduced The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Bill, 2016 in the Lok Sabha on 03-03-2016 and subsequently, the National Identification Authority

of India Bill, 2010 has since been withdrawn from the Rajya Sabha. Legislative initiatives are underway to get the introduced Bill, be considered by the Parliament and passed at the earliest.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 152. Questioner not present. Let the answer be given.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, a Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Supplementaries; Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. In view of the Supreme Court judgements in the past, will the Aadhaar number be made mandatory?

Secondly, how will the privacy concerns be taken care of through the legislation that is being contemplated?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, as of now, the issue of challenge to Aadhaar is pending before a constitution bench. Hon. Supreme Court had passed certain interim orders. Thereafter, the Authority and many other bodies went and the Supreme Court has permitted by an interim order, invoking the benefit of Aadhaar platform for a variety of services, including MNREGA. Sir, before I come to the. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Would it be mandatory? That is what I am asking.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Now, the law, which is pending before the other House, will surely come to this House. It only creates an enabling atmosphere through the platform of Aadhaar depending upon how you chose the particular service to be delivered by the Government and the various departments. But, what is important, Sir, is, this House needs to know that today we have got 99 crore Indians on Aadhaar and just by way of an example, this Pahal Scheme of *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he is not answering my questions. *...(Interruptions)...* My question is.....*...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute! *...(Interruptions)...* Let him finish. Let him finish.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Have a little patience! You have been a Minister. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: You had been a Minister, have a little patience.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: In the case of DBT ₹ 15,000 crores was saved. In case of PDS — Shri Ram Vilas Paswan was mentioning — ₹ 2,346 crores was saved in Andhra and Telangana.

As far as the privacy part is concerned, I want to assure the hon. Member and this House under the architecture which was adopted by your Government, all the case has been taken to ensure the privacy part.

As far as the legislation is concerned, this House will get an occasion to examine this. There also privacy provision is there. As far as I recall the core biometrics can't be shared even with the consent of the owner of that company. That care has been taken.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Is it mandatory?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I would only say this. After the other House takes it up, it would come here. Surely all the apprehensions and queries would be addressed.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: It is a money Bill, we have no say at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another matter.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Since my hon. colleague, Shri Jairam Ramesh has already put that question, I am not putting it.

SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Sir, for Aadhaar card there were very strong reservations and doubts raised about the methodology employed to collect the data. Questions were raised whether the agencies who are employed to collect the individual data are foreign based or has any foreign link or the data collected will also be parked abroad. If so, what is the monitoring system or control on that data that Indian agencies would be having to have that data under their control, and to ensure the individual privacy and safety?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, as regards the agency which undertakes the data collection, there are three architectures. First is the Registrar or the State Government, second is the public sector bank and the third is the common service centre. They undertake involvement agencies and they ultimately undertake the enrolment. No agency linked to the foreign agency is there in this project.

As far as his second part is concerned, those who undertake biometric, immediately it gets encrypted; and the sanctity is maintained.

I can only tell the House that nearly in 99 crore data, no allegation has come that my biometric has sought to be abused or pilfered. We have data centres at Bengaluru and at Manesar, Haryana. We undertake periodic monitoring. It is very strict, encrypted mechanism available to ensure secrecy and privacy of the data.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, in the case of passport also some private agencies are employed for data and biometric; and some complaints are there. Now, this figure of 95 crore is very good. But my question is this. I feel that the Government itself is not doing everything. Private IT companies are involved in data collection, security, etc. Just now the hon. Minister has said that no foreign agency is employed. But I would like to know whether any foreign server is there. Even in Indian servers of private agencies, private companies there is a lot of scope for commercial exploitation with this data. I want to know whether the private agency who is dealing with this data can use this for the commercial purpose for interested parties and for security aspect also.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, that is a good and valid question. First of all, I would like to assure the hon. Member, and, through you, the entire House that the data centre storing the data of Aadhaar is completely in India. One is at Bangalore and the other is at Manesar to ensure proper safety and security. Hon. Members would appreciate that 99 crore Aadhaar cards can't be handled by the Government alone. But the Registrar is the State Government, the public sector bank and the common service centre could do a good job. Since they selected and they ensured the credibility, let me tell you the data is always encrypted. Mr. Chairman, I tried myself to know about it. Suppose an agency is collecting the data, they have to give their own Aadhaar number, and the moment it is collected it becomes completely encrypted and goes to the data centre. Therefore, secrecy is maintained everywhere and, surely, in your State also. If there is any specific complaint, kindly bring it to my notice, and I will look into it.

Productivity of crops

*153. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that globally, India lags behind in productivity of most of the crops cultivated in the country;

(b) whether Government is giving utmost importance to raise the productivity per hectare to pull out the farmers from poverty, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the only solution to prevent farmers from committing suicide is to increase the productivity of crops?

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) The per hectare productivity of most of the agricultural crops cultivated in India is less as compared to China and many countries in Europe and America. Major reasons for low productivity of agricultural crops in India are varied agro climatic conditions, pre-dominantly rainfed agriculture, inefficient use of irrigation resources, weather extremities, fragmented land holdings, complex diseases and pests scenario, low use of good quality seeds and low adoption of improved package of practices, etc. Further, in above countries, the agricultural crops are largely grown in high input management conditions with long growing period and without any stress of moisture, temperature, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. In order to increase the production and productivity of agricultural crops in the country and improve income levels of farmers, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, 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.

In order to enhance production and productivity of various agricultural crops in the country, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is having research programmes in different crops in 24 commodity/theme based research institutes. These institutes undertake basic and strategic research programmes related to crop improvement, crop production and protection technologies in different crops. The technical information so developed is used by 31 crop related All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) to develop location specific varieties and technologies for different agro-ecological needs to enhance production and productivity. Improved varieties/hybrids of major crops such as rice, wheat, maize, sorghum, pearl millet, pulses etc. have been released to ensure supply of quality seed to farmers.

These varieties and hybrids are being promoted through Front Line Demonstrations and other promotion programmes/schemes through State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). Besides, integrated nutrient, water and weed management strategies have been developed by Crop Institutes of ICAR to meet location-specific requirements to achieve higher productivity.

(c) No, Sir. Increase in the productivity of crops is not the only solution to prevent farmers from committing suicide. The Government believes that farmers' welfare will improve if there is an increase in the net income from the farms along with increase in the productivity of crops. With this end in view, besides enabling higher productivity, the approach of the Government is also to reduce cost of cultivation and ensure realization of remunerative prices to farmers for their produce. The important initiatives in this direction include (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, (ii) Promotion of Neem Coated Urea (iii) Implementation of Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), (iv) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), etc.

In addition, the Government is also implementing a number of Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET); Unified National Agriculture Markets, etc.

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.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU: This is my first question, Sir. We have more land than many other countries. Our main crops are rice and wheat. These are produced in less quantity. In Israel, 80 per cent of the land is desert. Despite that, Israel is exporting many agricultural products to the world over. My specific question is, whether the Government...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question at a time, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. Let your first question be answered. Hon. Minister.

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान): सर, आपके बोलने की वजह से प्रश्न क्या है, वह समझ में नहीं आ पाया, अतः अनुरोध है कि माननीय सदस्य अपना प्रश्न दोबारा बता दें।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your first question again.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU: My first question is whether the Government would formulate any plan to increase the productivity of crops in our country.

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान: सर, इस तरह की बहुत सी योजनाएं पहले से ही चल रही हैं, कुछ नई योजनाएं शुरू हुई हैं, जैसे soil health card. अगर experiment के तौर पर soil health card को अच्छी तरह से यूज किया जाए, तो इससे करीब 15 से 20 परसेंट productivity बढ़ सकती है। दूसरी है नीम कोटेड यूरिया, इससे भी productivity बढ़ सकती है। तीसरी बात यह है कि देश में irrigation facilities की कमी है, इसके लिए "प्रधान मंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना" है। देश में जहां-जहां समस्याएं हैं, वे ज्यादातर सिंचाई को लेकर रही हैं। इस तरह की कई योजनाएं हैं, जैसे 'नेशनल फूड सिक्युरिटी मिशन' है, 'इंटिग्रेटेड पेस्ट मैनेजमेंट' है, 'इंटिग्रेटेड न्यूट्रिशन मैनेजमेंट' है, इन योजनाओं के तहत productivity बढ़ाई जा सकती है।

SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Sir, the Government has a greater responsibility in preventing suicides by farmers. My second question is whether any proposal is pending with the Government for doubling the allocation of funds to Regional Agricultural University Research Centres in all States so that those Centres can come out with high-yielding, short duration, disease resistant crop varieties which are suitable for micro-irrigation and water management.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, किसानों की आत्महत्या रुके या कम हो, इस अभियान के तहत "प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना" शुरू की गई है। आज तक जितनी योजनाएं चल रही थीं, उनमें यह योजना सबसे बड़ी योजना के रूप में आई है। दूसरी बात यह है कि अनुसंधान का जो कार्य है, उसमें भी आप देखेंगे कि एक वर्ष के अन्दर 93 ऐसी किस्में निकली हैं, जो उच्च पैदावार की हैं। उनमें कुछ सूखारोधी भी हैं। जो आईसीएआर की संस्थाएं हैं, उनके लिए राशि भी बढ़ाई गई है। इस वर्ष हमारे वैज्ञानिक उच्च पैदावार और सूखारोधी नई किस्म के बीज और रोपण सामग्री भी बड़े पैमाने पर लाए हैं। इस वर्ष गत वर्ष की तुलना में सूखे का असर बहुत ज्यादा था, इसके बावजूद देश के वैज्ञानिकों ने मेहनत की है, कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों का सहयोग मिला है, राज्य सरकारों ने सहयोग किया है और देश के किसानों ने भी मेहनत की है। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ है कि इस वर्ष का जो द्वितीय अनुमान आया है, वह बता रहा है कि पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में इस बार उत्पादन ज्यादा होगा, जब कि पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में इस वर्ष सूखे का प्रभाव ज्यादा था।

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन साहब, मैं आपके जरिए माननीय मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहता हूं कि 2022 का जो आपका टारगेट है कि किसानों की इन्कम डबल कर दी जाएगी, उसके लिए assured price और assured yield, दो प्वाइंट्स हैं, आप इनके लिए टाइम बाउण्ड क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, किसानों की आमदनी दोगुनी हो, इसके लिए लागत कम करनी होगी और उत्पादकता बढ़ानी होगी। लागत कम करने के लिए हर खेत पर पानी पहुंचाना होगा। इस बार आपने देखा होगा कि बजट में कृषि मंत्रालय का भी बजट बढ़ाया गया है और

'नाबार्ड' के अंतर्गत 20 हजार करोड़ रुपए का दीर्घकालीन सिंचाई कोष बनाया गया है। हमारा इस वर्ष का यह लक्ष्य है कि हम 28 लाख हेक्टेयर को सिंचित करेंगे। इस देश के अंदर 89 बड़ी-बड़ी परियोजनाएं वर्षों से लम्बित पड़ी हैं। बजट में इस बार यह व्यवस्था हुई है कि उनमें से 23 बड़ी परियोजनाओं को हम इस वर्ष पूरा करेंगे और उनके लिए 12,517 करोड़ रुपये की राशि भी निर्धारित की गई है। इसी तरह, "मनरेगा" के लिए जो पैसे जाते हैं, उनसे 5 लाख तालाबों और कुओं के निर्माण का लक्ष्य रखा गया है। उत्पादकता सतत बनी रहे, इसके लिए जैविक खेती की व्यवस्था की गई है और "मनरेगा" के द्वारा उनके लिए अलग से फंड है। जैविक खेती के लिए अलग से फंड मिशन मोड में है। पहले जैविक खेती के लिए हम राज्यों को पैसा नहीं देते थे। इसके अलावा, "मनरेगा" में भी 10 लाख कम्पोस्ट गड्ढों के निर्माण का काम किया गया है। उत्पादन लागत कम हो और उत्पादकता बढ़े, इसके लिए Soil Health Card और "प्रधान मंत्री सिंचाई योजना" है। इसी तरह, अच्छा मूल्य मिले, इसके लिए मैं आपके ध्यान में यह लाना चाहता हूं कि जो मार्केटिंग का लॉट है, वह राज्य सरकारें बनाती हैं। जब यह सरकार आई तो उसने सभी राज्य सरकारों से राज्यों के मंडी कानून में परिवर्तन करने का आग्रह किया, लेकिन साल भर तक राज्यों की ओर से इसमें कोई प्रगति दिखाई नहीं दी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं अभी उसी पर आ रहा हूं। जो कृषि मार्केटिंग है, उसमें राज्य सरकारें ही नियम बनाती हैं। राष्ट्रीय कृषि मंडी बने, जिससे किसानों को अच्छा मूल्य मिले, इसके लिए राज्यों से आग्रह किया गया कि आप मंडी कानून में परिवर्तन कीजिए, ताकि राष्ट्रीय कृषि बाजार स्थापित किया जाए। अंत में, सभी राज्यों के कृषि मंत्रियों और मार्केटिंग सेक्रेटरीज को ले जाकर — कर्णाटक उसका उदाहरण है, जिसने ई-मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था की है। वहां किसानों को अच्छा मूल्य मिलता है और उस राज्य के 70 बड़े मार्केट्स में, चाहे आप कहीं पर भी जाइए, आपको यह पता चल जाएगा कि दूसरे मार्केट में क्या मूल्य है? वहां ई-मार्केटिंग होती है और अच्छा मूल्य मिलता है।

मुझे यह कहते हुए प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि उसके बाद पंजाब को छोड़कर केरल और बिहार में कोई मंडी कानून नहीं है, बाकी सभी राज्यों ने इस पर सैद्धांतिक सहमति दे दी है। इसके लिए पिछली सरकार ने भी कोशिश की थी। हमें 11 राज्यों ने लगभग 200 से ज्यादा प्रस्ताव भेजे हैं। हमने उनको पैसे दिए हैं और 14 अप्रैल को ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं अभी उस पर आ रहा हूं। उनका मूल्य बढ़े और समय-समय पर समर्थन मूल्य भी बढ़ाया जाए, इस योजना पर हम काम कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you. No, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... The question is over. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : The Chair would have permitted me however.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, the Chair would not have permitted you.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, through you, I wish to ask the Minister कि आपने अपने जवाब में लिखा है कि ये सारी स्कीम्स हैं जो इस समय चल रही हैं, लेकिन ये तो ज़माने से चल रही हैं। All these have been done in the past. मैं आपसे यह सवाल पूछना चाहती हूं कि कितने hectares have changed from food crop to cash crop? इसके लिए आप food capacity and meeting in the PSUs में इनकी डिमांड को कैसे meet

करेंगे? इसके साथ-साथ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, ये सब बहुत ज़माने से स्थापित किए गए थे। How do you propose to meet the nation's demand in the fall of food security? There is a huge change from food crop to cash crop today. What is the seed availability? Are you contemplating crop planning? There has to be a National Crop Planning whereby the small and medium farmer will find sustainable livelihood; you provide the seed for them as a timely intervention. Would you consider it?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, ये सारी योजनाएं जिनकी हमने चर्चा की, ये पहले से चल रही थीं, ऐसा कहा जा रहा है। मैं इससे सहमत हूँ इनमें से बहुत सारी योजनाएं पहले से चल रही हैं। हर राज्य में लोग जैविक खेती पहले से ही करते रहे हैं, लेकिन भारत सरकार आज तक एक भी पैसा किसी भी राज्य को जैविक खेती के लिए अलग से नहीं देती थी। Soil Health Cards पहले भी बनते रहे हैं, Soil Health Management के लिए पैसे देते रहे हैं, लेकिन अलग से Soil Health Cards बनाने के लिए किसी राज्य को पैसा नहीं दिया जाता था। मैं आपको फिर से कह रहा हूँ कि 89 परियोजनाएं पहले से चल रही हैं, लेकिन 20 साल से अधूरी पड़ी हुई हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कृपया मेरी बात सुनिए। जो लघु और मध्यम श्रेणी के किसान हैं, उनके लिए एफपीओ का निर्माण पहले से चल रहा है, लेकिन अभी उसकी गति काफी तेज़ हुई है। इस डेढ़ वर्ष के अन्दर, पहले जितने बने थे, उनके दोगुने बने। उसके बाद Joint Liability Groups जो छोटे-छोटे किसान हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं वही बता रहा हूँ। जो छोटे किसान हैं और भूमिहीन हैं, आप देखेंगे कि अभी डेढ़ साल में, पिछले आठ वर्ष की तुलना में दोगुने बढ़े हैं और उन्हें ऋण भी दिए जा रहे हैं। छोटे किसानों का ऋण प्रवाह तेज़ करने के लिए, आप हर बार बजट में देख रहे हैं कि दो साल से कितनी राशि बढ़ाई जा रही है। जो लघु और सीमान्त किसान हैं, उनके लिए सिंचाई योजना से लेकर जैविक खेती की जो योजनाएं हैं, उनका लाभ सीधे छोटे-छोटे किसानों को मिलेगा।

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, this was not my question. It was about planning so that small and medium farmers could have sustainable land...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैं बता रहा हूँ। आपके ध्यान में होगा, आप स्वयं उस कमेटी की सदस्य हैं, जो हमारा आईसीएआर फसल चक्र बना रहा है और यूनिवर्सिटी के माध्यम से तथा हमारे राज्यों की जो आत्मा है, हमारे केवीके हैं, उनके माध्यम से लघु और सीमान्त किसानों को लगातार ट्रेनिंग दी जा रही है। फिर कई योजनाओं के माध्यम से उनको सहायता भी दी जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know your question has not been answered, but, let me move on. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please write to the Minister on the subject. Now, Shri Parida.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Sir, with the increasing population in the country and division of families, the consolidated land is being fragmented more and more. Hitherto, while applying modern methods of cultivation, these small holdings are deterrent for it. So, what is your plan not to again fragment those plots of lands so that you can increase your production?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सभापति महोदय, देश के अन्दर जो पारिवारिक बनावट है, जो परिवार बंटता जा रहा है, उसके परिणामस्वरूप जोत के आकार छोटे होते जा रहे हैं। ऐसे में उनकी उत्पादकता बढ़े, इसके लिए कई योजनाएं पिछली सरकार के द्वारा भी बनायी गयी। राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा मिशन के तहत उन किसानों को सहायता दी जाती है और Joint Liability Groups या FPO जो हम बना रहे हैं, वे भी छोटे किसानों के लिए ही हैं। बहुत सारे छोटे किसान, जो नयी तकनीक का उपयोग नहीं कर सकते हैं या बड़े-बड़े औजार नहीं खरीद सकते, उनके लिए औजार बैंक हर प्रखंड मुख्यालय में बनाने का कार्यक्रम चल रहा है। इस प्रकार से छोटे किसानों की भी उत्पादकता बढ़े, इसके लिए कई सारी योजनाएं चलाई जा रही हैं।

Profit making fertilizer PSUs turning loss making

*154. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual consumption of fertilizers in the country during the last three years;

(b) how much of it is imported and how much produced indigenously;

(c) why are some public sector fertilizer companies, which were profit making earlier, are incurring losses in recent years; and

(d) whether it is mainly due to Government's tariff policy, if so, whether Government would amend the same, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The details of total consumption (Sales) of subsidized chemical fertilizers viz (Urea, DAP, MOP&NPK) in the country during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2014-15 and also of 2015-16 (upto February, 2016) are as under:—

(figures in LMT)

| Year | Urea | DAP | MOP | NPK |
|--------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2012-13 | 301.61 | 92.30 | 21.34 | 77.33 |
| 2013-14 | 304.54 | 68.47 | 21.90 | 75.17 |
| 2014-15 | 308.72 | 75.59 | 27.80 | 86.00 |
| 2015-16 (upto Feb. 2016) | 290.47 | 85.06 | 22.38 | 82.00 |

(b) The details of imported fertilizers *viz* (Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) in the country during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2014-15 and also 2015-16 (upto February, 2016) are as under:—

(figures in LMT)

| Year | Urea | DAP | MOP | NPK |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2012-13 | 80.44 | 58.53 | 18.80 | 04.06 |
| 2013-14 | 70.81 | 33.74 | 20.66 | 03.58 |
| 2014-15 | 87.49 | 39.54 | 29.69 | 02.85 |
| 2015-16 (Feb.) | 83.07 | 56.03 | 22.08 | 06.29 |

The details of chemical fertilizers *viz.* (Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) produced internally during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2014-15 and also 2015-16 upto February, 2016 are as under:—

(figures in LMT)

| Year | Urea | DAP | MOP* | NPK |
|--------------------------|--------|-------|------|-------|
| 2012-13 | 225.75 | 36.47 | - | 67.74 |
| 2013-14 | 227.15 | 36.11 | - | 74.83 |
| 2014-15 | 225.86 | 34.44 | - | 82.74 |
| 2015-16 (upto Feb. 2016) | 224.67 | 33.93 | - | 80.77 |

* No indigenous production.

(c) and (d) At present there are two public sector fertilizer companies which were making profits earlier have suffered losses in recent years:

(i) The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)

(ii) Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)

The reasons for losses of these PSUs are given below:—

(i) The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)

FACT had been earning profit for till 1997-98. The financial performance of FACT turned negative due to decontrol of Ammonium Sulphate in 1994. Anomalies in the erstwhile Price Concession Scheme for complex fertilizers *i.e.* inadequate compensation for Naphtha, non-recognition of Sulphur as nutrient under fixed Maximum Retail Price regime led to negative contribution on complex fertilizers. These anomalies were later addressed to a great extent with policy interventions. A Public Interest Litigation against storage of Ammonia

at the port led to setting up of a new Ammonia plant with a huge capital expenditure, which caused additional financial burden on the company.

FACT has suffered losses in recent years due to high cost of feedstock and interest burden due to loans. The matter for revival and financial restructuring of FACT is under consideration.

(ii) Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL):

MFL has incurred losses during 2014-15 as the Modified NPS-III policy for existing urea units notified on 2nd April, 2014, did not permit payment of subsidy to the high cost naphtha based urea units including MFL, Manali beyond June 2014 unless gas availability and connectivity is provided to these units. Subsequently, these units were allowed the production intermittently twice during 2014-15 and in the intervening period the production was stopped which led to losses. Thereafter, keeping in view the long term interest the policy related issues for production of urea from naphtha based units were resolved and in June 2015 all such units including MFL, Manali were allowed to produce urea till gas availability and connectivity to these urea units either by gas pipeline or by any other means is established.

MFL has also suffered losses because of stoppage of additional subsidy for P&K fertilizers beyond 31.3.2012 on account of uses of higher cost captive ammonia produced through naphtha.

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Minister whether there is any scheme to modernise FACT which is one of the oldest public sector fertilizer plants in India, and to make use of either LNG or LPG as the main raw materials.

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, सरकार के बहुत सारे प्रयास चल रहे हैं कि हम फर्टिलाइजर के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर हों। जब हम उस दिशा में पहल करते हैं तो हमें पूरा रॉ मैटेरियल आयात ही करना पड़ता है। चाहे natural gas हो, potash हो, sulfur हो, हम सभी चीजों को आयात करते हैं। सरकार ने इस संबंध में बहुत सोचा, पूरी ताकत के साथ हम अपने देश में सभी प्लांटों में उत्पादन करने में कहीं न कहीं पीछे रहते हैं। इसलिए सरकार जो नई-नई पॉलिसी बना रही है, हमने पिछले वर्ष 2015 NBS बनाया था, ताकि कम्पनियों को अधिक लाभ मिले, सब्सिडी अधिक मिले और उत्पादकता बढ़े। इस दृष्टि से जितने भी हमारे PSUs हैं, हम सभी को रिवाइव करने में मदद कर रहे हैं और अच्छी ताकत से चलाने की कोशिश भी कर रहे हैं।

माननीय सदस्य ने जानना चाहा है कि क्या हम और नए प्लांट्स के बारे में सोच रहे हैं, तो बाहर से नए प्लांट्स खड़े करने की हमारी कोई योजना नहीं है। पिछली सरकार के कार्यकाल से fertilizers के आठ प्लांट बंद पड़े हैं, उन सभी प्लांट्स को रिवाइव करने की हमारी एक योजना चल रही है। हमने इनमें से चार प्लांट्स के बारे में कैबिनेट में निर्णय लिया है और हमारी दिशा में आगे कदम बढ़ाने की कोशिश है।

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Sir, my question was regarding FACT, in Kerala, which was put up in 1942 or so. Now it is more than 75 years old. I wanted to know whether the Government has got any plan to modernise it and use either LNG or LPG as a raw material so that it can turn from 'red' to profit. That was my first question. Sir, my second supplementary is this. From the answers given, I find that the sale of Urea is very high compared to the DAP, MOP and NPK. And, in the view of the experts in the field, the vast use of Urea, at the expense of the other three, is affecting the soil productivity in a big way. I understand that this is caused by the present NBS which is subsidising only Urea at the expense of others. Has the Government any plan to include DAP, MOP and NPK along with Urea in the Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme?

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, हमने प्रश्न के लिखित जवाब में कहा था कि FACT के लिए सरकार ने उन्हें एक हजार करोड़ रुपए लोन के रूप में दिए हैं और प्लांट को और रिवाइव करने के लिए, उसकी क्षमता बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने योजना बनाई है। यह प्रावधान 2015-16 के बजट में किया था, इसके लिए उन्हें एक हजार करोड़ रुपए का चैक भी दिया गया है। कम्पनी के MD को कहा गया है कि एक अच्छी कमेटी बनाई जाए और हमें सुझाव दिया जाए कि इसमें और क्या कुछ किया जा सकता है, ताकि FACT को हम और रिवाइव करें तथा उत्पादकता को भी बढ़ाएं। जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने यूरिया के मामले में कहा है कि सरकार द्वारा यूरिया पर अधिक सब्सिडी देने से यूरिया का यूज ज्यादा हो रहा है, यूरिया सस्ता होने से लोग यूरिया ज्यादा यूज करते हैं। मैं इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि यूरिया अधिक यूज करने से सॉयल हैल्थ की प्रॉब्लम आ रही है और हैल्थ खराब हो रही है। हमने NBS के मामले में जो न्यूट्रियन बेस्ट सब्सिडी देने की योजना बनाई थी, पिछली सरकार ने भी बनाई थी, उसी योजना को हमने जारी रखा है। न्यूट्रियन बेस पर यूरिया के लिए जहां पर ज्यादा गैस यूज होती तो उसमें यूरिया अधिक सब्सिडी लेने में सक्षम होता है। वहां पर यूरिया में ज्यादा सब्सिडी दी जा रही है।

हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी ने जो सॉयल हैल्थ कार्ड की बात कही है, तो हम सॉयल हैल्थ कार्ड के माध्यम से NPK में जितनी भी रेश्यों बनेगी, उस हिसाब से यूरिया देना चाहते हैं, लेकिन सभी राज्यों से यूरिया की अधिक मांग आ रही है। इस वजह से हमें यूरिया अधिक देना पड़ता है और सॉयल हैल्थ पर उसका परिणाम हो रहा है। हमारी यह कोशिश है कि इस साल हमने जो नीम कोटेड यूरिया बनाया है, इसकी वजह से यूरिया का यूज कम हो रहा है, किसान बातों को समझ रहे हैं। इस वर्ष सभी राज्यों से हमारे पास करीब-करीब सात टन यूरिया की मांग कम आई है। सरकार चाहती है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Sir, my specific question is whether DAP, MOP and NPK will be brought into the package of subsidy along with Urea. The States are doing that. But will the Central Government, knowing that the productivity of the soil is falling down, bring these also into the Subsidy System? That is my specific question.

श्री सभापति: आप Yes or No में simple जवाब दे दीजिए।

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सरकार ने अभी इस पर अधिक सब्सिडी देने के बारे में सोचा नहीं है। सब्सिडी सरकार देती है, नहीं देती है, ऐसी बात नहीं है, लेकिन आपने इसमें जो चिंता प्रकट की है, हमारी सरकार ने अभी इस वर्ष सिटी कम्पोस्ट के रूप में उत्पादन करने का निर्णय लिया है। सभी जगहों पर कम्पोस्ट फर्टिलाइजर बनेगा, ताकि जो चिंता प्रकट की जा रही है, उसके लिए सरकार की यह योजना है कि अधिक यूरिया यूज करने के बजाय सिटी कम्पोस्ट का यूज बढ़ने से शायद सॉयल की हेल्थ में सुधार हो सकता है।

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Sir, even now, on NPK nothing has been mentioned.

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Sir, Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant in Telangana was agreed upon to revive by Engineers India Ltd. and Central Government. But, due to delay in the reasons best known to the hon. Minister, revival is pending for long. Due to this, the estimated cost of revival has gone up from ₹ 4,694 crores to ₹ 5,250 crores. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister when the production in this plant will start and who will bear the additional cost of escalation.

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने सही पूछा है कि रामागुंडम का प्लांट, जो पिछली सरकार के कार्यकाल से बंद पड़ा था, नई सरकार ने इसका रिवाइवल करने का निर्णय लिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमने एनएफएल, ईआईएल और एफसीआईएल, इन तीनों कंपनियों के माध्यम से एक ग्रुप बनाया है और ज्वाइंट वेंचर में प्लांट का काम शुरू हो रहा है। उसका टेंडरिंग प्रोसेस शुरू हो गया है। सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया है और जुलाई, 2018 में इसका परीक्षण शुरू करने की उम्मीद की जा रही है। सरकार ने यह सब प्लान किया हुआ है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस संयंत्र को शुरू करने का निर्णय सरकार द्वारा लिया गया है और इसका प्रोसेस जारी है।

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Who will bear the cost of escalation?

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: मैंने सुना नहीं, इन्होंने क्या कहा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: वे पूछ रहे हैं कि cost of escalation कौन देगा?

श्री पलवई गोवर्धन रेड्डी: ..4,694 करोड़ से 5,250 करोड़ है। पैसों की वजह से cost of escalation रुका हुआ है, यह cost of escalation कौन देगा?

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति जी, इसका जवाब तो शायद मैं इतना ही दे पाऊंगा कि हमारी सरकार ने, प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी के निर्णय के अनुसार इस प्लांट का फिर से रिवाइवल करने का निर्णय लिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह पुरानी सरकार का काम था। यह प्लांट बरसों से बंद पड़ा हुआ है। अगर पुरानी सरकार वक्त पर काम करती तो शायद हमें अधिक खर्च नहीं करना पड़ता। मैं इस प्रश्न का यही जवाब देना चाहता हूँ।

श्री पलवई गोवर्धन रेड्डी: आप क्या कर रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने कहा यूपीए-2 ...**(व्यवधान)**... ने गलती की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया: सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि अभी देश में चार कारखाने स्टार्ट हो गए हैं और चार कारखाने शुरू करने बाकी हैं यानी कुल मिलाकर आठ कारखाने बंद थे। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह तो कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर के लिए कार्य हुआ है, कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर से हमारी जमीन बिगड़ रही है, ये सारे तथ्य हमारे सामने आ चुके हैं, उस सन्दर्भ में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ— यह ठीक है कि कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर का उत्पादन बढ़ा है, लेकिन क्या ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर का प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने कुछ किया है? मैं इस प्रश्न का उत्तर माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ।

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर बेचने का काम कृषि मंत्रालय देखता है। हमने अभी अपने मंत्रालय से अभी जो मैंने सिटी कम्पोस्ट की बात कही है, उसका नया प्रोजेक्ट अपने हाथ में लिया है और भविष्य में यह कम्पोस्ट खाद बनेगी, फर्टिलाइजर बनेगा। माननीय सदस्य कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर की जो चिंता प्रकट कर रहे हैं, हम कितनी भी कोशिश करें कि कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर का कम यूज हो, यूरिया का कम यूज हो, लेकिन इस काम में सभी राज्य सरकारें मदद नहीं करती हैं, यद्यपि सभी राज्य सरकारों ने यूरिया की मांग कम की है। जैसे कि सॉयल हेल्थ कार्ड बनने जा रहे हैं, यहां पर सीधे स्पष्ट होने वाला है कि इसमें कितना एनपीके यूज किया जाना चाहिए। यह स्पष्ट हो जाएगा, तो जो Soil Health Card की नई योजना बनी है, उसकी वजह से शायद हमें यूरिया का उत्पादन भी कम करना पड़ेगा और हमें इसका import भी रोकना पड़ेगा। यह बात सही है कि कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर से खेती की जमीन का काफी नुकसान हो रहा है। सरकार को इसके बारे में चिंता है।

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, there are provisions under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act for setting up of petrochemical corridor. मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इसके बारे में जो कदम उठाए हैं, क्या वे इसके बारे में सभा को अवगत करा सकते हैं?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does it relate to this question?

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Yes, Sir. It is pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Read the question. The supplementary has to be in relation to the main question.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: I mean, if he can reply; because this is a very important aspect of the Government's promise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is very important. There is no question about that. But, it does not relate to the main question. Shri Gulam Rasool Balyawi.

श्री गुलाम रसूल बलियावी: सर, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने फर्टिलाइजर की जिन चार यूनिट्स को फिर से चालू करने की बात कही है, उन चार में बिहार शामिल है या नहीं, क्या आप बताने की कृपा करेंगे? फिर सिंदरी भी है। सिंदरी में फर्टिलाइजर का कारखाना है। जिन चार कारखानों को चालू करने की बात इन्होंने कही है, उनमें सिंदरी शामिल है या नहीं, आप बताने की कृपा करें।

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, जो आठ प्लांट्स बंद पड़े हुए हैं, मैं उनकी जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ। सिंदरी, रामागुंडम, गोरखपुर, तालचर और कोरबा—ये पांचों प्लांट्स FCIL के थे और सभी बंद पड़े हुए हैं। इनके अतिरिक्त बरौनी, हल्दिया और दुर्गापुर प्लांट्स भी बंद पड़े हुए हैं। सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया है और सिंदरी, रामागुंडम, तालचर और गोरखपुर, इन चारों के revival का हमारा प्लान है। तालचर में coal based यूरिया बनाने का प्रयास चल रहा है। मैं स्पष्ट करूंगा कि हमने coal based यूरिया बनाने के लिए प्रयास प्रारम्भ किया है। हमारे जो भी प्लांट्स coal belt में हैं, उन प्लांट्स को हम coal based कैसे बना सकते हैं, हम इस पर विचार कर रहे हैं।

Utilisation of USO fund

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has collected ₹ 52,722.64 crore under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) since its inception in 2002-03 to boost connectivity in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much amount has been utilized by the Ministry from this Fund during the last ten years; and

(c) the infrastructure facilities created for the benefit of rural connectivity during the last ten years?

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

Statement

(a) Since inception of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) (*i.e.* from 2002-03), ₹ 72077.01 crore has been collected as Universal Access Levy (UAL) available as potential fund under USOF to boost connectivity in rural areas.

(b) The reply is as under:—

(i) The Details of UAL is as under:

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Year | Amount |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. | 2002-03 | 1653.61 |
| 2. | 2003-04 | 2143.22 |
| 3 | 2004-05 | 3457.73 |

| Sl. No. | Year | Amount |
|--------------------|---------|----------|
| 4. | 2005-06 | 3215.13 |
| 5. | 2006-07 | 3940.73 |
| 6. | 2007-08 | 5405.80 |
| 7. | 2008-09 | 5515.14 |
| 8. | 2009-10 | 5778.00 |
| 9. | 2010-11 | 6114.56 |
| 10. | 2011-12 | 6723.57 |
| 11. | 2012-13 | 6735.46 |
| 12. | 2013-14 | 7896.39 |
| 13. | 2014-15 | 7538.70 |
| 14. | 2015-16 | 5958.97 |
| (As on 31.01.2016) | | |
| TOTAL | | 72077.01 |

(ii) The details of amount utilized by the Ministry during the last ten years and current financial year is as under:

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Year | USO Funds allocated to DoT by Ministry of Finance | USO Funds Utilized by DoT |
|--------------------|---------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. | 2005-06 | 1766.85 | 1766.85 |
| 2. | 2006-07 | 1500.00 | 1500.00 |
| 3. | 2007-08 | 1290.00 | 1290.00 |
| 4. | 2008-09 | 1600.00 | 1600.00 |
| 5. | 2009-10 | 2400.00 | 2400.00 |
| 6. | 2010-11 | 3100.00 | 3100.00 |
| 7. | 2011-12 | 1687.96 | 1687.96 |
| 8. | 2012-13 | 625.00 | 625.00 |
| 9. | 2013-14 | 2163.45 | 2163.45 |
| 10. | 2014-15 | 2086.98 | 2086.98 |
| 11. | 2015-16 | 3100.00 | 2161.25 |
| (as on 31.01.2016) | | | |
| TOTAL | | 21320.24 | 20381.49 |

Note: In addition, the Ministry of Finance allocated ₹ 6948.64 crore to DoT. This amount has been utilized by DoT for the reimbursement of licence fees and spectrum charges to BSNL for fulfilling rural obligation.

(c) Infrastructure facilities created for the benefit of rural connectivity during last ten years is given in the Statement-I.

Statement-I

The infrastructure facilities created for the benefit of rural connectivity during the last ten years are as follows:—

Various Schemes are being implemented/planned with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for expansion of mobile services in rural and remote areas. Details of such schemes are as below :

- (i) **Village Public Telephones (VPTs):** 581183 out of 593601 inhabited villages (*i.e.* 97.9%) of the country as per Census 2011 have been provided with Village Public Telephones (VPTs) with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund. State-wise details is given in Statement-II (*See below*).
- (ii) **Rural Community Phones (RCPs):** Agreements were signed with BSNL and RIL [Reliance Infocomm Limited] on 30.09.2004 for providing 40,694 Rural Community Phones (RCPs) [BSNL: 21958, RIL: 18736] in villages with population more than 2000 and not having Public Call Office (PCO) facility. All of these 40694 RCPs have been provided. [The scheme is closed].
- (iii) **Rural household Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs):** Agreements were signed in March 2005 with M/s BSNL, Reliance Infocomm Limited (RIL), Tata Teleservices Ltd. (TTL) and Tata Teleservices Ltd (Maharashtra) [TTL (MH)] for installation of individual Rural household Direct Exchange Lines (RDELs) during 01.04.2005 and 31.03.2007, in eligible 1685 Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) out of total 2647 SDCAs, where cost of providing telephone connection was more than the revenue earned. About 79.3 lakh RDELs have been provided under this scheme till the closure of the scheme on 31.03.2010.
- (iv) **Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme:** 7,317 Mobile towers have been installed with the financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) under the Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme in villages or cluster of villages having population of 2000 or more and not having mobile coverage. State-wise details are given in Statement-III (*See below*). The infrastructure so created is capable of being shared by three service providers for provision of mobile services. The scheme was implemented during the period from June, 2007 to November, 2013.
- (v) **Rural Wireline Broadband:** For providing broadband connectivity to rural

and remote areas, USOF has signed an Agreement with BSNL on January 20, 2009. The Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme was implemented to provide wire-line broadband connectivity to rural and remote areas. As on 31.01.2015, a total of 656345 broadband connections have been provided and 15671 kiosks have been set up in rural and remote areas. State-wise details is given in Statement-IV (*See below*).

- (vi) **Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in Assam:** The State of Assam has been taken up first for implementation. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme in Assam, BSNL has been declared the successful bidder at a subsidy quote of ₹ 98.89 Crore, and subsequently, an Agreement has been signed with them on 12.02.2010 in this regard. The status is given in Statement-V (*See below*).
- (vii) **Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-I Circle (comprising States of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura):** The States of Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme, M/s RailTel Corporation of India Limited has been declared the successful bidder at their subsidy quote of ₹ 89.50 crore.

This OFC Scheme would connect 188 locations in 19 Districts within 48 months from the date of signing of the Agreement *i.e.* by 15.01.2016. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of eight years from the date of signing of agreement *i.e.* 16.01.2012. The status is given in abovementioned Statement-V (*See below*).

- (viii) **Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-II Circle (comprising States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland):** The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme, M/s RailTel Corporation of India Limited has been declared the successful bidder at their subsidy quote of ₹ 298.50 Crore.

This OFC Scheme would connect 407 locations in total 30 Districts within 54 months from the date of signing of the Agreement *i.e.* by 15.07.2016 for the States of Manipur and Nagaland and within 60 months from the date of signing of the Agreement *i.e.* by 15.01.2017 for the state of Arunachal Pradesh. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of eight years from the date of signing of agreement *i.e.* 16.01.2012. The status is given in abovementioned Statement-V (*See below*).

- (ix) **Solar Mobile Charging Facilities (SMCF):** Agreement for installation of Solar Mobile Charging Stations in 5000 villages in the country was signed with TERI on 29.04.2010. Mobile Charging stations have been established in 1900 villages by TERI till the expiry of the Agreement in April 2012.
- (x) **Sanchar Shakti:** Four pilot agreements have since been signed between USOF Administration in the service providers in Pune district (Maharashtra circle), Ajmer district (Rajasthan circle), Uttarakhand and Srikakulam, East Godavari and Vishakhapatnam districts (A.P. circle) for Provision of mobile Value Added Services to rural women's SHGs for a period of one year. The particulars are as under:

| Sl. No. | Operational Area | Effective date of Agreement | Beneficiaries (No. of women) |
|---------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Pune (Maharashtra) | 05.01.2013 Ext. From 05.02.2013 | 2200 |
| 2. | Uttarakhand | 05.01.2013 Ext. From 05.02.2013 | 2200 |
| 3. | Ajmer (Rajasthan) | 05.05.2013 Ext. From 05.06.2013 | 2860 |
| 4 | Srikakulam, East Godavari and Vishakhapatnam | 10.03.2014 Ext. From 01.10.2014 | 3066 |

- (xi) **National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN):** NOFN is planned to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibers of PSUs viz. BSNL, RailTel and Power Grid (and of any desirous private operator) and laying incremental fiber wherever necessary for providing Broadband connectivity. Size of the incremental network is Approx. 6 lakh Km. Dark fiber network thus created will be lit by appropriate technology thus creating sufficient bandwidth (100 Mbps) at GPS level. Non-discriminatory access to the network will be provided to all the telecom service providers. These access providers like mobile operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable TV operators, content providers can launch various services in rural areas. Various applications for e-health, e-education, e-governance etc. will be provided. The project has been approved by Union Cabinet on 25.10.2011. The project is being funded by USOF and initial estimated cost of project is ₹ 20,100 crore. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012 under Indian Companies Act 1956. BBNL is getting the project executed through 3 CPSUs viz. BSNL, RailTel and Powergrid.
- (xii) **Mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas:** 2199 mobile towers are being set up in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected

States with a total estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crore. State-wise details are given in Statement-VI (*See below*). 1517 sites are radiating as on 29.02.2016.

(xiii) **Satellite Bandwidth Augmentation in A&N Islands:**

- Decision taken in meeting held in Cabinet Secretariat on 12.06.2014 for funding of CAPEX by USOF for enhancement of satellite bandwidth from 260 Mbps to 1 Gbps.
- As on 31.12.2015, bandwidth augmented to 600 Mbps by BSNL as against the target of 1 Gbps mentioned in TC approved dated 22.04.2015.
- Bandwidth augmentation upto 1 Gbps to be implemented in a phased manner by 31.03.2016 owing to delay in supply of equipment by the vendor.

Statement-II

State-wise number of VPTs provisioned

| Name of the State | No. of inhabited revenue villages as per Census 2001 | No. of VPTs provided |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Andaman and Nicobar | 501 | 352 |
| Andhra Pradesh/Telangana | 26613 | 25107 |
| Assam | 25124 | 24692 |
| Bihar | 39032 | 38941 |
| Jharkhand | 29354 | 28821 |
| Gujarat | 18159 | 18054 |
| Haryana | 6764 | 6678 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 17495 | 16390 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 6417 | 6385 |
| Karnataka | 27481 | 27451 |
| Kerala | 1372 | 1321 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 52117 | 51986 |
| Chhattisgarh | 19744 | 18328 |
| Maharashtra | 41442 | 40544 |
| Meghalaya (NE-I) | 5782 | 5290 |
| Mizoram (NE-I) | 707 | 704 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Tripura (NE-I) | 858 | 858 |
| Arunachal Pradesh (NE-II) | 3863 | 2810 |
| Manipur (NE-II) | 2315 | 2174 |
| Nagaland (NE-II) | 1278 | 1263 |
| Odisha | 47529 | 45215 |
| Punjab | 12301 | 12065 |
| Rajasthan | 39753 | 39568 |
| Tamil Nadu | 15492 | 15492 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 97942 | 97852 |
| Uttarakhand | 15761 | 15271 |
| West Bengal excluding Sikkim | 37955 | 37142 |
| Sikkim (WB Circle) | 450 | 429 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 593601 | 581183 |

Statement-III*State-wise Mobile Tower sites installed under USOF Scheme
of Shared Mobile Infrastructure*

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Total No. of sites commissioned as on 30.11.2013 |
|---------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 327 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 65 |
| 3. | Assam | 87 |
| 4. | Bihar | 453 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 553 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 59 |
| 7. | Haryana | 12 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 258 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 81 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 273 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 381 |
| 12. | Kerala | 43 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|----------------|------|
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 933 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 956 |
| 15. | Manipur | 69 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 107 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 43 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 50 |
| 19. | Odisha | 434 |
| 20. | Punjab | 14 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 403 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 6 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 327 |
| 24. | Telangana | 269 |
| 25. | Tripura | 115 |
| 26. | Uttarakhand | 184 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 652 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 163 |
| TOTAL | | 7317 |

Statement-IV

*Telecom Circle-wise achievement under USOF's
"Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme"*

| Sl. No. | Telecom Circle | No. of Rural Exchanges | No. of Broadband Connections provided as on 31.01.2015 |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar | 45 | 405 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh/Telangana | 2665 | 59647 |
| 3. | Assam | 429 | 5067 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1000 | 6817 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 449 | 6743 |
| 6. | Chennai | 123 | 5230 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 1988 | 34315 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|-------------------|-------|--------|
| 8. | Haryana | 805 | 21012 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 811 | 8188 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 209 | 3057 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 291 | 3872 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 2217 | 20464 |
| 13. | Kerala | 1143 | 228741 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 1982 | 25216 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 4353 | 44200 |
| 16. | North East I | 149 | 2374 |
| 17. | North East II | 221 | 7872 |
| 18. | Odisha | 942 | 19828 |
| 19. | Punjab | 1217 | 37797 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 1959 | 27,310 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 1182 | 40075 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 2764 | 27811 |
| 23. | Uttarakhand | 341 | 6891 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 1387 | 13413 |
| TOTAL | | 28672 | 656345 |

Statement-V*The status of the OFC schemes in NER**(As on 29.02.2016)*

| Sl. No. | Item | Assam* | NE-I # (Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram) | NE-II (Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland) |
|---------|------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | No. of Districts | 27 | 19 | 30 |
| 2. | No. of Nodes (locations) | 354 | 188 Meg (71) + Miz (62) + Tri (55) | 407 A (226) + M (62) + N (119) |
| 3. | Operators (executive agency) | BSNL | RailTel | RailTel |
| 4. | Date of Agreement | 12.02.2010 | 16.01.2012 | 16.01.2012 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 5. | Agreement period | 10 years | 8 years | 8 years |
| 6. | Roll Out Period (Revised) | 58 months (12.02.2010 to 31.12.2014) | 48 months (16.01.2012 to 15.01.2016) | 54 months (16.01.2012 to 15.07.2016) for Nagaland and Manipur 60 months (16.01.2012 to 15.01.2017) for Arunachal Pradesh |
| 7. | Subsidy Outlay | ₹ 98.89 cr. | ₹ 89.50 cr. | ₹ 298.50 cr. |
| 8. | Progress | 308 nodes installed | * Work awarded for trenching/laying in all the districts * 1,475 km duct laid * 1,038 km OFC laid * 123 nodes connected on OFC * 50 nodes commissioned in Tripura | * Work awarded for trenching/ laying for 30 districts out of 36 districts * 3,746 km duct laid * 2,186 km OFC laid * 159 nodes connected on OFC * Roll out yet to start |

* Proposal received from BSNL for dropping 37 OFC nodes and seeking roll out extension for one year upto 31.12.2015 for commissioning of balance nodes in two districts of Assam (North Cachar and Karbi Anglong) is under examination.

Proposal received from RailTel for seeking roll out extension for one year upto 15.01.2017 for commissioning of balance nodes North East-I Circle is under examination.

Statement-VI

*State-wise breakup of locations under the scheme of mobile services to
LWE Affected Areas*

| Sl.No. | State | No. of Total Locations identified by MHA |
|--------|----------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 54 |
| 2. | Bihar | 184 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 497 |
| 4. | Jharkhand | 782 |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 60 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|----------------|------|
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | 22 |
| 7. | Odisha | 253 |
| 8. | Telangana | 173 |
| 9. | Uttar Pradesh | 78 |
| 10. | West Bengal | 96 |
| TOTAL | | 2199 |

श्री संजय राउत: सर, वैसे तो टाइम खत्म हो रहा है, लेकिन मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि 'Digital India' and 'Make in India' ये दो हमारी सरकार के बहुत ही महत्वाकांक्षी कार्यक्रम हैं। मुझे विस्तार से जो उत्तर मिला है, उसमें कहा गया है कि हम उस दिशा में काम कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न USO Fund के बारे में है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि लगभग 2.5 लाख ग्राम पंचायतों को Broadband Internet connection से जोड़ने का हमारा टारगेट है और National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) के तहत तार बिछाने का काम चल रहा है, लेकिन मेरा प्रश्न जमीन से नहीं, समुद्र से जुड़ा हुआ है। हमारे महाराष्ट्र में ऐसे बहुत से जिले हैं, जो समुद्र तट पर हैं और गोआ भी समुद्र तट पर है। वहां पर रोजगार का जो साधन है, वह फिशिंग है। हजारों मछुआरे समुद्र में जाते हैं और उनका सम्पर्क टूट जाता है। आपको जो USO Fund है अथवा Digital India हैं, इनके माध्यम से उन मछुआरों की connectivity मोबाइल अथवा किसी अन्य साधन से बनी रहे, इसके लिए आप समुद्र तट पर या समुद्र के अन्दर भी टावर्स बना सकते हैं। अगर आपकी ऐसी कोई योजना है, तो उसमें आप आगे क्या करने जा रहे हैं?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से बहुत विनम्रता के साथ यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इन्होंने Optical Fibre Network की बात की। हम देश की 2.5 लाख ग्राम पंचायतों को इससे जोड़ना चाहते हैं। जब हमारी सरकार आई थी, तो 2,292 किलोमीटर Pipe lay हुआ था और 358 किलोमीटर Optical Fibre lay हुआ था। मैं आपको अभी 7 मार्च तक के आंकड़े दे रहा हूँ। अब 1,26,792 किलोमीटर Optical Pipe lay हो गया है और 98,901 किलोमीटर Optical Fibre lay हो गया है। यह हमारी स्पीड है और इसको हम और आगे बढ़ाएंगे।

माननीय सदस्य ने समुद्र के किनारे जो गांव हैं, उनकी connectivity के बारे में पूछा है, तो Optical Fibre Network वहां तक भी पहुंचेगा। उन्होंने एक चिंता भी जताई है। मैं इस बात को विशेष रूप से देखूंगा और विभाग को निर्देश भी दूंगा कि जो मछुआरे समुद्र में जाते हैं, उनके जो गांव हैं, उनके लिए टावर की व्यवस्था की जाए। वैसे पिछले 5-6 महीनों में लगभग 65,000 नये टावर्स लगे हैं। उन्होंने एक चिंता और भी जताई है, उसके बारे में उनको सहयोग मिल सके, इसके लिए हमारी पूरी कोशिश होगी।

श्री संजय राउत: सर, पिछले साल सीएजी ने यहां ...(व्यवधान)...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Steps taken to boost wheat production**

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

(a) whether there is a substantial decline in output of wheat this year from a high of 95 million tonnes two years back, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps, the Ministry is taking to boost the production of wheat and to encourage farmers through MSP and insurance schemes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. As per 2nd advance estimates released on 15th February, 2016, total production of wheat in the country is estimated at 93.82 million tonnes as against the record production of 95.85 million tonnes of wheat achieved during 2013-14.

Decline in the estimated production of wheat during the current year, *i.e.*, 2015-16 has been on account of reduction in its area coverage due to moisture stress following the deficient rainfall during September-October 2015 and relatively warm winter in major wheat growing areas of the country.

(b) In order to increase production of wheat in the country, 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), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

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.

In order to ensure remunerative price to farmers, the Government has increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat from ₹ 1450/- per quintal for Rabi 2014-15 to ₹ 1525/- per quintal for Rabi 2015-16. The farmers are free to sell their produce to Government agencies or in open market as is advantageous to them.

Further, to provide financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of crops as a result of natural calamities, Government is implementing 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).

These crop insurance schemes have recently been reviewed in consultation with various stakeholders including States/UTs and a path breaking scheme for farmers' welfare namely Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 along with pilot Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) and restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). 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.

Appointment of staff at NIPER, Mohali

*157. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not appointing adequate staff for National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research at Mohali; and

(b) whether it is a fact that while the Director of NIPER at Mohali is having additional charge for the last two years, Government has not been able to find suitable officer for this post?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali is an Institute of National importance established by National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998 and is governed by its Act and related Statutes. The appointment of staff at NIPER, Mohali is a continuous process. The Institute from time to time has been advertising vacant posts; however, owing to earlier contractual nature of appointment and high attrition rate, various posts remained vacant. The Institute has been making best efforts to fill vacant posts.

(b) As per NIPER Act, the Director of the Institute is appointed by the Board of Governors with prior approval of the visitor. A senior most faculty in the NIPER, Mohali is officiating as a Director of NIPER, Mohali since 1st January, 2010. The matter of appointment of regular Director is being expedited.

Problem of call drops in rural areas

*158. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether call drop problem is metro-centric or extends to rural areas of the country also;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to address the issue; and

(c) how does BSNL fare *vis-à-vis* private cellular operators in respect of call drop problem and in addressing the issue particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government has taken cognizance of increased number of call drops as reported from different areas in the country. Apart from other possible factors, the call drop is more likely in the places where the number of active mobile service users, at a given location and time of the day, is relatively large.

In urban settlements such as prominent business districts, important public buildings and civil facilities centres, business hubs, transportation centers and commercial markets may witness higher number of active mobile users especially during the peak business hours. Besides, the other related factors such as mobility of user while making a call, high-rise structures and limited open space in urban areas increase the likelihood of experiencing the call drop by some of the mobile users. On the other side, the call drop may be less frequent in the settlement areas with lower user-density and plenty of open space such as rural settlements and agricultural fields. However, high density of mobile users on the occasion of any social or religious festivities at a given location may result in relatively higher incidences of call drops during that interval.

In order to monitor the status of mobile services, Quality of service parameters have been prescribed and notified by TRAI from time to time. All such prescribed parameters are common to metro, urban as well as rural areas across the country.

In view of reported instances of call drops in different parts of India, TRAI has prescribed more stringent financial disincentives in the event of consistent failure for not meeting the prescribed QoS benchmarks by any of the cellular mobile service provider. TRAI, after consulting the stake holders, has also enacted the Telecom Consumer Protection (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 dated 16th October, which came into force on 1st January, 2016. As provided in the Regulations, maximum of 3 call drops per day per subscriber are required to be compensated in favour of the caller by the related service provider at the rate of ₹ 1 per call drop in the given Service Area.

However, some of the telecommunications service providers and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) challenged the TRAI Regulations dated 16th October,

2015 in Delhi High Court. The High Court *vide* its judgement dated 29th February, 2016 has upheld the said Regulations effective from 1st January, 2016 onwards. However, an appeal against the judgment of the High Court of Delhi has been filed before the Supreme Court of India by the association of these companies. The Supreme Court has not granted any interim stay so far.

Besides, the Department is actively coordinating to improve upon the current status of call drops by involving concerned government agencies such as New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), Directorate of Estates, Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and Security agencies as well as State Governments for granting permission for deployment of additional sites. Ministry of Urban Development and Department of Posts has in-principle agreed to permit installation of in-building solutions/mobile towers on buildings under their control. Further, the Department as well as TRAI has been spreading the awareness amongst the general public and mobile users that the radio emissions from telecommunications equipments have no potential health hazards.

The Department of Telecommunications has finalised lot of policy initiatives to facilitate operations. Spectrum Sharing and Trading policies pending for so many years have been finalised. Sharing of infrastructure among operators including tower and active infrastructure has been permitted. The Department has been taking proactive steps in monitoring and improving the situation. Sustained communications has been done regarding misgivings about radiations. Steps have also been taken at the National and State levels to facilitate Right of Way issues.

(c) In reference to call drop rate measured for BSNL *vis-a-vis* private cellular operators, the performance of BSNL is comparable with the performance of private operators. In order to reduce call drops, BSNL as well as private cellular operators have added number of new mobile service sites. In the last six months, 20,267 sites for 2G and 45,248 sites for 3G services installed in the country. BSNL alone has added more than 13,700 sites for 2G services and 7,416 sites for 3G services, totaling to 21,116 sites in last 2 years period. Due to addition of new sites, optimisation of networks and synchronization of spectrum bands, the severity of call drop incidences have shown declining trend in all license Service Areas.

In the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana which forms the 'Andhra Pradesh Service Area' for telecommunication services, BSNL has added 264 sites for 2G and 194 sites for 3G in the year 2015-16. The private cellular operators have added around 1,010 sites for 2G and 2,621 sites for 3G in the last six months. This has started showing the results.

Damage to crops in Jharkhand due to drought

*159. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central team recently visited Jharkhand to assess the extent of crop damage on account of drought, if so, the findings thereof; and

(b) the total amount proposed to be released by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. Government of India supplements efforts of State Government with financial assistance and logistic support. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government in accordance with established procedure.

During the year 2015-16, Government of Jharkhand submitted a Memorandum on 07.12.2015 seeking financial assistance of ₹ 2142.78 crore from National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) in the wake of drought. On receipt of such memorandum, Government of India constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to visit the drought affected areas of the State for an assessment of the damage and requirement of financial assistance. IMCT visited the State from 18.12.2015 to 20.12.2015. IMCT reported that in all 24 drought affected districts, a total of 5,31,274 hectare land suffered crop loss of 33% and above and recommended ₹ 336.94 crore assistance from NDRF.

(b) Government of India considered the report of the IMCT and approved ₹ 336.94 crore from NDRF to the Government of Jharkhand subject to the adjustment of 50% of balance available in the SDRF account for the instant disaster. The total allocation under SDRF during 2015-16 to the Government of Jharkhand is ₹ 364.00 crore (comprising ₹ 273.00 crore as Central share and ₹ 91.00 crore as State share). The entire Central share of ₹ 273.00 crore has already been released to the Government of Jharkhand. Funds from NDRF will be released by the Ministry of Finance on the basis of net release recommendation of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Encouraging domestic production of bulk drugs

*160. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to restrict import of bulk drugs and encourage domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers to make in India; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to encourage the domestic pharmaceutical manufacturing sector for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) In order to provide a level playing field to the domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, the Government had notified on 28 January, 2016, the withdrawal of exemptions granted to certain categories of drugs mentioned at list 3 and 4 of Custom Notification No. 12/2012-Customs, dated the 17th March, 2012.

(b) The Government had set up a Committee headed by Dr. Katoch, the then Secretary, Health Research to look into the issues regarding bulk drug/API industry. The mandate of the Committee was 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 govt. agencies; incentivising scientists, duty exemptions for capital goods imports. The recommendations are presently being examined for due approvals.

Distress sale of crops by farmers

*161. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) directly purchases rice, wheat, etc., from the farmers of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that farmers of many States are compelled to sell their crops at the rate below the Minimum Support Price (MSP);

- (c) if so, the steps being considered by FCI in such a situation; and
- (d) whether such a distress sale of crops is the main cause of suicide by farmers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) alongwith State Government and State Government agencies procure paddy and wheat directly from the farmers. Procurement of coarse grains is done only through the State Agencies only.

Details showing agency wise procurement of paddy, wheat and coarse grains are given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*)

(b) No, Sir. There is a Uniform Policy for procurement by Government Agencies across the country. Under this policy, whatever foodgrains are offered by farmers, 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 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.

(c) In order to prevent purchases at below MSP rates by private millers, wide publicity is given regarding MSP operations like Quality Check specifications, MSP, period of procurement, purchase centres etc. and farmers are advised to bring their produce after proper drying and cleaning so that the same conforms to the prescribed quality specifications. In case of rejections, reasons are also informed/explained to the farmers and they are advised to upgrade the stocks by drying/cleaning. Private players have also been engaged by FCI in the State of Jharkhand, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh to reach out to uncovered areas for procurement of paddy from the farmers.

- (d) No such instance has been reported.

Statement-I*Agency-wise procurement of wheat for central pool [marketing year-wise]*

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | RMS 2013-14 | | | RMS 2014-15 | | | RMS 2015-16 | | | (Figures in LMT) |
|--------|----------------|-------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------------|--------|------------------|
| | | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Punjab | 19.40 | 89.57 | 108.97 | 18.38 | 98.03 | 116.41 | 18.47 | 84.97 | 103.44 | |
| 2. | Haryana | 7.25 | 51.48 | 58.73 | 8.00 | 56.95 | 64.95 | 0.00 | 67.78 | 67.78 | |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.09 | 6.73 | 6.82 | 0.50 | 5.78 | 6.28 | 1.64 | 21.03 | 22.67 | |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | | 63.55 | 63.55 | 0.00 | 70.94 | 70.94 | 0.00 | 73.09 | 73.09 | |
| 5. | Bihar | | | - | - | - | - | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 6. | Rajasthan | 12.13 | 0.57 | 12.70 | 8.40 | 13.19 | 21.59 | 9.50 | 3.50 | 13 | |
| 7. | Uttarakhand | Neg. | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.04 | |
| 8. | Chandigarh | 0.08 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.11 | |
| 9. | Delhi | Neg. | 0.00 | Neg. | | | | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.02 | |
| 10. | Gujarat | | - | | | | | 0.10 | 0.63 | 0.73 | |
| TOTAL | | 38.95 | 211.97 | 250.92 | 35.33 | 244.90 | 280.23 | 29.84 | 251.04 | 280.88 | |

Statement-II

Details of State/Agency-wise paddy procurement

(Figures in LMT, as on 02-03-2016)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | KMS 2013-14 | | | KMS 2014-15 | | | KMS 2015-16* | | |
|--------|------------------|-------------|--------------|-------|-------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| | | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total | F.C.I. | State Agency | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.72 | 0.72 | 0.00 | 42.19 | 42.19 | 0.00 | 40.47 | 40.47 |
| 2. | Telangana | 0.00 | 24.54 | 24.54 | 0.00 | 24.32 | 24.32 | 0.00 | 15.17 | 15.17 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.12 | 0.11 | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.07 | 0.16 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 14.07 | 14.07 | 0.00 | 24.09 | 24.09 | 0.00 | 7.79 | 7.79 |
| 5. | Chandigarh | 0.17 | 0.00 | 0.17 | 0.15 | 0.00 | 0.15 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 0.24 |
| 6. | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 63.96 | 63.96 | 0.00 | 51.08 | 51.08 | 0.00 | 59.28 | 59.28 |
| 7. | Delhi | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9. | Haryana | 0.13 | 35.74 | 35.87 | 0.03 | 30.04 | 30.07 | 0.00 | 42.69 | 42.69 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.63 | 0.40 | 1.03 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-------|-------------------|------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|
| 12. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.00 | 0.10 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.31 | 1.31 | 0.00 | 0.61 | 0.61 |
| 14. | Kerala | 0.00 | 5.36 | 5.36 | 0.00 | 5.50 | 5.50 | 0.00 | 2.20 | 2.20 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 15.59 | 15.59 | 0.00 | 12.04 | 12.04 | 0.00 | 12.67 | 12.67 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 0.00 | 2.40 | 2.40 | 0.00 | 2.97 | 2.97 | 0.00 | 2.07 | 2.07 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18. | Odisha | 0.01 | 41.74 | 41.75 | 0.01 | 50.08 | 50.09 | 0.00 | 30.47 | 30.47 |
| 19. | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 20. | Punjab | 4.65 | 116.33 | 120.98 | 2.88 | 113.33 | 116.21 | 6.53 | 133.03 | 139.56 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 0.00 | 10.20 | 10.20 | 0.00 | 15.69 | 15.69 | 0.00 | 10.17 | 10.17 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.05 | 9.02 | 9.07 | 0.54 | 17.64 | 18.18 | 1.81 | 38.55 | 40.36 |
| 24. | Uttarakhand | 0.00 | 0.47 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 6.12 | 6.12 | 0.00 | 8.91 | 8.91 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 10.62 | 10.62 | 0.00 | 22.86 | 22.86 | 0.20 | 9.72 | 9.92 |
| TOTAL | | 5.01 | 350.77 | 355.78 | 3.75 | 419.44 | 423.19 | 9.60 | 414.27 | 423.87 |

* KMS 2015-16 is under progress. Data reported as on 02.03.2016.

Statement-III*Details of procurement of coarse grains*

| KMS | Commodity | MAH | C. Garh | M.P. | A.P. | Telangana | Bihar | Kar. | Rajasthan | Gujarat | (Figures in Tonnes) | |
|------------|-----------|-------|---------|--------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | Haryan | Total |
| 2013-2014 | Jowar | 85 | | 2 | | | | 4 | | | | 91 |
| | Bajra | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| | Maize | 95555 | 2587 | 86573 | 27918 | 288904 | 722 | 713807 | | | | 1216066 |
| | Ragi | | | | | | | 14788 | | | | 14788 |
| 2015-2015 | Jowar | 5867 | | 1643 | | | | 6839 | | | | 14349 |
| | Bajra | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| | Maize | 1619 | | 301842 | 4945 | 6438 | | | | | | 314844 |
| | Ragi | | | | | | | 135955 | | | | 135955 |
| 2015-2016* | Jowar | 14786 | | 4947 | | | | | | | | 19733 |
| | Bajra | | | | | | | | | | 5053 | 5053 |
| | Maize | 11 | | 22962 | | | | | | | | 22973 |
| | Ragi | | | | | | | 39966 | | | | 39966 |

* As on 15.02.2016.

Promotion of food processing sector in Jharkhand

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

- (a) the details of micro, small and medium food processing units functioning in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the contribution of such units in the food processing sector in the country;
- (c) the details of employment opportunities created by these units in the country during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to promote food processing sector in Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) As per the latest census [Fourth All India Census of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)] conducted (with base reference year 2006-07), wherein the data was collected till 2009 and results published in 2011-12, the estimated number of registered food processing units in MSME sector were 2.23 lakh. State-wise distribution of number of units is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) As per the same MSME Census referred in part (a), the contribution of registered food processing units in MSME sector, in terms of value addition, was ₹ 42,659 crore. In terms of employment, the total number of persons engaged in registered food processing units in MSME sector was 14.68 lakhs.

(d) To promote food processing Units in the country including Jharkhand, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing Schemes of Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Setting up/Modernization of Abattoirs and Strengthening of Institutions. Under these Schemes, grant in aid is given for setting up of projects. The Ministry has sanctioned 1 Mega Food Park and 1 Abattoir in the State of Jharkhand.

Statement

*State-wise distribution of registered food processing
units in MSME Sector, 2006-07*

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Number of Enterprises |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 13163 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 94 |

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Number of Enterprises |
|---------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 | Assam | 4376 |
| 5 | Bihar | 7498 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 49 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 2533 |
| 8 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 130 |
| 9 | Daman and Diu | 12 |
| 10 | Delhi | 74 |
| 11 | Goa | 756 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 11325 |
| 13 | Haryana | 3665 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 4154 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 2270 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 1279 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 21836 |
| 18 | Kerala | 24167 |
| 19 | Lakshadweep | 27138 |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh | 14876 |
| 21 | Maharashtra | 11189 |
| 22 | Manipur | 729 |
| 23 | Meghalaya | 805 |
| 24 | Mizoram | 615 |
| 25 | Nagaland | 121 |
| 26 | Odisha | 5129 |
| 27 | Puducherry | 94 |
| 28 | Punjab | 5114 |
| 29 | Rajasthan | 7542 |
| 30 | Sikkim | 45 |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu | 302 |
| 32 | Tripura | 272 |

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Number of Enterprises |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 33 | Uttar Pradesh | 39313 |
| 34. | Uttarakhand | 4956 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 7400 |
| ALL INDIA | | 2,23,018 |

Subsidy on fertilizers

*163 DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fertilizers subsidy provided by Government during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15;

(b) the step taken by the Government to rationalize the fertilizers subsidy; and

(c) the outcome of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The amount of fertilizers subsidy provided by Government during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is as under:

(₹ in crores)

| Particulars | Imported Urea | Imported P&K Fertilizers | Indigenous P&K Fertilizers | Indigenous Urea | Total |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 2012-13 | 20016.00 | 14576.10 | 16000.00 | 20000.00 | 70592.10 |
| 2013-14 | 15353.30 | 13926.86 | 15500.00 | 26500.00 | 71280.16 |
| 2014-15 | 16200.00 | 8667.30 | 12000.00 | 38200.01 | 75067.31 |

(b) The Government has notified the New Urea Policy, 2015 on 25th May, 2015 for existing gas based urea units with the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production; promoting energy efficiency in urea production; and rationalizing subsidy burden on the Government.

The Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. NBS policy has been subsequently amended *vide* OM dated 28.05.2015 to rationalize the treatment of closing stock at the end of financial year in case of increase/decrease of NBS rates.

(c) Production of urea in the country has increased with an all time high in indigenous production in 2015-16 (up to February, 2016). Availability of fertilizers

has also been adequate this year and no shortages have been reported across the country. There has also been reduction in P&K fertilizer subsidy since introduction of NBS Policy.

Hindrances in controlling food inflation

†*164. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rate of inflation of wholesale and the retail prices of essential food commodities during the last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Arhar dal, imported last year and made available to the consumers, was banned for some time in the country; and

(c) the details of hindrances being faced in controlling the rate of inflation of retail prices of essential food items?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The trends in rate of inflation of food items based on the latest available Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) (*i.e.* January) is given below:—

Rate of Inflation (%)

WPI

| Item/Group | Jan. 2014 | Jan. 2015 | Jan. 2016 |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cereals | 9.27 | 1.7 | 1.24 |
| Pulses | -7.12 | 12.56 | 44.91 |
| Vegetables | 13.51 | 18.63 | 12.52 |
| Edible oils | -1.74 | -0.41 | 2.12 |
| Milk | 7.22 | 9.57 | 1.42 |
| Fruits | 6.58 | 16.95 | -2.32 |
| Sugar | -5.53 | -1.63 | -1.71 |
| Food Products | 1.14 | 2.02 | 2.79 |
| Food Articles | 8.85 | 8 | 6.02 |
| All Commodities | 5.11 | -0.95 | -0.9 |

Source: D/o Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), M/o Commerce and Industry.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

CPI

| Item/Group | Jan. 2014 | Jan. 2015 | Jan. 2016 |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cereal and Product | 10.33 | 3.18 | 2.19 |
| Pulses and Product | 2.74 | 9.37 | 43.32 |
| Vegetables | 19.57 | 8.84 | 6.39 |
| Oils and Fats | 1.62 | 1.59 | 6.36 |
| Milk and Products | 9.29 | 9.55 | 4 |
| Fruits | 10.37 | 10.8 | -0.24 |
| Sugar and Confectionery | -5.65 | -1.2 | -1.72 |
| Food and Beverages | 9.66 | 6.3 | 6.66 |
| CFPI | 9.68 | 6.14 | 6.85 |
| General Index | 8.6 | 5.19 | 5.69 |

Source: Central Statistics Organization (CSO), M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation.

(b) No, Sir. Import of pulses are also subject to specific norms and standards for checking and clearances by the Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), M/o Health and Family Welfare.

(c) The major hindrance in controlling the retail prices of essential food items is overcoming the supply shortage/availability resulting from lower domestic production. In addition, other factors which exert pressure on the prices of these items are artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing, lack of storage facilities especially for fruits and vegetables, seasonality and rise in cost of inputs etc. among others.

Doubling the income of farmers by 2022

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

(a) whether the Prime Minister, during his address on 19 February, 2016, has stated that the income of farmers would be doubled by 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of measures to be taken therefor;

(c) whether the income would be doubled in 2022 on the basis of existing income of farmers or MSP would be increased to double the cost of production; and

(d) the efforts Government would make to make MSP of crops higher than their cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister has spoken of doubling the farmers' income by 2022.

(b) and (c) To achieve the target of doubling the farmers' income over the next five years *i.e.* 2016-17 to 2021-22, the endeavor would be to:

- (i) increase the net income from each unit of farm by reducing the cost of cultivation, increasing per unit yield and higher market return on his produce by the farmer.
- (ii) give security to farmers against unpredictable nature of agriculture through Crop Insurance, Unified Insurance Package (UIP) and farmer friendly relief norms.
- (iii) increase access to institutional credit both by increasing the volume of credit and also better targeting and
- (iv) supplement farmers' income, particularly during off-season times, farmers will be covered under ongoing welfare activities like pension, health insurance etc.

(d) Government's price policy for major agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable price. The price policy also seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy. Towards this end the Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies. The designated central and State agencies intervene in the market for undertaking procurement operations with the objective that the market prices do not fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government.

Government fixes the MSPs of various crops on recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, CACP considers a number of important factors which include, *inter-alia*, cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, etc. The cost of production, *inter-alia*, includes all paid out costs including imputed value of family labour.

MSP is in the nature of minimum price offered by the Government. Producers of crops covered under MSP have the option to sell their produce to the Government agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Insurance cover for irrigated and non-irrigated crops**

1600. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of per acre premium in rupees for crop insurance of irrigated and non-irrigated crops and the per acre amount assured separately;

(b) the details of sum assured for crop damage upto 25 per cent, 50 per cent, 75 per cent and 100 per cent, separately; and

(c) whether Government would insure both irrigated and non-irrigated crops on the basis of production cost per acre and would ensure at least 1.5 times insurance of cost of production in case of full or more than 75 per cent damage of crops, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) At present, two Crop insurance schemes namely National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with its three components (i) Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), (ii) Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) are being implemented in the country. These schemes have been comprehensively reviewed based on the feedback received from various stakeholder including States/UTs and farmers/farmers' organizations and Government of India has recently approved the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which would replace the NAIS and MNAIS from ensuing Kharif 2016. Premium paid by farmers has been reduced to 1.5%, 2% and 5% of sum insured for Rabi, Kharif and annual commercial/horticultural crops, respectively and the remaining premium will be shared equally by the Central and State Governments. Premium rates payable by farmers under WBCIS have also been rationalized and brought at par with PMFBY.

The per acre Sum Insured (SI) is broadly linked to the scale of finance of the respective crops for both loanee and non-loanee farmers under PMFBY. The Scale of Finance for each crop is based on cost of production and is notified by District Level Technical Committee (DLTC) for each district separately.

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 under NAIS and MNAIS. Similarly under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), deviation from the prescribed weather parameters is paid under the scheme.

Since the crops and areas to be included in Crop Insurance Schemes are decided by the concerned State Governments/UTs. Accordingly, State Government have been advised to notify both irrigated and un-irrigated crops separately. However, State Government is required to conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) separately for both irrigated and un-irrigated areas to determine the yield loss and claims. Claims are determined strictly as per shortfall in yield multiplied by sum insured under NAIS and MNAIS and deviation in weather parameter multiplied by notional sum insured under WBCIS.

Field trial of GM crops

1601. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the time taken for conducting field trials of Genetically Modified (GM) crops by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Universities and other universities, State-wise; and

(b) the steps are being taken to reduce the time lag between an application for conducting field trails and its subsequent approval or disapproval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Field trials are conducted uniformly across the states as per standard biosafety norms defined by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). For each new Genetically Modified (GM) event, it takes four years (event selection trials: one year; Biosafety Research Level Trial-I (BRL-I): two years; Biosafety Research Level Trial-II (BRL-II): one year) to conduct field trails by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes and other universities.

(b) Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) meetings are held regularly, wherein proposals of field trails on GM crops are considered and on the basis of the merits, recommended to GEAC for approval or disapproval. Now, meeting of GEAC is held every month.

Improving the health of soil

1602. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has been emphasizing on improving the health of soil by integrated nutrient management, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had announced a programme of collection of soil samples, conduct analysis and issuance of soil health card in a time-bound manner and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) for promoting soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with, bio-fertilizers and locally available organic manures like Farm Yard Manure, compost, Vermi Compost and Green Manure to maintain soil health and its productivity.

(b) '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 nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.

Implementation of crop insurance schemes

†1603. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have got their crops insured under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, State-wise; and

(b) the details of areas on an average which have been got insured under the two schemes, season-wise details thereof?

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

(a) Cumulative State-wise details number of farmers covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) is given in the Statement-I (*See* below)

(b) On an average 12.44% and 2.17% of total cultivated area has been covered under NAIS (since Rabi 1999-2000) and MNAIS (Rabi 2010-11) respectively. Year-wise details are given in the Statement-II.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I*State-wise details of farmers covered under NAIS & MNAIS since their inception*

| Sl. No. | State | NO. of farmers covered (in numbers) | |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | NAIS (from Rabi 1999-2000) | MNAIS (from Rabi 2010-11) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 30498889 | 1800258 |
| 2. | Assam | 422654 | 19929 |
| 3. | Bihar | 9271653 | 1382947 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 11728099 | 18 |
| 5. | Goa | 8211 | 296 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 15494171 | 432 |
| 7. | Haryana | 635778 | 262687 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 362700 | 0 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 6877479 | 117472 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 14013046 | 1565692 |
| 11. | Kerala | 461282 | 30827 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 41258600 | 218380 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 48347904 | 51964 |
| 14. | Manipur | 35645 | 0 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 35694 | 0 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 121 | 512 |
| 17. | Odisha | 19869088 | 425024 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 15058674 | 10822513 |
| 19. | Sikkim | 1924 | 0 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 7349888 | 476483 |
| 21. | Telangana | 1041314 | 708787 |
| 22. | Tripura | 20709 | 0 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 23426012 | 3860793 |
| 24. | Uttarakhand | 399156 | 164212 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 14133404 | 1943351 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|----------|
| 26. A & N Islands | | 4282 | 783 |
| 27. Puducherry | | 41984 | 0 |
| 28. Jammu and Kashmir | | 49065 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | 260847426 | 23853360 |

Statement-II

Season-wise details of area covered under NAIS and MNAIS and their percentage to total cultivated area since inception of these schemes

| Sl. No. | Year (Kharif + Rabi) | Total Cultivated Area (hec.) | AREA (hec) - NAIS (from Rabi 1999-2000) | % To Total Cultivated Area | AREA (hec.) - MNAIS (from Rabi 2010-11) | % To Total Cultivated Area |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. | 2000-01 | 185340000 | 16331252 | 8.81% | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | 2001-02 | 188010000 | 16033583 | 8.53% | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | 2002-03 | 173890000 | 19570173 | 11.25% | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | 2003-04 | 189660000 | 18824177 | 9.93% | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | 2004-05 | 191100000 | 29616638 | 15.50% | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | 2005-06 | 192740000 | 27749455 | 14.40% | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | 2006-07 | 192380000 | 27305162 | 14.19% | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | 2007-08 | 195220000 | 28141903 | 14.42% | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | 2008-09 | 195310000 | 26494023 | 13.57% | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | 2009-10 | 188990000 | 33669578 | 17.82% | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | 2010-11 | 197320000 | 24047517 | 12.19% | 323734 | 0.16% |
| 12. | 2011-12* | 195250000 | 23385766 | 11.98% | 1373035 | 0.70% |
| 13. | 2012-13 | 195250000 | 24384857 | 12.49% | 2981070 | 1.53% |
| 14. | 2013-14 | 195250000 | 20707825 | 10.61% | 5527842 | 2.83% |
| 15. | 2014-15 | 195250000 | 20825356 | 10.67% | 10553485 | 5.41% |
| Average | | 191397333.33 | 23805818 | 12.44% | 4151833 | 2.17% |

*Total Cropped area available till year 2011-12.

Production of pulses and edible oil

1604. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India imports huge quantity of pulses and edible oil from global markets;

(b) if so, could the same quantity be produced domestically, if appropriate policy measures are put in place; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government during last two years till date to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds to meet the demand?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In order to encourage farmers to produce more pulses and oilseeds, Government has been implementing various crop development schemes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. Under the above schemes, assistance is provided for cluster demonstrations, production and distribution of seeds, planting material, distribution of production inputs, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, training etc.

In order to improve productivity of pulses and oilseeds, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes research to develop high yielding varieties of seeds. Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of both commodities every season. For 2015-16, Government has announced a bonus of ₹ 200/- per quintal for kharif pulses and ₹ 75/- per quintal for rabi pulses.

Recommendations of CIFA

†1605. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers' groups, agricultural experts and the Consortium of Indian Farmers Association (CIFA) have requested the Government to provide loan upto five lakh rupees to all the farmers at the interest rate of 4 per cent to pay more support prices for crops, to expand the coverage of crop insurance and to formulate tenable export policy;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) by when necessary steps are likely to be taken in this direction?

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

(a) No, Sir. This Department has not received such a request.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Decrease in production of wheat

1606. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production of wheat in Maharashtra and other parts of the country is decreasing, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted to know the reasons for this trend, if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the corrective measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) Except for the years of aberrant monsoon rainfall, warm/extreme weather conditions during the period of sowing/vegetation and unfavourable weather, temperature conditions at the time of maturity of crops, total production of wheat in the country has been generally following an increasing trend. However, in view of the above factors and inter-crop shift in area coverage, production of wheat in the State of Maharashtra has been fluctuating.

State-wise details of production of the wheat in the country during 2009-10 onwards are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) In order to boost production of wheat in various States of the country including Maharashtra, 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.

Statement

State-wise estimates of production of wheat during 2009-10 to 2014-15

| State/UT | Production ('000 Tonnes) | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
| Andhra Pradesh Including Telangana | 10.0 | 13.0 | 11.0 | 10.0 | 4.0 | 7.0 |
| Assam | 63.5 | 52.8 | 60.3 | 44.2 | 40.4 | 28.8 |
| Bihar | 4570.8 | 4097.6 | 4725.0 | 5357.2 | 4738.0 | 3987.0 |
| Chhattisgarh | 121.9 | 126.8 | 133.1 | 141.3 | 134.0 | 135.3 |
| Gujarat | 2352.0 | 4019.5 | 4072.0 | 2944.0 | 4694.0 | 3059.0 |
| Haryana | 10500.0 | 11630.0 | 12685.7 | 11117.0 | 11800.0 | 10354.0 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 327.1 | 546.5 | 595.8 | 608.6 | 670.7 | 646.5 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 289.9 | 446.3 | 500.3 | 462.4 | 601.9 | 314.3 |
| Jharkhand | 173.2 | 158.4 | 302.6 | 319.5 | 370.4 | 330.4 |
| Karnataka | 251.0 | 279.0 | 193.0 | 179.0 | 210.0 | 261.0 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8410.0 | 7627.1 | 11538.5 | 13133.4 | 12937.0 | 17103.9 |
| Maharashtra | 1740.0 | 2301.0 | 1313.0 | 1181.0 | 1602.0 | 1308.0 |
| Odisha | 5.8 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.1 | 0.7 |
| Punjab | 15169.0 | 16472.0 | 17280.1 | 16591.0 | 17620.0 | 15050.0 |
| Rajasthan | 7500.9 | 7214.5 | 9319.6 | 9275.5 | 8663.2 | 9823.9 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 27518.0 | 30001.0 | 30292.6 | 30301.9 | 29890.9 | 22417.4 |
| Uttarakhand | 845.0 | 878.0 | 878.0 | 858.2 | 842.4 | 654.2 |
| West Bengal | 846.7 | 874.4 | 872.9 | 895.9 | 927.8 | 939.3 |
| Others | 108.8 | 131.9 | 106.1 | 84.4 | 102.0 | 106.1 |
| ALL INDIA | 80803.6 | 86874.0 | 94882.1 | 93506.5 | 95849.8 | 86526.5 |

Damage of crops by Nilgai

†1607. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers of various States including Poorvanchal in Uttar Pradesh are distressed as their crops are damaged by Nilgai;

(b) if so, the details thereof and for how many years this problem has been continuing;

(c) whether Government proposes to take any concrete and effective step to resolve this problem, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA):(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Wild animals including Nilgai cause damage to agricultural crops particularly in areas adjacent to forests. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC) receives reports about incidents of damage to crops by wild animals in various parts of the country including Uttar Pradesh from time to time. The extent of damage varies from place to place depending on density of Nilgai population, the extent of availability of preferred crops, habitat type and ecological conditions. Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported 15-20% losses in agricultural crops due to Nilgai in about last 10 years.

(c) In view of the losses to crops inflicted by the wild animals, MoEF&CC has issued advisory to the States on 24th December, 2014 highlighting the legal provisions under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with the human-wild life conflict situations. MoEF&CC has also sought proposals from the States/Union Territories, after objective assessment of the situation, with details of the areas in which notification under Section 62 of the Act declaring any wild animals in Schedule-V for a specified period could be helpful in management of conflict. Based on the proposal from Bihar, such notification dated 1.12.2015 have been issued for listing Nilgai and wild pig in Schedule-V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

MoEF&CC advocates use of traditional/chemical repellents, trenches, live/solar electric fencing, bio-fencing and other innovative methods to reduce the damage to crops caused by wild animals including Nilgais, etc in the areas adjoining the forests. Financial assistance is provided to State/Union Territory Governments under Ministry of Environment and Forests' Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for management of wildlife and its habitats in the country. Activities under the scheme include construction/erection of physical barriers like barbed wire fence, solar power electric fence, bio-fencing using cactus, boundary walls, etc. to prevent the entry of wild animals into fields. Funds are also provided for making payment of ex-gratia relief in respect of damage to crops suffered by the victims of depredations/attacks by wild animals.

Government of Uttar Pradesh has taken following steps to minimize the losses by Nilgai:

- (i) *Vide* Uttar Pradesh Government order No.736/14-4-94-854/92, dated 9.2.1994 all DMs, SDMs and BDOs of all the districts have been authorized to issue the permit to kill Nilgai.
 - (ii) Farmers are being awared through Gosthies/Kisan Melas regarding cultivation of crops like Jatropha, Karaunda or aromatics plants like Tulsi, Mentha, Jirenium, Khus, Lemon Grass, Pama Roja, and Citronella etc. on the bunds.
 - (iii) By fencing of bamboo/barbed wires.
 - (iv) Protection of crops by using crackers, placing effigy in fields and proper watching of the crop.
 - (v) Using "Kamdhenu" protector for the crop Nilgai.
- (d) Question does not arise.

ILL effects of excessive use of urea and other fertilizers

†1608. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to the excessive use of urea and other fertilizers and chemicals, not only the land of farmers is becoming infertile but incurable diseases like cancer are also spreading on large scale;

(b) if so, whether Government has made a concrete plan to deal with this problem, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any concrete policy or action plan for increasing the production of biofertilizers and chemicals in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) Excessive use of urea and other fertilizers and chemicals coupled with

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

low addition of organic matter over years have resulted multi-nutrient deficiencies *vis-à-vis* decline in soil health in many part of the country. There is no scientific evidence of occurrence of cancer from judicious use of fertilizers. The Government recommends Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) which envisages conjunctive use of organic and inorganic source of nutrients.

The Government is implementing Soil Health Management (SHM) to enhance soil testing capacity in the country through setting up/strengthening of Soil Testing Laboratories.

‘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 nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.

In addition, Indian Council of Agricultural Research promotes split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops, use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) and fertigation are also advocated.

(c) Government is providing financial assistance to States for setting up of biofertilizer unit @ ₹ 160 lakh/unit for 200 Tonne Per Annum (100 per cent assistance). Financial assistance are also provided to farmers/individual/private agencies @ 25% of total financial outlay or ₹ 40 lakh whichever is less under the Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed technology for preparation of enriched/vermi compost from various organic wastes. Besides, the Council under Network project on *Soil Biodiversity-Biofertilizers* has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid Biofertilizer technology with higher shelf life has also been developed.

Use of banned pesticides

1609. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE and FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that pesticides which have been banned globally are still in use in the country, if so, the details of such pesticides;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to establish the adverse impact of banned pesticides on human health as well as on livestock, if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to educate farmers regarding the harm in using these banned pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) There are 66 pesticides banned, restricted, withdrawn in some countries which continue to be registered in India for domestic use. However, these pesticides continue to be permitted for domestic use based on expert reviews. The list of such pesticides is given the Statement (*See below*)

(b) The Government registers pesticides only after a detailed evaluation of safety and efficacy. 28 pesticides and their formulations have been banned so far for import, manufacture and use in the country on the basis of technical reviews. A technical review of 6 neo-nicotinoid class of pesticides which concluded in 2014, led to introduction of precautionary declarations on the labels of such pesticides. Report on a technical review of 66 pesticides banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare conducts Farmers Field Schools to sensitize farmers regarding safe and judicious use of pesticides, use of bio-pesticides etc. A 'Grow Safe Food' campaign has also been initiated to carrying the message of safe and judicious use of pesticides to farmers and other stakeholders. Package of practices for control of pests and diseases in 67 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures.

Statement

List of pesticides which have been banned/restricted in some countries of the world but are being used in India

| Sl.No. | Name of the Pesticide | Sl.No. | Name of the Pesticide |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Acephate | 7. | Bifenthrin |
| 2. | Alachlor | 8. | Butachlor |
| 3. | Aluminum Phosphide | 9. | Captan |
| 4. | Atrazine | 10. | Carbaryl |
| 5. | Benfuracarb | 11. | Carbendazim |
| 6. | Benomyl | 12. | Carbofuran |

| Sl.No. | Name of the Pesticide | Sl.No. | Name of the Pesticide |
|--------|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 13. | Chlorfenapyr | 40. | Malathion |
| 14. | Carbosulfan | 41. | Mancozeb |
| 15. | Chlorothalonil | 42. | Mepiquat Chloride |
| 16. | Chlorpyrifos | 43. | Metaldehyde |
| 17. | Dazomet | 44. | Monocrotophos |
| 18. | DDT | 45. | Oxyfluorfen |
| 19. | Deltamethrin | 46. | Paraquat Dichloride |
| 20. | Diazinon | 47. | Pendimethalin |
| 21. | Dichlorovos | 48. | Phorate |
| 22. | Dicofol | 49. | Phosphomidon |
| 23. | Diflubenzuron | 50. | Pretilachlor |
| 24. | Dimethoate | 51. | Propargite |
| 25. | Dinocap | 52. | Propineb |
| 26. | Diuron | 53. | Quinalphos |
| 27. | Endosulfan | 54. | Sodium cyanide |
| 28. | Ethofenprox | 55. | Sulfosulfurone |
| 29. | Fenpropathrin | 56. | Thiidecarb |
| 30. | Fenarimol | 57. | Thiometon |
| 31. | Fenitrothion | 58. | Thiophanate Methyl |
| 32. | Fenthion | 59. | Thiram |
| 33. | Iprodione | 60. | Triazophos |
| 34. | 2,4-D | 61. | Trichlorofon |
| 35. | Kasugamycin | 62. | Tridemorph |
| 36. | Linuron | 63. | Trifluralin |
| 37. | Methomyl | 64. | Zinc Phosphide |
| 38. | Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride | 65. | Zineb |
| 39. | Methyl Parathion | 66. | Ziram |

Production of pulses and oilseeds

†1610. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of pulses and oilseeds is comparatively less than their demand in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that many special steps have been taken by Central Government recently to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Production of pulses and oilseeds is comparatively less than their demand in the country. The status of estimated production, consumption and shortfall of pulses is given below:—

| (Qty. in lakh tonnes) | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Year | Estimated production | Total availability/consumption | Shortfall/import |
| Pulses | | | |
| 2012-13 | 183.40 | 221.79 | 38.39 |
| 2013-14 | 192.50 | 229.14 | 36.44 |
| 2014-15 | 171.50 | 217.85 | 45.85 |

The status of estimated total availability and import of edible oil is as under:—

| (Qty. in lakh tonnes) | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Year | Domestic availability | Export and Industrial use | Total availability/consumption | Shortfall/import |
| Edible Oil | | | | |
| 2012-13 | 100.60 | 8.41 | 198.24 | 106.05 |
| 2013-14 | 109.00 | 7.10 | 211.66 | 109.76 |
| 2014-15 | 98.00 | 5.94 | 230.59 | 138.53 |

(b) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is under implementation for enhancing total food grain production including pulses. The pulse component has been extended to 622 districts of 27 States including North-Eastern States and 50% of total NFSM allocation is made for pulses.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is under implementation since 2014-15 in 27 states including North-Eastern States for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds including area expansion of oil palm.

Under both NFSM-pulses and NMOOP financial assistance is available for organizing cluster demonstration and Front Line Demonstration (FLD) of improved technologies, supply of quality seeds including seeds minikits of new varieties, production inputs like soil ameliorants, micro nutrients, bio-fertilizers, plant protection chemicals including bio-agents, farm machineries, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers/extension workers to increase the production and productivity of the pulses and oilseeds.

Recommendation of expert committee on pesticides

1611. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an expert committee constituted in 2015 on pesticides has submitted its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) No expert committee on pesticides has been constituted in 2015.

(b) Question doesn't arise.

Pan-Indian trading portal market for agricultural produce

1612. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Pan-Indian trading portal market in the field of agriculture;

(b) how far will this help farmers in the country to get a good price for their crops; and

(c) whether this has since been launched, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) 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) as a Pan-Indian trading portal 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 and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) will meet the cost of software and its customization for the States. DAC&FW will also give grant as one time fixed cost for related equipment/infrastructure subject to a ceiling of ₹ 30.00 lakhs per Mandi. State Governments will propose the regulated markets which are to be integrated with NAM. The national e-platform is to be launched on 14th April, 2016.

The NAM e-market is expected to link farmers with markets across the State/country. It will also reduce information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, lead to real time price discovery, encourage greater transparency in auction processes, better realization based on quality of produce and facilitate online and immediate payment to the farmers. The farmer will thus be enabled to opt for the most remunerative option based on access to information on the best price that his produce can fetch on the e-portal from across the State/country.

Adopting organic methods in cultivation

1613. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for adopting organic methods in cultivation; and

(b) how many soil testing laboratories are working in the country, as on date, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes under the National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) etc. The pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) State-wise soil testing laboratories working in the country is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*Pattern of assistance for adopting/promotion of organic farming*

| Component | Pattern of assistance |
|--|---|
| National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) | |
| 1. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid/solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.) | 50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha. and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha. area. |
| 2. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana- (PKVY) Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification. | Under PKVY scheme-Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster and their 50 acres of land will be brought under Organic Farming. Details of Financial Assistance is as under: (i) Each farmer will be assisted for procuring liquid biofertiliser Consortia (Nitrogen fixing/phosphate solubilising / Potash mobilising biofertiliser @ ₹ 500 per acre, liquid bio-pesticides @ ₹ 500 per acre, other bio pest which are locally available from natural resources @ ₹ 500 per acre and application of Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) @ ₹ 1000/ acre. (ii) For constructing of vermi-compost production unit (7'x3'x1') including earthworms, preparation of pits, construction of brick walls, labour charges and other raw material @ ₹ 5000/ unit. |

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (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. |
|--|---|

National Mission on oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP): Has launched a scheme for increasing production and productivity of oil seed 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.

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (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.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR): Indian council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Pusa, under Network project on *Soil Biodiversity-Biofertiliser* being operated in 14 different states has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertiliser specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid Biofertiliser technology with high shelf life has also been developed. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes FLDs etc. to educate farmers on the use of biofertiliser.

Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region: 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.

Statement-II

State-wise number of Soil Testing Laboratories in the country, their analyzing capacity and utilization during 2013-14

| Sl. No | Name of the State | No of Soil Testing Laboratories | | | | | | Total | | Annual Analyzing Capacity in '000' | Sample Analyzed in '000' | Capacity Utilization (%) |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | State Government | | Fert. Industry | | | | | | | | |
| | | Static | Mobile | Static | Mobile | Static | Mobile | Total | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| I. South Zone | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pr. | 55 | 5 | 27 | 1 | 82 | 6 | 88 | 413.00 | 345.785 | 83.73 | |
| 2. | Karnataka* | 56 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 62 | 2 | 64 | 295.66 | 194.81 | 65.89 | |
| 3. | Kerala | 14 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 15 | 11 | 26 | 218.00 | 134.68 | 61.78 | |
| 4. | Tamil Nadu | 30 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 31 | 17 | 48 | 5796.72 | 4823.54 | 83.21 | |
| 5. | Puducherry* | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4.00 | 4.41 | 110.25 | |
| TOTAL | | 157 | 32 | 35 | 4 | 192 | 36 | 228 | 6727.38 | 5503.23 | 81.80 | |
| II. West Zone | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. | Gujarat | 132 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 136 | 3 | 139 | 1412.00 | 1199.13 | 84.92 | |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | 50 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 52 | 11 | 63 | 378.00 | 346.52 | 91.67 | |
| 8. | Maharashtra* | 123 | 23 | 8 | 4 | 131 | 27 | 158 | 2241.35 | 967.27 | 43.16 | |
| 9. | Rajasthan | 34 | 22 | 1 | 2 | 35 | 24 | 59 | 536.00 | 402.69 | 75.13 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|---------|---------|--------|
| 10. Chhattisgarh | 7 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 105.00 | 116.02 | 110.50 |
| 11. Goa | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 23.00 | 14.96 | 65.04 |
| TOTAL | 348 | 59 | 16 | 11 | 364 | 70 | 434 | 4695.35 | 3046.59 | 64.89 |
| III. North Zone | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12. Haryana | 35 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 37 | 3 | 40 | 365.00 | 247.89 | 67.92 |
| 13. Punjab* | 54 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 56 | 15 | 71 | 631.50 | 282.11 | 44.67 |
| 14. Uttarakhand | 13 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 3 | 16 | 106.54 | 95.23 | 89.38 |
| 15. Uttar Pradesh | 255 | 18 | 5 | 3 | 260 | 21 | 281 | 4159.50 | 3404.58 | 81.85 |
| 16. Himachal Pr. | 11 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 125 | 124.38 | 99.50 |
| 17. J&K * | 8 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 52.00 | 43.61 | 83.87 |
| 18. Delhi | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5.00 | 0.46 | 9.20 |
| TOTAL | 377 | 45 | 9 | 6 | 386 | 51 | 437 | 5444.54 | 4198.26 | 77.11 |
| IV. East Zone | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19. Bihar | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 0 | 39 | 230.00 | 248.71 | 108.13 |
| 20. Jharkhand | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 40.00 | 10.67 | 26.68 |
| 21. Odisha | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 6 | 24 | 270.00 | 255.06 | 94.47 |
| 22. West Bengal | 10 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 112.40 | 60.43 | 53.76 |
| TOTAL | 74 | 14 | 1 | 2 | 75 | 16 | 91 | 652.40 | 574.87 | 88.12 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|-------------|-------------------|-----|-----|----|----|------|-----|------|----------|----------|--------|
| V. NE Zone | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23. | Assam* | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 84.00 | 60.76 | 72.33 |
| 24. | Tripura | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 35.00 | 17.54 | 50.11 |
| 25. | Manipur | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 40.00 | 1.37 | 3.43 |
| 26. | Meghalaya | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 30.00 | 27.65 | 92.17 |
| 27. | Nagaland | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 45.00 | 14.30 | 31.78 |
| 28. | Arunachal Pradesh | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 9.00 | 7.86 | 87.33 |
| 29. | Sikkim | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 37.00 | 39.87 | 107.76 |
| 30. | Mizoram | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 27.00 | 25.00 | 92.59 |
| TOTAL | | 31 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 23 | 54 | 307 | 194.35 | 63.31 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 987 | 173 | 61 | 23 | 1048 | 196 | 1244 | 17826.67 | 13517.30 | 75.83 |

* Information not provided/not provided correctly but taken previous years progress.

Action plan for bundelkhand

†1614.SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in Bundelkhand are forced to commit suicide as they are unable to sow their crops due to scarcity of water and if they somehow manage to sow their crops, they are not able to get them irrigated;

(b) if so, the reasons for not formulating any special action plan, so far, for famine struck Bundelkhand; and

(c) if not, the facts behind suicide of farmers in Bundelkhand?

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) compiles and publishes data on farmer suicides in its report entitled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI)' for every calendar year (January to December). As per ADSI 2014, 6 farmers committed suicide in Uttar Pradesh due to crop failure and Bankruptcy or indebtedness. However, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported 0,1,0 and 0 cases of suicide by farmers in the State during the years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, respectively.

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.

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.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (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 release 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 Agriculture 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.

The reason for suicide by farmers are manifold, which *inter-alia* include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, social-economic and personal reasons.

Launching of national e-market

1615. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to launch the National e-market under the National Agriculture Market scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that as many as twenty States have expressed interest in linking their markets; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that 200 mandis will be connected by September, 2016 and another 200 mandis will be connected by March, 2017, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Government has approved a scheme for setting up of National Agriculture Market (NAM) on 01.07.2015 with a budget of ₹ 200 crore, which is 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 deployed in 585 regulated wholesale markets in States/Union Territories (UTs) desirous of joining the e-platform. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) has been selected

as the lead agency to implement the national e-platform. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) will meet the cost on software and its customization for the States. DAC&FW will also provide grant as one time fixed cost for related equipment/infrastructure subject to the ceiling of ₹30.00 lakh per Mandi. State Governments will propose the regulated markets which are to be integrated with NAM.

As on date, proposals from 12 States/UTs namely Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, UT of Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for integration of 365 mandis with NAM have been given in principle approval and grant has been released to Gujarat, Telangana, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. Meanwhile, other States like Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Punjab Odisha, Tamil Nadu, UT of Puducherry, Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Assam, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram have also expressed their willingness to join NAM.

It is proposed to launch NAM on 14th April 2016, on pilot basis, tentatively in 20 mandis across 8 States. The schedule for implementation of NAM 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 market by March, 2017.
- (iv) Integration of 185 regulated markets by March 2018.

Promoting bio-fertilizers

1616. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any concrete steps to promote bio-fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details about the present production and distribution mechanism of bio-fertilizers in the country State-wise; and

(c) the State-wise details of institutions who are involved in R & D related to biofertilizers in the country?

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

(a) Government is promoting bio-fertilizers through various schemes of National Mission of Sustainable Development (NMSA)/Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana,

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) and Indian Council of Agricultural Sciences (ICAR). The pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-I (*See below*)

(b) Zone-wise bio-fertilizer production in India (2014-15) is given in Statement-II (*See below*) and State-wise distribution of Bio fertilizers under different components of Mini-Mission-I of NMOOP during 2014-15 is given in the Statement-III. (*See below*)

(c) State-wise details of Universities/Institutions doing research work to develop effective strains of bio-fertilizers are given in the Statement IV.

Statement-I

Pattern of assistance for promotion of bio-fertiliser/organic inputs

| Component | Pattern of assistance |
|---|--|
| NMSA-Organic & INM Component of SHM | |
| 1. Setting up of State of art liquid/carrier based Bio-fertilizer/Biopesticide 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 NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity. |
| 2. Setting up of Bio-fertilizer and Organic fertilizer testing Quality Control Laboratory (BOQCL) or Strengthening of existing Laboratory under FCO. | Assistance up to maximum limit of ₹ 85 lakh for new laboratory and up to a maximum limit of ₹ 45 lakh for strengthening of existing infrastructure to State Government Laboratory under Agriculture or Horticulture Department. |
| 3. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid/solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.) | 50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area. |
| Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana- (PKVY) one of the sub scheme of NMSA- 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. |

| (Component of Guidelines) 2.2 | Integrated Manure Management | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------|------------|------------|---|
| | Component | Ist year | IIInd year | IIIrd year | |
| | | (amount in ₹) | | | |
| 2.21 | Liquid Bio-fertilizer consortia (Nitrogen fixing/Phosphate Solubilizing/potassium mobilizing bio-fertilizer) @ ₹ 500/acre x 50 | 25000 | 0 | 0 | Each farmer member will be assisted for procuring liquid bio-fertilizer and its application to soil/seed to increase crop production. |
| 2.2.2 | Liquid Biopesticides (Trichoderma viridae, Pseudomonas, fluorescens, Matarhizium, Beaviourie bassiana, Pacelomyces, verticillium) 2 ₹ 500/acre x 50 | 0 | 25000 | 0 | Each farmer member will be assisted for procuring and application of liquid bio pesticides for suppression of disease in crop plants |

Statement-II

Zone-wise Bio-Fertilizer Production in India (2014-15)

| Sl.No. | State | 2014-15 | |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | | Carrier based (MT) | Liquid (KL) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| South Zone | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2668.8000 | 274.8560 |
| 2. | Karnataka | 16462.6200 | 23.0561 |
| 3. | Kerala | 4916.9700 | 10.5096 |
| 4. | Puducherry | 560.9500 | 1.4976 |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu | 15373.2900 | 11.3017 |
| | TOTAL | 39982.6300 | 321.2210 |

West Zone

| | | | |
|-------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. | Chhattisgarh | 1024.680 | 9.620 |
| 2. | Gujarat | 3667.929 | 2800.500 |
| 3. | Goa | 802.520 | 0.000 |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 2637.990 | 119.216 |
| 5. | Maharashtra | 14847.397 | 324.767 |
| 6. | Rajasthan | 599.898 | 0.000 |
| TOTAL | | 23580.414 | 3254.103 |

North Zone

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | Delhi | 104.500 | 0.000 |
| 2. | Haryana | 872.955 | 46.489 |
| 3. | H.P. | 0.768 | 33.070 |
| 4. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| 5. | Punjab | 6305.453 | 74.278 |
| 6. | Uttar Pradesh | 4099.068 | 98.036 |
| 7. | Uttarakhand | 2129.952 | 208.034 |
| TOTAL | | 13512.696 | 459.907 |

| | | | |
|-------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 1. | Bihar | 64.90 | 0.00 |
| 2. | Jharkhand | 9.08 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Odisha | 1074.46 | 4.70 |
| 4. | West Bengal | | 2061.83 |
| TOTAL | | 3210.27 | 19.33 |

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | 59.000 | 0.000 |
| 2. | Assam | 88.000 | 0.000 |
| 3. | Mizoram | 3.600 | 0.000 |
| 4. | Nagaland | 7.450 | 0.000 |
| 5. | Sikkim | 12.400 | 0.000 |
| 6. | Tripura | 240.000 | 0.000 |
| TOTAL | | 410.450 | 0.000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 80696.45595 | 4054.563711 |

Source: Compiled by NCOF (Data Provided by Production Units/State Government/RCOF MT= Metric Ton KL = Kilo Litre.

Statement-III

*State-wise distribution of Bio-fertilizers under different components of
Mini Mission-I of NMOOP during 2014-15*

Unit in ha.

| Sl. No. | State | Component | | | |
|---------|----------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|
| | | Gypsum/ pyrite/lime/ SSP | Rhizobium/ PSB/ZSB/ Azatobactor/ Mycorrhiza culture | Nuclear polyhydrosis virus (NPV) | Miconutri- ents |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 5010 | 506 | 0 | 6640 |
| 2. | Ar. Pradesh | 2250 | 650 | 650 | 2250 |
| 3. | Bihar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4534 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 1435 | 57985 | 547 | 3858 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 12007 | 154 | 0 | 2472 |
| 6. | Haryana | 2188 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | J&K | 561 | 94 | 30 | 600 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 7992 | 8373 | 1984 | 47372 |
| 9. | M.P. | 9203 | 16454 | 3780 | 83991 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 20559 | 31474 | 19595 | 23405 |
| 11. | Nagaland | 5500 | 5000 | 2200 | 7492 |
| 12. | Odisha | 1854 | 190 | 0 | 1830 |
| 13. | Rajasthan | 199596 | 20678 | 0 | 29702 |
| 14. | Sikkim | 1000 | 1500 | 0 | 1500 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 0 | 37410 | 1820 | 2613 |
| 16. | Telangna | 784 | 741 | 0 | 919 |
| 17. | U.P. | 1466 | 18609 | 618 | 2216 |
| 18. | West Bangal | 43129 | 0 | 0 | 25168 |
| TOTAL | | 314534 | 199818 | 31224 | 246562 |

Statement-IV

*State-wise details of Universities/Institutions doing research work to develop
Effective strains of bio-fertilizers*

| Sl.No. | State | Name of the institution |
|--------|-------|--|
| 1. | Assam | Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat |
| 2. | Bihar | Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa |

| Sl.No. | State | Name of the institution |
|--------|------------------|--|
| 3. | Delhi | Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. University of Delhi, New Delhi |
| 4. | Gujarat | Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagarh |
| 5. | Haryana | CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan |
| 7. | Jharkhand | Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi |
| 8. | Karnataka | University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal |
| 10. | Maharashtra | Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani |
| 11. | Odisha | Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar |
| 12. | Rajasthan | Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore |
| 14. | Telengana | Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University, Amaravathi, Hyderabad |

Setting up of price stabilization fund

1617. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish Price Stabilization Fund to give reprieve to the farmers and consumers from fluctuating prices of food, agricultural and horticultural product prices, if so, the details thereof;

(b) The details of the plan chalked out by Government to utilize this fund during the coming three years including the agencies authorized for its utilization;

(c) whether various States are also being involved in the process of establishing Price Stabilization Fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the Fund is likely to be established?

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

(a) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) approved the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) as a Central Sector Scheme for a period of three years from 2014-15 to 2016-17, with a corpus of ₹ 500 crores, to support market interventions for price control of agricultural commodities that are susceptible to high price volatility. The Fund was operationalised in March, 2015. The intervention is expected to regulate price volatility through procurement by State Government and Central agencies of selected produce, maintenance of buffer stocks and regulated release into the market.

PSF is used to advance interest free loan to State Governments, Central agencies and Public Sector Undertakings/Cooperatives under Ministries to support their working capital and other expenses on domestic procurement/imports and distribution interventions for such commodities. Initially the fund is being used for market intervention in respect of pulses, onion and potato only.

Being a consumer centric scheme, it has been transferred to Department of Consumer Affairs with effect from 2016-17.

(b) to (d) The PSF scheme provides that from the central corpus fund interest free working capital advance would be provided in two streams:

Stream-A: A one time interest free advance to the States/Union Territories (UTs) based on their first proposal for market intervention for price control, as evaluated by their State/UT Level PSF

Committee. This advance to the State Governments/UTs will, however, only be released into a revolving fund account set up for the purpose by the State Government/UT and to which the State Government/UT will contribute an equal amount. In case of North Eastern (NE) States, the Central advance will constitute 75% of the State/UT corpus and contribution of NE States will be 25%.

Stream-B: Interest free advance to the Central agencies based on their proposal for market intervention for price control.

During the year 2015-16, price stabilization measures in respect of pulses were undertaken by way of import of pulses and creation of a buffer stock of pulses. In respect of onions domestic procurement was undertaken by Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and imports by Metal and Minerals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC). Details of various operations are as under:

(i) **Import of Pulses:** MMTC imported 5000 MT of Tur dal at US \$ 1078 per MT (total of ₹ 38.43 crore). The imported unmilled Tur Dal was

allocated on demand, to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana along with Kendriya Bhandar and Mother Dairy for distribution in Delhi. @ ₹ 69/kg. (approximately).

(ii) **Onion Operations:** In order to undertake marketing interventions for onion, SFAC and NAFED were provided with interest free advance from PSF, of ₹ 9.16 crore and ₹ 8.75 crore respectively to undertake procurement of onions. They together procured 6011 MT of onion and distributed through different channels in Delhi to keep prices under check.

Further, MMTC imported 2000 Metric Tonnes (MT) of onion of Chinese and Egyptian origin for ₹ 9.96 crore.

(iii) **Buffer stock of Pulses:** The Government approved the proposal for creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses (Arhar, Urad, Chana, Masur) in 2015-16 on 9th December, 2015. Domestic procurement of these pulses was commenced with advance from PSF by Food Corporation of India (FCI), SFAC and NAFED.

Against a target of 50,000 MT for Urad and Tur during the Kharif Marketing Season, the three agencies have procured 50422.52 MT. During, Rabi Marketing Season 1,00,000 MT of Chana and Masur are targeted to be procured by the three agencies.

Simultaneously, for the buffer stock, the Government has so far approved import of 7500 MT of Urad and 11,000 MT of Tur through MMTC.

(iv) **Assistance to State PSF:** The States/UTs are also encouraged to set up State level PSF to undertake market intervention in respect of onion, potato and pulses, with assistance from the Central PSF. Based on the proposals of States, assistance has so far been provided to States of Telangana (₹ 9.15 crore), Andhra Pradesh (₹ 25 crore) and West Bengal (₹ 2.50 crore) for Market Intervention Operations to stabilize prices.

MSP of cotton

1618. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the prevailing Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton in the market and whether it is causing problems to the farmers;

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

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the MSP of cotton and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to promote cultivation of cotton in the country and its export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of India has fixed the MSP of cotton for 2015-16 season at ₹ 3800 per quintal (medium staple) and at ₹ 4100 per quintal (long staple) after considering the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of concerned State Governments, Central Ministries and other relevant factors. The MSP fixed for 2015-16 season provides adequate margin over the all-India level average paid out costs including family labour (A2+FL) of ₹ 2753 per quintal, as estimated by CACP.

The current market prices of Cotton are ruling above Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government except in some centres in Gujarat. In order to ensure remunerative price to cotton growers and to avoid distress sale by famers, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI), the designated nodal agency, undertake procurement operations whenever cotton market prices fall below MSP. As on 2nd March, 2016, CCI was undertaking procurement of cotton through 222 centres and has procured 8.32 lakh bales.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the MSP of Cotton for 2015-16 season.

(d) To enhance overall production and productivity of cotton in the country, Government of India is implementing Cotton Development Programme as a Sub-scheme under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Commercial Crops. Under the above Sub-scheme, assistance is provided for trials on High Density Planting System (HDPS), Frontline demonstrations on Inter-cropping, Extra Long Staple (ELS)/Desi Cotton, besides programme on Insecticides Resistance Management (IRM) and Online Pest Monitoring and Advisory Services (OPMAS). For 2015-16, an allocation of ₹ 2030.50 lakh has been made under this scheme.

Regarding export of cotton, the Government of India has liberalized raw cotton exports. Exports of cotton from the country are under Open General License (OGL). With effect from 8th December 2014, registration requirement with the Directorate General of Foreign Trade for export of cotton has also been dispensed with. The Government of India is also pursuing with the High Commissions of various neighboring Countries like China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Turkey etc for their cotton requirement and export of cotton from India. Besides this, the Government provides number of incentives like Duty Draw Back for export of cotton.

Setting up of agriculture university in Andhra Pradesh

1619. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to set up a new Agriculture University in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its present status; and
- (c) by when work on the project is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to establish an Agricultural University at Lam Village in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh *vide* GO Ms. No. 04 dated 4.1.2016 of Agriculture and Cooperation (Agri. III) Department of Government of Andhra Pradesh is given in the statement. (*See below*)

(b) and (c)

- Land of 500 Acres belonging to the University has already been identified by the State Government at Lam, Guntur for the purpose of establishment of Agricultural University.
- The foundation stone for the Agricultural University was laid by the Hon'ble Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Hon'ble Union Ministers and Hon'ble Ministers of State at Lam, Guntur on 16.11.2015.
- As per the budget announcement, the financial support has been extended for establishment of new Agricultural University in the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh at Lam Village in Guntur district. An amount of ₹ 10.00 crores in the year 2014-15 and ₹ 71.39 crores in the year 2015-16 have been released for this purpose. An amount of ₹ 50.00 crores has been earmarked for 2016-17 at BE stage.
- The first advanced PG centre has been commissioned at Lam, Guntur with the following courses from the academic year 2015-16:
 - (i) M.Sc. in Agronomy (Water management).
 - (ii) M.Sc. in Seed Science and Technology.
 - (iii) M.Sc. in Environmental Science.
 - (iv) M.Sc. in Microbiology.

The classes have started from 01.08.2015.

Statement

Copy of the Order of Government of Andhra Pradesh for
Establishment Agricultural University

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Agriculture Department – Establishment of Agricultural University (Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University) with four Advanced PG Centres (APGC) at Lam, Guntur – Administrative Sanction – Accorded – Orders – Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (AGRI. III) DEPARTMENT

G.O. Ms. No.04

Dated: 04-01-2016

Read the following:

- (1) The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, No.6 of 2014.
- (2) Government Letter No.4427/Agri.III(1)/2015-1, Dated 18-06-2015.
- (3) From the Registrar, ANGRAU, Lr.No.30873/Acad/2015, Dt. 04-11-2015

ORDER:—

In the reference 3rd read above, the Registrar, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University has stated that, after bifurcation of the Andhra Pradesh State, the Government of India have sanctioned one Agricultural University for residuary State of Andhra Pradesh and requested to submit a plan of action for establishment of the Agricultural University. Accordingly, the University while submitting the Detailed Project Report for the proposed University in the State of Andhra Pradesh to the Government of India, with a budget of ₹ 1500 crores for (5) years (*i.e.*, 2014-19), which involves establishment of Head quarters and Four Advanced Post Graduate Centres in the Faculties of Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Home Science and other Research and Extension institutions, have informed that, 500 acres of land has been identified for establishment of the Agricultural University at Lam, Guntur.

(2) The Government *vide* letter 2nd read above, informed that, the name to be given for the Agricultural University in the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh at Lam, Guntur is “Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University”. The Government of India has released an amount of ₹ 10.00 crores for the year 2014-15 for establishment of Agricultural University Head Quarters. The release of funds for the year 2015-16 is under process at ICAR. To save the academic year, the University has started the following Post Graduate programmes for the academic year 2015-16 and the classes commenced on 1-08-2015.

- (1) M.Sc. in Agronomy (Water Management).
- (2) M.Sc. in Seed Science and Technology.
- (3) M.Sc. in Environmental Science.
- (4) M.Sc. in Microbiology.

(3) The Registrar, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University has therefore requested the Government, to issue an Administrative Government Order for establishment of Agricultural University (Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University) at Lam, Guntur with the following Four Advanced Post Graduate Centres with the funds provided by the Government of India, as per Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014:

- (1) Advanced Post Graduate Centre in Agriculture.
- (2) Advanced Post Graduate Centre in Agricultural Engineering and Technology.
- (3) Advanced Post Graduate Centre in Food Science and Technology.
- (4) Advanced Post Graduate Centre in Home Science.

(4) Government, after careful consideration, hereby accord administrative sanction for establishment of Agricultural University (Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University) with the Four Advanced Post Graduate Centres mentioned at para-3 above, at Lam, Guntur with the funds provided by the Government of India, as per Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.

(5) The Registrar, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad shall take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH):

T. VIJAY KUMAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (AGRI).

To

The Registrar, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University,
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.

The Pay and Accounts Officer, A.P., Hyderabad.

The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P., Hyderabad.

The Accountant General, AP, Hyderabad

Copy to:

The Vice-Chancellor, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University,
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.

The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.

The Joint Secretary to Hon'ble C.M.,

The P.S. to Minister (Agriculture).

The P.S. to Spl. Chief Secretary to Government (Agri.).

Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

Sd/-

SECTION OFFICER

Criteria for classification of marginal, small, medium and big farmers

†1620. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total hectares of agricultural land in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the total number of registered marginal, small, medium and big farmers in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the criteria for classification of marginal, small, medium and big farmers, State-wise; and
- (d) the quantum of agricultural land converted into non-agricultural land during last five years, State-wise and year-wise details thereof?

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

(a) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2012-13 (latest available), the State-wise details of agricultural land in the country are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) As per Agriculture Census 2010-11 (latest available), the State-wise details of total number of marginal, small, medium and large operational holders (farmers) in the country are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The criteria for classification of marginal, small, medium and large operational holders (farmers) in the country is as under:

| Sl.No. | Category of operational holders | Criteria (in ha.) |
|--------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Marginal | Below 1.0 ha |
| 2. | Small | 1.0 ha. and above but less than 2.0 |
| 3. | Semi-medium | 2.0 ha. and above but less than 4.0 ha. |
| 4. | Medium | 4.0 ha. and above but less than 10.0 ha. |
| 5. | Large | 10.0 ha and above |

(d) While there is shift in agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes, non-agricultural land is also being brought under agricultural uses. As such, the details of agricultural land put to non-agricultural uses are not maintained separately. However, as per report on Land Use Statistics for 2012-13 (latest available), the State-wise details of agricultural land and non-agricultural land during the last five years *i.e.* 2008-09 to 2012-13 are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Agricultural Land for 2012-13

| States/Uts | Agricultural Land |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 15930 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 424 |
| Assam | 3217 |
| Bihar | 6582 |
| Chhattisgarh | 5552 |
| Goa | 197 |
| Gujarat | 12661 |
| Haryana | 3664 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 811 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 1070 |
| Jharkhand | 4336 |
| Karnataka | 12846 |
| Kerala | 2280 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 17264 |

| States/Uts | Agricultural Land |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Maharashtra | 21129 |
| Manipur | 316 |
| Meghalaya | 1056 |
| Mizoram | 408 |
| Nagaland | 694 |
| Odisha | 6743 |
| Punjab | 4286 |
| Rajasthan | 25548 |
| Sikkim | 98 |
| Tamil Nadu | 8126 |
| Tripura | 277 |
| Uttarakhand | 1547 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 19075 |
| West Bengal | 5673 |
| Others | 141 |
| All India | 181950 |

Statement-II*State-wise number of operational holders as per Agriculture Census 2010-11*

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Number of operational holders | | | | | | Total |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|----------|-------|
| | | Marginal (below 1.00 ha.) | Small (1.00 ha and above but less than-2.00 ha.) | Semi-medium (2.00 ha and above but less than 4.00 ha.) | Medium (4.00 ha and above but less than 10.00 ha.) | Large (10.00 ha. and above) | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| 1. | A & N Islands | 4626 | 2415 | 3137 | 1592 | 33 | 11803 | |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 8424698 | 2918374 | 1399123 | 397252 | 35653 | 13175100 | |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 21456 | 19333 | 34038 | 27941 | 6530 | 109298 | |
| 4. | Assam | 1831115 | 496574 | 303528 | 84869 | 4137 | 2720223 | |
| 5. | Bihar | 14744098 | 948016 | 414664 | 81484 | 3129 | 16191391 | |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 453 | 133 | 78 | 47 | 3 | 714 | |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | 2182834 | 831118 | 502989 | 201841 | 27698 | 3746480 | |
| 8. | D & N Haveli | 8177 | 3903 | 1807 | 733 | 104 | 14724 | |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 7716 | 458 | 137 | 36 | 8 | 8355 | |
| 10. | Delhi | 11308 | 4517 | 2979 | 1543 | 150 | 20497 | |
| 11. | Goa | 59900 | 9817 | 5707 | 2010 | 586 | 78020 | |
| 12. | Gujarat | 1815634 | 1429021 | 1079533 | 512651 | 48771 | 4885610 | |
| 13. | Haryana | 778142 | 314818 | 283828 | 194694 | 45829 | 1617311 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|----------|
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 670425 | 174596 | 84868 | 27606 | 3270 | 960765 |
| 15. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1206612 | 167130 | 63681 | 11449 | 525 | 1449397 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | 1848324 | 428861 | 282818 | 128683 | 20242 | 2708928 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 3848834 | 2138208 | 1266829 | 510745 | 67573 | 7832189 |
| 18. | Kerala | 6579692 | 180171 | 57028 | 12044 | 1854 | 6830789 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 9854 | 267 | 130 | 26 | 8 | 10285 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 3891016 | 2448652 | 1654834 | 789143 | 88732 | 8872377 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 6709034 | 4052317 | 2159109 | 710591 | 67914 | 13698965 |
| 22. | Manipur | 76735 | 48850 | 22235 | 2760 | 40 | 150620 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 102714 | 57755 | 40542 | 8312 | 238 | 209561 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 50210 | 29753 | 9922 | 1731 | 264 | 91880 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 6476 | 20338 | 48457 | 77968 | 25172 | 178411 |
| 26. | Odisha | 3368296 | 918647 | 311261 | 63688 | 5574 | 4667466 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 28481 | 2779 | 1449 | 448 | 71 | 33228 |
| 28. | Punjab | 164431 | 195439 | 324515 | 298451 | 69718 | 1052554 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 2511512 | 1511068 | 1335144 | 1127122 | 403590 | 6888436 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 40476 | 16941 | 10809 | 5922 | 780 | 74928 |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 6266555 | 1181344 | 502308 | 150646 | 17371 | 8118224 |
| 32. | Tripura | 499054 | 55043 | 21544 | 2752 | 86 | 578479 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 18532272 | 3035331 | 1334266 | 398278 | 25309 | 23325456 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 34. | Uttarakhand | 672138 | 157330 | 64781 | 17302 | 1099 | 912650 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 5852681 | 979833 | 267474 | 22657 | 702 | 7123347 |
| All India | | 92825979 | 24779150 | 13895552 | 5875017 | 972763 | 138348461 |

Statement-III

State-wise details of Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Land from 2008-09 to 2012-13

| Sl. No. | States/Uts | Agricultural Land | | | | | | Non-Agricultural Land | | | | | |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2008-09 | 2012-13 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 15928 | 15921 | 15821 | 15894 | 15930 | 11576 | 11584 | 11683 | 11610 | 11574 | | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 422 | 424 | 424 | 424 | 424 | 5237 | 5237 | 5237 | 5237 | 5237 | | |
| 3. | Assam | 3211 | 3211 | 3211 | 3217 | 3217 | 4639 | 4639 | 4639 | 4633 | 4633 | | |
| 4. | Bihar | 6620 | 6601 | 6591 | 6588 | 6582 | 2740 | 2759 | 2769 | 2772 | 2777 | | |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 5581 | 5570 | 5580 | 5557 | 5552 | 8209 | 8220 | 8210 | 8233 | 8238 | | |
| 6. | Goa | 197 | 197 | 197 | 197 | 197 | 164 | 164 | 164 | 164 | 164 | | |
| 7. | Gujarat | 12661 | 12661 | 12661 | 12661 | 12661 | 6408 | 6408 | 6408 | 6408 | 6408 | | |
| 8. | Haryana | 3728 | 3730 | 3681 | 3698 | 3664 | 644 | 641 | 690 | 673 | 708 | | |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 822 | 817 | 811 | 811 | 811 | 3728 | 3742 | 3764 | 3764 | 3764 | | |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1044 | 1058 | 1061 | 1063 | 1070 | 2737 | 2723 | 2720 | 2718 | 2711 | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 11. | Jharkhand | 4289 | 4288 | 4288 | 4271 | 4336 | 3681 | 3682 | 3699 | 3635 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 12892 | 12891 | 12849 | 12850 | 12846 | 6158 | 6201 | 6200 | 6204 |
| 13. | Kerala | 2305 | 2303 | 2295 | 2274 | 2280 | 1581 | 1591 | 1613 | 1606 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 17322 | 17298 | 17307 | 17284 | 17264 | 13434 | 13449 | 13472 | 13492 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 21149 | 21130 | 21121 | 21125 | 21129 | 9610 | 9628 | 9633 | 9629 |
| 16. | Manipur | 243 | 240 | 355 | 372 | 316 | 1770 | 1770 | 1770 | 1770 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 1053 | 1052 | 1052 | 1056 | 1056 | 1174 | 1177 | 1185 | 1185 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 348 | 415 | 414 | 389 | 408 | 1732 | 1686 | 1686 | 1686 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 659 | 671 | 673 | 686 | 694 | 961 | 950 | 958 | 958 |
| 20. | Odisha | 7126 | 6898 | 6866 | 6749 | 6743 | 8445 | 8638 | 8619 | 8759 |
| 21. | Punjab | 4215 | 4206 | 4202 | 4250 | 4286 | 818 | 827 | 783 | 747 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 25578 | 25569 | 25565 | 25555 | 25548 | 8692 | 8701 | 8712 | 8719 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 595 | 595 | 595 | 595 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 8146 | 8131 | 8132 | 8129 | 8126 | 4880 | 4903 | 4904 | 4907 |
| 25. | Tripura | 278 | 277 | 277 | 277 | 277 | 771 | 772 | 772 | 772 |
| 26. | Uttarakhand | 1547 | 1548 | 1547 | 1546 | 1547 | 4126 | 4124 | 4126 | 4126 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 19166 | 19148 | 19126 | 19099 | 19075 | 5005 | 5022 | 5072 | 5095 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 5689 | 5684 | 5666 | 5697 | 5673 | 2995 | 3000 | 2987 | 3011 |
| 29. | Others | 143 | 143 | 143 | 142 | 141 | 876 | 873 | 874 | 875 |
| ALL INDIA | | 182459 | 182179 | 182012 | 181959 | 181950 | 123385 | 123664 | 123873 | 123985 |

Decrease in real prices of agricultural produces

1621. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the real prices of agricultural produces in the country like-paddy, wheat, sugarcane, pulses, oilseeds etc. have decreased since 1970 price levels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether farmers distress in the country is due to price issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) No Sir. Real Wholesale Prices of Rice, Wheat, Arhar and Groundnut have not decreased since 1970 price levels. A comparative statement showing real prices of agricultural produce in the years 1970 and 2015 is given in the Statement. (See below)

(c) and (d) As reported by State Governments, reasons for distress are manifold which, *inter alia*, include crop failure, indebtedness, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons. To alleviate distress, Government is taking a number of steps including ensuring remunerative prices to growers of major agricultural commodities such as cereals, pulses and oilseeds through Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and Fair and Remunerative Prices (FRP) for sugarcane. Further, the Government is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are generally perishable in nature.

Statement***Showing Actual and Real Wholesale Prices of Various Agricultural Produces***

| Commodity | WPI 1970-71 | WPI 2015-16 (adjusted to base year 1970- 71=100) | Average annual wholesale price in 1970 (₹ Per Quintal) | Real value of 1970 wholesale price (₹ Per Quintal) | Average annual wholesale price of 2015 (₹ Per Quintal) | Difference (Actual price - Real price) ₹ Per Quintal |
|--------------------|----------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5=(4*3)/100 | 6 | 7 = 6-5 |
| Rice | 100 | 2398.7 | 110 | 2639 | 2960 | 321 |
| Wheat | 100 | 1940.5 | 91 | 1766 | 1768 | 2 |
| Gram (whole+split) | 100 | 4649.8 | 110 | 5115 | 4928 | -187 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5=(4*3)/100 | 6 | 7 = 6-5 |
|----------------------|-----|--------|-------|-------------|--------|---------|
| Arhar (whole+split) | 100 | 5474.3 | 134.5 | 7363 | 8411.5 | 1049 |
| Groundnut | 100 | 2785.5 | 177 | 4930 | 5360 | 430 |
| Rapeseed and Mustard | 100 | 2261.9 | 187 | 4230 | 4219 | -11 |

Source: D/o Industrial, Policy and Promotion - WPI indices, 1970-71, 1981-82, 1993-94, 2004-05.

Note: Real price of agricultural commodities at 2015 = actual price of that commodity at 1970-71 price inflated to show its value in current prices.

Simplifying the functioning and banking activities of Co-operative Societies in Chhattisgarh

†1622. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to simplify the accounting system and information system of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies in Chhattisgarh through computerisation;

(b) if so, the action taken to simplify the functioning and banking activities of the above societies; and

(c) whether Central Government would provide 50 per cent amount as assistance for (a) above and if so, by when?

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

(a) and (b) The Registrar Cooperative Societies, Chhattisgarh, through Apex Bank of Chhattisgarh has taken initiatives towards simplification of accounting and information system of Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) through computerization. Two PACS of Raipur Central Co-operative Bank (CCB) and one PACS of Durg CCB were allocated by Registrar of Co-operative Societies/Apex Bank for pilot run of the said project to National Informatics Centre (NIC) and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) respectively, the two service providers of Core Banking Solution (CBS) of Cooperative banks in Chhattisgarh. However, only TCS has completed the said pilot project in one PACS of Durg CCB which would be evaluated by the Apex Bank and CEOs of all District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) on 10.03.2016.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Standard administrative unit for declaration of drought

1623. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans on introducing a standard administrative unit for declaration of drought and in assessing crop yield, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the amount granted for drought relief under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), State-wise; and

(c) the criteria on which Government increased drought relief and whether the same has been sufficient in meeting the rising input costs of farmers, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor and corrective action taken thereon?

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

(a) As per the Drought Manual 2009, State Governments are empowered to declare drought and initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of drought notification and relief memorandum from State Governments in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

(b) State-wise details of financial assistance approved from NDRF by the Government of India in the wake of drought in the year 2015-16 is given in the Statement (*See below*)

(c) The norms of assistance are reviewed comprehensively as per the decision/declaration taken in the successive Finance Commission. Taking into account various factors, including inflation, the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs has issued order on revised items and norms of assistance under SDRF/NDRF on 8th April, 2015. In addition, norms are revised from time to time, depending upon requirement. Assistance provided under SDRF/NDRF is for immediate relief and not for compensation of loss suffered.

Statement

*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 GoI (under NDRF) |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|---|---|
| 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 | 3049.36 |
| 6. | Odisha | Drought-K | 2217.08 | 815.00 |
| 7. | Telangana | Drought-K | 2601.17 | 791.21 |
| 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 |
| TOTAL | | | 41722.42 | 12773.34 |

* IMCT Report awaited.
K-Kharif
R-Rabi

Drought in Odisha

1624. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance that the interim memorandum by the Odisha Government for release of ₹ 815 crores for the drought in 2015 has not yet been received by the State Government, if so, the details thereof and corrective action taken;

(b) whether Central Government has taken action on the final memorandum for the release of additional funds for 235 drought affected blocks in Odisha, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to expedite the payment of drought relief to State Governments to effectively assist affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) During Kharif 2015, the Government of Odisha declared drought and submitted memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has visited the State to carry out an assessment of the drought situation and the quantum of financial assistance to be made available to the State by way of relief. Government of India considered the report of the IMCT and approved ₹ 815 crore from NDRF to the Government of Odisha subject to the adjustment of 50% of balance available in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) account for the instant disaster. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has recommended net assistance of ₹ 600.52 crore from NDRF in the wake of drought (Kharif) after adjustment of ₹ 214.48 crore (50% of balance available in the SDRF account). Department of Expenditure has released assistance amounting to ₹ 47.44 crore from NDRF on 08.02.2016 against recommended amount of ₹ 600.52 crore. Fund under NDRF is being replenished to release the remaining amount.

After approval of quantum of financial assistance by the Government of India, Government of Odisha submitted revised memorandum for release of additional funds for 235 drought affected blocks in Odisha and requested for release of ₹ 2344.99 crore (as against earlier demand of ₹ 2217.08 crore) from NDRF. The proposal is under consideration.

Promotion of Micro Irrigation

1625. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

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

(a) whether Micro Irrigation is widely used by farmers in the country as a method of irrigation, if so, the details of the area covered under it, State-wise including West Bengal;

(b) the present status of the National Mission on Micro Irrigation programme in the country, State-wise including West Bengal; and

(c) the various steps taken by Government for promotion of Micro Irrigation in the country along with the funds allocated and utilized under the scheme during the last and current Five Year Plan Period State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Micro Irrigation technologies (both Drip and Sprinkler) are quite popular amongst the farmers and adoption rate is also high. The State-wise details of area covered under Micro Irrigation including West Bengal are available in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The National Mission on Micro Irrigation programme in the country, State-wise including West Bengal was subsumed under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and implemented as “On farm Water Management” (OFWM) during 2014-15. The same is now being implemented as “Per Drop More Crop” component under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) from 2015-16 onwards.

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

The State-wise position regarding Central Grant released and utilized under the scheme during last and current Five Year Plan Period is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise details of total area covered under Micro Irrigation including West Bengal

| Sl. No. | State | Total Area Covered (in hectare)* |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1221416 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 613 |
| 3. | Assam | 439 |
| 4. | Bihar | 102050 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 259741 |
| 6. | Goa | 1936 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 912931 |
| 8. | Haryana | 574809 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 2928 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 16222 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 905802 |
| 12. | Kerala | 29464 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 374372 |

| Sl.No. | State | Total Area Covered (in hectare)* |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14. | Maharashtra | 1322125 |
| 15. | Manipur | 77 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 2152 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 5205 |
| 18. | Odisha | 102615 |
| 19. | Punjab | 44870 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 1697586 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 9085 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 355752 |
| 23. | Telangana | 67896 |
| 24. | Tripura | 492 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 36682 |
| 26. | Uttarakhand | 1147 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 51180 |
| 28. | Jammu and Kashmir | 85 |
| 29. | Meghalaya | 0 |
| 30. | Others | 46500 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 8146172 |

* Based on information as available as on 8-3-2016.

Statement-II

State-wise position regarding Central Grant released and utilized under the scheme during last and current Five Year Plan Period

| Sl. No. | States | Last Five Year Plan Period (2007-08 to 2011-12) | | Current Five Year Plan Period (2012-13 to 2015-16) | |
|---------|----------------|--|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| | | Central Grant Released | Central Grant Utilized* | Central Grant Released | Central Grant Utilized* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 825.06 | 959.44 | 854.65 | 1084.69 |
| 2. | Bihar | 4.50 | 30.52 | 154.50 | 98.38 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 75.08 | 103.05 | 79.22 | 62.11 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 4. | Goa | 0.62 | 0.66 | 0.37 | 0.50 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 453.60 | 464.44 | 718.24 | 702.41 |
| 6. | Haryana | 53.77 | 52.40 | 102.94 | 85.65 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5.25 | 3.30 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 2.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.67 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 11.41 | 13.71 | 55.00 | 25.56 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 407.84 | 402.38 | 549.95 | 539.21 |
| 11. | Kerala | 2.00 | 11.52 | 13.23 | 6.35 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 277.50 | 259.65 | 371.19 | 345.51 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 865.69 | 867.07 | 557.06 | 516.60 |
| 14. | Odisha | 26.07 | 28.55 | 61.92 | 58.90 |
| 15. | Punjab | 46.52 | 45.63 | 15.00 | 15.79 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 355.11 | 364.34 | 317.37 | 300.49 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 154.16 | 209.07 | 299.28 | 418.03 |
| 18. | Telangana | NA | NA | 170.32 | 159.72 |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh | 9.62 | 20.02 | 18.45 | 10.19 |
| 20. | Uttarakhand | 0.75 | 0.00 | 17.38 | 9.83 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 1.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.75 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23. | Assam | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.95 |
| 24. | Manipur | 0.50 | 0.00 | 6.83 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Meghalaya | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.50 | 0.00 |
| 26. | Mizoram | 1.25 | 1.25 | 13.50 | 0.00 |
| 27. | Nagaland | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 28. | Sikkim | 4.00 | 4.00 | 16.41 | 7.28 |
| 29. | Tripura | 1.50 | 0.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 3580.80 | 3838.79 | 4403.06 | 4454.12 |

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

* Utilized amount includes utilization of unspent balance of previous year. The scheme is in implementation since 2005-06 (All States except North Eastern and Himalayan States) and since 2010-11 (North Eastern and Himalayan States). Based on available information as on 8-3-2016.

Schemes to increase production of pulses and oilseeds

1626. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) the necessary steps taken by Government during the last two years to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds in the country;

(b) the schemes implemented to increase the production of above mentioned crops during the said period; and

(c) the amount spent each year during the said period on implementation of each scheme and the extent to which the production of above mentioned crops increased during each year of the said period?

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

(a) and (b) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented to increase production and productivity of pulses in the country and 50% of total allocation of NFSM is made for pulses. The Mission is being implemented in 622 districts of 27 States. National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is being implemented from 2014-15 to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and oil palm in the country. Mini Mission-I on oilseeds of NMOOP covers 27 States including all the North Eastern States.

Financial assistance is being provided under NFSM and NMOOP for various interventions like cluster demonstrations and Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) of improved technologies, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, integrated pest management and soil amendments, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers/extension official etc. to enhance production and productivity of pulses and oilseeds.

(c) Information on budgetary allocation under NFSM and NMOOP and production of pulses and oilseeds during the last two years are as given below:-

| Year | Budgetary Allocation (in crores) | | Production (in millions tonnes) | |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|--------|
| | NMOOP | NFSM | Oilseeds | Pulses |
| 2014-15 | 333.00 | 1874.64 | 27.51 | 17.15 |
| 2015-16 | 272.03 | 1136.61 | 26.34* | 17.33* |

*2nd advanced estimate.

In the last two years, the country has experienced delayed/deficit rainfall and unseasonal weather conditions which have affected the pulses and oilseeds production.

Loss of production due to drought

1627. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of districts facing drought continuously for last two years *i.e.* 2014-15 and 2015-16, State-wise;

(b) the magnitude of loss of production suffered on this account;

(c) whether Government has identified sectors requiring focus and prompt attention, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) State-wise list of districts where drought was notified by respective State Governments during, 2014-15 and 2015-16, are given in the Statement-I and II (*See* below). Details of the financial assistance sought by these State Governments and approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 are given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The following 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); and
 - (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 had introduced the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) 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 NCIP from Rabi 2013-14, has been extended further. These schemes have been recently reviewed and a new scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 season.

Statement-I

State-wise details of districts declared drought affected during 2014-15

| Sl. No. | Name of State/total number of districts | No. of districts | Name of districts |
|---------|---|------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Haryana (21) | 21 | Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Palwal, Fatehabad, Gurgaon, Mewat, Hisar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sirsa, Sonapat and Yamunanagar. |
| 2. | Uttar Pradesh (75) | 44 | Agra, Aligarh, Amroha, Amethi, Auraiya, Azamgarh, Badaun, Banda, Bareilly, Bulandshahr, Chitrakoot, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|---------------------|----|--|
| | | | Hamirpur, Hapur, Hardoi, Jhansi, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kannauj, Kaushambi, Kushinagar Maharajganj, Mau, Meerut, Mainpuri, Mahoba, Mathura, Muzaffarnagar, Pilibhit, Rampur, Saharanpur, Shamli, Sonbhadra, Unnao. |
| 3. | Karnataka (30) | 9 | Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Ramanagar, Kolar, Chickballapur, Tumkur, Gulbarga, Bidar, Hassan. |
| 4. | Maharashtra (36) | 26 | Nasik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Hingoli, Nanded, Beed, Osmanabad, Latur, Buldhana, Akola, Yavatmal, Washim, Amravati, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli. |
| 5. | Andhra Pradesh (13) | 7 | Anantapur, Chittoor, YSR Kadapa, Kurnool, Prakasam, SPSR Nellore, Guntur. |

Statement-II

State-wise details of districts declared drought affected during-2015-16

| Sl. No. | Name of State/total number of districts | No. of districts | Name of districts |
|---------|---|------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Karnataka (30) | 27 (Kharif) | Bangalore Rural, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chickballapur, Tumakuru, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Mandya, Ballari, Koppal, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgir, Bidar, Belagavi, Bagalkote, Vijapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad, Shivamogga, Hassan, Kodagu, Uttara Kannada, Chikkamagaluru. |
| | | 12 (Rabi) | Ballari, Koppal, Raichuru, Kalaburagi, Yadagiri, Bidar, Belagavi, Bagalkote, Vijayapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|---------------------|----|---|
| 2. | Chhattisgarh (27) | 25 | Raipur, Gariband, Mahasamund, Dhamtari, Durg, Balod, Bemetara, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Bastar, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Kanker, Dantewada, Sukma, Bijapur, Bilaspur, Mungeli, Janjgir Champa, Korba, Balrampur, Surajpur, Koriya, Raigarh, Jashpur. |
| 3. | Madhya Pradesh (51) | 42 | Katni, Shahdol, Umaria, Anuppur, Tikamgarh, Rewa, Jabalpur, Sidhi, Sagar, Damoh, Seoni, Sigroli, Sheopur, Chhatarpur, Bhind, Panna, Satna, Dindori, Shivpuri, Mandsaur, Morena, Jhabua, Bhopal, Ujjain, Neemuch, Vidishia, Raisen, Rajgarh, Khandwa, Ratlam, Narsinghpur, Guna, Betul, Burhanpur, Agar Malwa, Sehore, Indore, Dhar, Shajapur, Harda, Chhindwara, Dewas. |
| 4. | Maharashtra (36) | 21 | Nasik, Dhule, Nadurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Hingoli, Buldhana, Akola, Yeotmal, Nagpur, Gadchiroli. |
| 5. | Odisha (30) | 26 | Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Bundhgarh, Cuttack, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Keonjhar, Khurdha, Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Nawapara, Nawrangpur, Nayagarh, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Sundergarh. |
| 6. | Andhra Pradesh (13) | 10 | Anantapur, Chittoor, YSR Kadapa, Kurnool, Prakasam, SPSR Nellore, Guntur, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Krishna. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--------------------|----|---|
| 7. | Uttar Pradesh (75) | 50 | Sant Ravidas Nagar, Sonbhadra, Sultanpur, Mirzapur, Ballia, Sidhartha Nagar, Shajahanpur, Banda, Pratapgarh, Chandauli, Etawah, Basti, Baghpat, Jaunpur, Faizabad, Gonda, Kannauj, Barabanki, Sant Kabir Nagar, Jhansi, Jalaun, Gorakhpur, Hathras, Etah, Allahabad, Ghaziabad, Farukhabad, Mau, Unnao, Rampur, Hamirpur, Lalitpur, Chitrakoot, Kanpur Nagar, Lucknow, Deoria, Mainpuri, Maharajganj, Agra, Auraiya, Pilibhit, Amethi, Mahoba, Raebareli, Kushi Nagar, Kanpur Dehat, Kaushambi, Fatehpur, Ambedkar Nagar and Balrampur. |
| 8. | Telangana (10) | 7 | Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nizamabad, Ranga Reddy, Nalgonda, Karimnagar and Warangal. |
| 9. | Jharkhand (24) | 24 | Ranchi, Khunti, Lohardaga, Gumla, Simdega, West Singhbhum, Saraikela, East Singhbhum, Palamu, Garhwa, Latehar, Hazaribagh, Ramgarh, Koderma, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Chatra, Dumka, Godda, Pakur, Sahebganj, Deoghar, Jamtara, Giridih. |
| 10. | Rajasthan (33) | 19 | Ajmer, Banswada, Bara, Barmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jallour, Jaisalmer, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagour, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Pali, Pratapgarh. |

Statement-III

Assistance approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | State | Calamity | Amount sought | Amount approved |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| During 2014-2015 | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | Drought | 4829.25 | 168.87 |
| 2. | Karnataka | Drought | 779.20 | 200.85 |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | Drought | 4819.49 | 777.34 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | Drought | 6013.28 | 1962.99 |
| 5. | Andhra Pradesh | Drought | 1532.00 | 237.51 |
| TOTAL | | | 17973.22 | 3347.56 |
| During 2015-2016 | | | | |
| 1. | Karnataka | Drought-K | 3830.84 | 1540.20 |
| | | Drought-R | 1416.93 | # |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | Drought-K | 6093.79 | 1276.25 |
| 3. | Madhya Pradesh | Drought-K | 4821.64 | 2032.68 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | Drought-K | 4002.82 | 3049.36 |
| 5. | Odisha | Drought-K | 2217.08 | 815.00 |
| 6. | Telangana | Drought-K | 2601.17 | 791.21 |
| 7. | Uttar Pradesh | Drought-K | 2057.79 | 1304.52 |
| 8. | Andhra Pradesh | Drought-K | 2000.56 | 433.77 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | Drought-K | 2142.78 | 336.94 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | Drought-K | 10537.02 | 1193.41 |
| TOTAL | | | 41722.42 | 12773.34 |

K-Kharif

R-Rabi

#Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) report awaited.

Loss of crops due to drought

†1628. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the crops of wheat, barley, soyabean etc., have suffered a heavy loss due to change in weather and drought for two consecutive years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether action is being taken by Government in the interest of farmers to protect them from misery and steps like suicide due to losses incurred in crops, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Production figures of various crops during last five years and 2nd production estimate for the year 2015-16 issued by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is given in the Statemen-I (See below).

(b) and (c) During the year 2014-15 and 2015-16, Government of India received memoranda seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) from various States for crop loss due to hailstorm and drought. Details of the financial assistance sought by these State Governments and approved from NDRF during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 are given in the Statemen-II (See below).

The following 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 had introduced the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) 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 NCIP from Rabi 2013-14, has been extended further. These schemes have been recently reviewed and a new scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 season.

Statement-I

Second advance estimates of production of foodgrains for 2015-16

| Crop | Season | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2nd Advance Estimates (2015-16) |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Rice | Kharif | 80.65 | 92.78 | 92.37 | 91.5 | 91.39 | 90.59 |
| | Rabi | 15.33 | 12.52 | 12.87 | 15.15 | 14.09 | 13.02 |
| | Total | 95.98 | 105.3 | 105.24 | 106.65 | 105.48 | 103.61 |
| Wheat | Rabi | 86.87 | 94.88 | 93.51 | 95.85 | 86.53 | 93.82 |
| Jowar | Kharif | 3.44 | 3.29 | 2.84 | 2.39 | 2.3 | 2.04 |
| | Rabi | 3.56 | 2.69 | 2.44 | 3.15 | 3.15 | 2.99 |
| | Total | 7 | 5.98 | 5.28 | 5.54 | 5.45 | 5.03 |
| Bajra | Kharif | 10.37 | 10.28 | 8.74 | 9.25 | 9.18 | 8.47 |
| Maize | Kharif | 16.64 | 16.49 | 16.19 | 17.14 | 17.01 | 15.59 |
| | Rabi | 5.09 | 5.27 | 6.06 | 7.11 | 7.16 | 5.41 |
| | Total | 21.73 | 21.76 | 22.26 | 24.26 | 24.17 | 21 |
| Ragi | Kharif | 2.19 | 1.93 | 1.57 | 1.98 | 2.06 | 1.76 |
| Small Millets | Kharif | 0.44 | 0.45 | 0.44 | 0.43 | 0.39 | 0.43 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Barley | Rabi | 1.66 | 1.62 | 1.75 | 1.83 | 1.61 | 1.71 |
| Coarse Cereals | Kharif | 33.08 | 32.44 | 29.79 | 31.2 | 30.94 | 28.29 |
| | Rabi | 10.32 | 9.58 | 10.25 | 12.09 | 11.92 | 10.11 |
| | Total | 43.4 | 42.01 | 40.04 | 43.29 | 42.86 | 38.4 |
| Cereals | Kharif | 113.73 | 125.22 | 122.16 | 122.7 | 122.34 | 118.88 |
| | Rabi | 112.52 | 116.98 | 116.63 | 123.09 | 112.53 | 116.95 |
| | Total | 226.25 | 242.2 | 238.79 | 245.79 | 234.87 | 235.83 |
| Tur | Kharif | 2.86 | 2.65 | 3.02 | 3.17 | 2.81 | 2.55 |
| Gram | Rabi | 8.22 | 7.7 | 8.83 | 9.53 | 7.33 | 8.09 |
| Urad | Kharif | 1.4 | 1.23 | 1.43 | 1.15 | 1.28 | 1.11 |
| | Rabi | 0.36 | 0.53 | 0.47 | 0.55 | 0.68 | 0.64 |
| | Total | 1.76 | 1.77 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.96 | 1.74 |
| Moong | Kharif | 1.53 | 1.24 | 0.79 | 0.96 | 0.87 | 0.96 |
| | Rabi | 0.27 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.65 | 0.64 | 0.59 |
| | Total | 1.8 | 1.63 | 1.19 | 1.61 | 1.5 | 1.55 |
| Other Kharif Pulses | Kharif | 1.33 | 0.93 | 0.62 | 0.71 | 0.77 | 0.75 |
| Other Rabi Pulses | Rabi | 2.27 | 2.4 | 2.73 | 2.53 | 2.77 | 2.64 |
| Total Pulses | Kharif | 7.12 | 6.06 | 5.91 | 5.99 | 5.73 | 5.36 |
| | Rabi | 11.12 | 11.03 | 12.43 | 13.25 | 11.42 | 11.97 |
| | Total | 18.24 | 17.09 | 18.34 | 19.25 | 17.15 | 17.33 |
| Total Foodgrains | Kharif | 120.85 | 131.27 | 128.07 | 128.69 | 128.06 | 124.24 |
| | Rabi | 123.64 | 128.01 | 129.06 | 136.35 | 123.96 | 128.92 |
| | Total | 244.49 | 259.29 | 257.13 | 265.04 | 252.02 | 253.16 |
| Groundnut | Kharif | 66.43 | 51.27 | 31.87 | 80.58 | 59.3 | 57.29 |
| | Rabi | 16.22 | 18.37 | 15.08 | 16.56 | 14.71 | 14.52 |
| | Total | 82.65 | 69.64 | 46.95 | 97.14 | 74.02 | 71.81 |
| Castorseed | Kharif | 13.5 | 22.95 | 19.64 | 17.27 | 18.7 | 17.27 |
| Sesamum | Kharif | 8.93 | 8.1 | 6.85 | 7.15 | 8.28 | 8.32 |
| Nigerseed | Kharif | 1.08 | 0.98 | 1.02 | 0.98 | 0.76 | 0.79 |
| Rapeseed and Mustard | Rabi | 81.79 | 66.04 | 80.29 | 78.77 | 62.82 | 68.35 |
| Linseed | Rabi | 1.47 | 1.52 | 1.49 | 1.41 | 1.55 | 1.38 |
| Safflower | Rabi | 1.5 | 1.45 | 1.09 | 1.13 | 0.9 | 0.78 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---------------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Sunflower | Kharif | 1.92 | 1.47 | 1.87 | 1.54 | 1.11 | 0.67 |
| | Rabi | 4.59 | 3.69 | 3.57 | 3.5 | 3.23 | 2.68 |
| | Total | 6.51 | 5.17 | 5.44 | 5.04 | 4.34 | 3.35 |
| Soyabean | Kharif | 127.36 | 122.14 | 146.66 | 118.61 | 103.74 | 91.34 |
| Total Nine Oilseeds | Kharif | 219.22 | 206.91 | 207.91 | 226.12 | 191.89 | 175.68 |
| | Rabi | 105.57 | 91.08 | 101.52 | 101.37 | 83.21 | 87.7 |
| | Total | 324.79 | 297.99 | 309.43 | 327.49 | 275.11 | 263.39 |
| Cotton# | Total | 330 | 352 | 342.2 | 359.02 | 348.05 | 306.92 |
| Jute## | Total | 100.09 | 107.36 | 103.4 | 110.83 | 106.18 | 98.92 |
| Mesta## | Total | 6.11 | 6.63 | 5.9 | 6.07 | 5.08 | 5.1 |
| Jute and Mesta## | Total | 106.2 | 113.99 | 109.3 | 116.9 | 111.26 | 104.02 |
| Sugarcane | Total | 3423.82 | 3610.37 | 3412 | 3521.42 | 3623.33 | 3463.85 |

Lakh bales of 170 kgs. each.

Lakh bales of 180 kgs. each.

Statement-II

*Assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for
natural calamities (drought and hailstorm) in the States*

(₹ in crores)

| Sl.No. | State | Calamity | Amount sought | Amount approved |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| During 2014-2015 | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | Drought | 4829.25 | 168.87 |
| | | Hailstorm | 1925.97 | 369.09 |
| 2. | Karnataka | Drought | 779.20 | 200.85 |
| | | Hailstorm | 151.28 | 105.33 |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | Drought | 4819.49 | 777.34 |
| | | Hailstorm | 7573.70 | 2801.59 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | Drought | 6013.28 | 1962.99 |
| 5. | Andhra Pradesh | Drought | 1532.00 | 237.51 |
| 6. | Rajasthan | Hailstorm | 11885.45 | 1447.73 |
| 7. | Bihar | Hailstorm | 2041.10 | 791.42 |

| Sl.No. | State | Calamity | Amount sought | Amount approved |
|--------|------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| 8. | Telangana | Hailstorm | 117.59 | 83.744 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | Hailstorm | 353.395 | 71.534 |
| TOTAL | | | 42021.71 | 9017.998 |

During 2015-2016

| | | | | |
|-------|----------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 1. | Karnataka | Drought-K | 3830.84 | 1540.20# |
| | | Drought-R | 1416.93 | |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | Drought-K | 6093.79 | 1276.25 |
| 3. | Madhya Pradesh | Drought-K | 4821.64 | 2032.68 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | Drought-K | 4002.82 | 3049.36 |
| 5. | Odisha | Drought-K | 2217.08 | 815.00 |
| 6. | Telangana | Drought-K | 2601.17 | 791.21 |
| 7. | Uttar Pradesh | Drought-K | 2057.79 | 1304.52 |
| 8. | Andhra Pradesh | Drought-K | 2000.56 | 433.77 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | Drought-K | 2142.78 | 336.94 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | Drought-K | 10537.02 | 1193.41 |
| TOTAL | | | 41722.42 | 12773.34 |

K-Kharif

R-Rabi

Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) report awaited.

Reforming implementation of RKVY

1629. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to reform the planning and implementation of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) following the CAG performance audit report of May, 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether steps have been taken to improve the monitoring system in place within the scheme of RKVY; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has already been revised

for implementation from the financial year 2014-15 of the Twelfth Plan to enhance performance of implementation of the scheme. As per the revised scheme, states are required to constitute State Level Project Screening Committee (SLPSC) headed by Agriculture Production Commissioner or any other officer nominated by Chief Secretary for screening RKVY project proposals prepared by various departments of the State for its suitability, its linkage to District Agriculture Plans (DAPs) and State Agriculture Plan (SAP) and its adherence to the RKVY guidelines before placing the projects for approval by the State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC).

(c) and (d) A web-based Management Information System (MIS) is already in place for monitoring of RKVY implementation. States are mandated to enter data on status of implementation of projects under RKVY online on this website for monitoring.

Farm credit and insurance cover for tenant farmers

1630. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that informal tenancy is one of the main reasons for the tenant farmers not getting low interest farm credit and crop insurance scheme benefits, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government to extend these benefits to the tenant farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. To bring small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, etc. into the fold of institutional credit, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) have been promoted by banks. Detailed policy guidelines have been issued to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), State Co-operative Banks, State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (SCARDBs) to finance Joint Liability Groups of tenant farmers/oral lessees, share croppers, etc. through JLG model. As on 31st January, 2016, 14,44,000 JLGs have been promoted and a loan amount of ₹ 14,312.30 crore has been disbursed to JLGs.

Further, the Government provides interest subvention to make short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3 lakh available to farmers at the interest rate of 7% per annum and in case of prompt repayment, the same gets reduced to 4%. In order to discourage distress sale of produce by small and marginal farmers, post-harvest loans against Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) provided by banks to small farmers/marginal Farmers having Kisan Credit Card (KCC), are also available at the interest rate of 7% per annum for a period of up to six months.

All farmers including share croppers and tenant farmers growing the notified crops in the notified areas are eligible for coverage under Crop Insurance Schemes implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. However, farmers should have insurable interest for notified/insured crops. Crop Insurance Schemes are compulsory for the all farmers including tenant farmers, availing Crop loans/Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) for notified crop(s) in notified areas and voluntary for other farmers (Non-loanee). The non-loanee farmers are required to submit necessary documentary evidence of land records prevailing in the States and/or applicable contract/agreement details/other documents notified or permitted by concerned State Government.

Hence, tenant farmers/oral lessees and share croppers possessing Kisan Credit Card or term loan individually through Joint Liability Group can avail benefit of the low premium rate and benefits of crop insurance scheme.

Incentives to farmers for producing variety of wheat

1631. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab is a large producer of wheat;

(b) whether Central Government has organized any buyer-seller meet on procurement of wheat from farms in Punjab, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is providing any incentives to farmers of Punjab for Research and Development in the field of producing large varieties of wheat and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No formal buyer-seller meet has been organized for procurement of wheat from farms in Punjab. However, the public procurement machinery for procurement of wheat in the State is very effective and almost the whole quantity of market arrival of wheat in the State is procured by Public Procurement Agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government.

(c) The Government is not providing direct incentives to the farmers of Punjab for Research and Developments (R&D) in the field of producing large varieties of wheat. However, the Central and State Governments have been providing financial support to the Punjab Agriculture University (PAU) in its R&D programme on wheat. Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM)—Wheat assistance is also provided

to farmers through State Government for distribution of high yielding varieties @ ₹ 10/- per kg. or 50% of the cost whichever is less. Under the above programme, assistance is also provided for cluster demonstration of improved technologies including seed.

Medicines through Jan Aushadhi Stores

1632. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to increase the number of Jan Aushadhi Stores and the number of medicines selling from such stores across the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to ensure that enough stocks of medicines are kept in such stores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. It has been decided to target to start 3,000 Jan Aushadhi Stores by the end of March, 2017. There were 99 Jan Aushadhi Stores functional as on 31st March, 2015. As on date, 260 Jan Aushadhi Stores are functional in 21 States/Union Territories across the country. Simultaneously, the number of medicines have also been proposed to be increased from 120 to 577 medicines covering almost all the therapeutic categories and in addition 165 surgicals and consumables have been included. Presently, 457 items including 88 surgicals and consumables are available in the Central Ware House (CWH) of Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI). To ensure regular and uninterrupted availability of medicines to all the needy people through Jan Aushadhi Stores, a Central Ware House (CWH) alongwith four (4) Carrying and Forwarding (C & F) agents have been appointed. Besides, 34 distributors are there to ensure regular supply of medicines to the Jan Aushadhi Stores. The supply chain is monitored regularly by BPPI.

Reducing dependence on import of bulk drugs from China

†1633. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee has been constituted by the Government to suggest measures to reduce the dependence on import of bulk drugs from China;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions/recommendations made by the committee in this regard;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is considering to implement the suggestions/recommendations made by the committee; and

(d) if so, the details of time-limit set for the implementation of the above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government had set up a Committee headed by Dr. Katoch, the then Secretary, Health Research to look into the issues regarding bulk drug/API industry. The mandate of the Committee was 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.

(c) and (d) The Government is examining the recommendations of the Katoch Committee in consultation with the stakeholders. As the recommendation also entail huge financial outlays, the feasibility of implementation is being looked into and hence no time limits can be indicated at this stage.

Revival of Gorakhpur and Sindri fertilizer factories

1634. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after pronouncement of the Prime Minister in his Independence Day Speech on 15 August, 2015, the Ministry has initiated a move to float quotation for revival of closed Gorakhpur and Sindri Units of Fertilizer Corporation of India;

(b) whether there has been just one bidder each—Matix Fertilizers for Gorakhpur and Adani for Sindri unit;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a lukewarm response; and

(d) whether Government itself will come forward to revive these units through public sector funding, if not, what will be the future of these factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two stage bidding process for revival of Gorakhpur and Sindri had been adopted. Only one application each was received for Gorakhpur and Sindri in the first stage.

(c) The response in any bidding process is a combination and interplay of several factors.

(d) At this stage, various options for revival of these units are open.

Closed urea plants

†1635. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of urea plants are either lying closed or are on the verge of closure, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government proposes to revive these urea plants; and

(c) the number of plants lying closed in the country and those in Bihar along with the locations and districts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A detailed note on the closed plants and the steps taken by Government to restart the closed units of the fertilizer PSUs is given in the Statement.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Steps taken by Government to restart the closed units*

| Sl. No. | Name of the closed plants | PSU-wise | Reason behind closure | Steps taken by Government to revive, nature of plant (gasbased/coal based), proposed commencement date, if any |
|---------|--|------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 1. | The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) | Sindri (Jharkhand) | In view of the continuing losses of FCIL and HFCL stemming from technical and financial non viability of operations, Government decided to close down all the units of FCIL and HFCL in 2002. | Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.05.2015 has decided to revive this unit on "bidding route" by providing land on lease. The plant is proposed to gas based. Cabinet in its meeting held on 31.03.2015 has decided to revive this unit on "bidding route by providing land on lease. The plant is proposed to be gas based. CCEA in its meeting held on 09.05.2013 decided to revive this unit on "Nomination basis". PSUs namely RCF, GAIL, CIL and FCIL have been nominated to revive this unit. The new plant would be coalbased. CCEA in its meeting held on 09.05.2013 decided to revive this unit on "Nomination basis". PSUs namely NFL, EIL and FCIL have been nominated to revive this unit. The new plant would be gasbased is due for commissioning by end of year 2018. |
| | | Ramagundam (Telangana) | | |
| | | Korba (Chhattisgarh) | | Korba unit is to be revived on bidding route. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 2. | Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) | Haldia (West Bengal) | CCEA in its meeting held on 09.05.2013 directed that proposal/action plan on revival of HFCL units will be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track. |
| | | Durgapur (West Bengal) | CCEA in its meeting held on 09.05.2013 directed that proposal/action plan on revival of HFCL units will be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track. |
| | | Barauni (Bihar) | Cabinet in its meeting held on 31.03.2015 approved to revive this unit on "bidding route, by providing land on lease to the successful bidder. The plant is proposed to be gas based. |
| 3. | Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL) | Namrup-I (Assam) | Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.05.2015 has approved to install a New-Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex (Namrup-IV) with annual installed capacity of 8.646 Lakh Metric Tone Per Annum in the premises of the BVFCL at the same location <i>i.e.</i> at the location of the Namrup-I. |
| 4. | The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited | Cochin (Urea) Plant, (Kerala) | No decision has been taken so far. |
| | | | Introduction of Group pricing scheme for urea in 2003 led to stoppage of Urea production by this plant. |

Production of urea

1636. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that closure of various fertilizer units in the Public Sector has made serious dent in the production of Urea, which is at present 22 million tonnes whereas the domestic requirement of urea is 30 million tonnes; and

(b) if so, the step taken by Government to restart the closed urea manufacturing PSUs in order to fill up the gap of 8 million tonnes so that import of Urea can be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As against the requirement of around 31.33 MMT during the year 2015-16, 22.47 MMT (upto February, 2016) of urea has been produced by urea manufacturing units and the gap is being met through imports.

A detailed note on the steps taken by Government to restart the closed units of the fertilizer PSUs given in the Statement [*Refer to the Statement appended to the U.S.Q. No. 1635 (part a to c)*].

Over-utilization of subsidized fertilizers

1637 SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fertilizer subsidy disbursed during the last five years, year-wise, fertilizer-wise;

(b) the amount saved by Government in subsidy in recent years due to fall in prices of naphtha and gas;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check over utilization of subsidized fertilizers and maintain soil quality along with money allocated for this;

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve domestic production of fertilizer;

(e) the steps taken by Government to move towards deregulation of price of urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The amount of fertilizers subsidy provided by Government during the last five years, year-wise, fertilizer-wise, is as under:

| Particulars | Imported Urea | Imported P&K Fertilizers | Indigenous P&K Fertilizers | Indigenous Urea |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 2010-11 | 9255.95 | 20850.00 | 20650.00 | 15080.73 |
| 2011-12 | 17475.00 | 16571.92 | 20237.49 | 20285.42 |
| 2012-13 | 20016.00 | 14576.10 | 16000.00 | 20000.00 |
| 2013-14 | 15353.30 | 13926.86 | 15500.00 | 26500.00 |
| 2014-15 | 16200.00 | 8667.30 | 12000.00 | 38200.01 |

(b) There was no decline in price of gas and Naphtha up to 2014-15 and hence there was no decrease in subsidy on domestic urea. Prices of gas and Naphtha have declined in the last few months of the current financial year (2015-16). For current year, estimated average subsidy per MT of Urea based on gas pooled price and reduced Naphtha Price is ₹ 14813 as against Provisional subsidy of ₹ 15372 per MT of urea during 2014-15. Savings in subsidy per MT of urea is estimated at ₹ 559/MT and a total of ₹ 1161 crore per annum upto RAC (2.07 crore MT) level of production.

(c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is promoting soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and locally available organic manures, like Farm Yard Manure (FYM), vermi-compost and green manure to maintain soil health and its productivity. In order to promote balanced fertilizer application, Government is providing grant for setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers and promotion of micro-nutrients across various Plan periods.

The Government has introduced the soil health cards scheme in 2014-15 which provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil, along with recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. An amount of ₹ 200 crore have been earmarked for this purpose.

Besides above, under the SHM scheme, the Government is also providing following financial assistance on various components of Soil Health:

| Sl. No. | Component | Pattern of assistance |
|---------|--|--|
| 1. | Setting up of new Mobile/Static soil testing laboratories (MSTL/ SSTL) | 60% Assistance of total project cost to State Government for SSTL subject to a maximum limit of ₹ 45 lakh per SSTL/STL |

| Sl. No. | Component | Pattern of assistance |
|---------|--|--|
| 2. | Strengthening of existing SSTL/ MSTL | 60% Assistance to State Government subject to a maximum limit of ₹ 24 lakh per MSTL/SSTL |
| 3. | Providing Portable Soil Testing Kit to field level officers of State Government | Assistance @ ₹ 15,000/Kit |
| 4. | Strengthening of existing Fertilizer Quality Control Labs (FTLs) by the State Governments | Assistance to State Government subject to a maximum limit of ₹ 24 lakh per FTL |
| 5. | Setting up of new Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories by State Governments | 60% assistance to State Government Subject to a maximum limit of ₹ 45 lakh per FTL |
| 6. | Promotion and Distribution of micronutrients. | 50% of cost subject to limit of ₹ 500/- per ha. and/or ₹ 1000/- per beneficiary. |
| 7. | Training of STL/FTL staff, Field Functionaries, Farmers training including field demonstrations. | ₹ 25,000/- per training for STL/FTL staff, ₹ 10,000/- for farmers training including field demonstrations. |

(d) The Government has notified the New Urea Policy 2015 on 25th May, 2015 for existing gas based urea units with the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production; promoting energy efficiency in urea production and rationalizing subsidy burden on the Government.

The Government had also notified New Investment Policy 2012 on 02.01.2013 and its amendment on 07.10.2014 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector and to make India self-sufficient in the urea sector.

(e) At present, there is no such proposal in the Department.

Production of hazardous chemicals

1638. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any data of the hazardous chemicals which should not be produced in the country; and

(b) the number of industries found producing such kind of chemicals in Gujarat, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As per the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical (Amendment) Rules, 2000 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the list of hazardous chemicals includes 684 chemicals which find applications in various industrial applications.

The chemical industry is almost delicensed and data for only major chemicals are monitored by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. The units are setup by entrepreneurs in different parts of the country based on techno economic feasibility, demand and supply scenario etc. as per the prevalent rules of pollution control norms by the concerned State/Central Authorities.

Cost of revival of fertilizer companies and fertilizer imports

†1639. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some public sector fertilizer companies are running into losses;

(b) if so, the names and details of these companies, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has any special plan to make these companies profit making;

(d) whether Government is considering to appoint an outside expert agency to turn these companies into profit-making companies; and

(e) if so, the details of the action plan thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present there are three public sector fertilizer companies which are running into losses:

(i) The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Kerala

(ii) Madras Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (MFL)

(iii) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL), units are located in Durgapur (West Bengal), Haldia (West Bengal) and Barauni (Bihar).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Yes, Sir. Company-wise efforts being made to revive these companies are as under:

The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT): To revive FACT a proposal for revival and financial restructuring of the company is underway. In the meantime, to avert immediate crisis, budgetary provision of ₹ 1000 crore for providing Plan loan to FACT has been made.

Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL): In terms of Department of Public Enterprises guidelines on streamlining the mechanism for revival and restructuring of sick Central Public Sector Enterprises, MFL has been directed to engage an external expert agency to explore the possibility of its revival.

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited: The Company was declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1992. The Government declared closure of all units namely Barauni, Haldia and Durgapur of HFCL in 2002. To bring the company out from the purview of BIFR a proposal for the financial restructuring of HFCL is underway and it has been decided to revive Barauni unit through bidding route once company comes out of the purpose of BIFR.

(d) and (e) For the revival of MFL, the company has been directed to engage an external expert agency, which has experience and expertise of the business environment operational issues, technology option and financial viability of the sector in which company is functioning to explore the possibility of revival of the company.

Cost of revival of closed fertilizer plants

†1640. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer plants lying closed in the country at present;

(b) by when these plants are to be restarted and the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the total annual expenditure being incurred by Government on the import of fertilizers along with the expenditure incurred on the subsidy being given on fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) At present there are 10 fertilizer plants which are lying closed. Out of these 10 plants, 5 plants namely Sindri (Jharkhand), Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Talcher (Odisha), Ramagundam

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Telangana) and Korba (Chhattisgarh) are of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL). Three plants viz. Haldia (West Bengal), Durgapur (West Bengal) and Barauni (Bihar) are of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL). One plant namely Namrup-I (Assam) is of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL) and one plant namely Cochin (Urea) Plant, (Kerala) is of Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT).

(b) Ramagundam unit is likely to be commissioned by end of September 2018 and time lines for restarting other units have not been firmed up yet. At present, the estimated investment per Unit for setting up a Gas based plant is will be in the range of ₹ 5500-6000 crore. As per approved revival plan, plants at Ramagundam, Gorakhpur, Sindri, Barauni and Namrup will be gas based and the plant at Talcher will be coal based.

(c) Details of the expenditure incurred on the subsidy given on fertilizers in last three financial years and 2015-16 (Up to Feb 16) is mentioned in the following table:

(₹ in crores)

| Particulars | Indigenous Urea | Imported Urea | Imported P&K Fertilizers | Indigenous P&K Fertilizers |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2012-13 | 20000.00 | 20016.00 | 14576.10 | 16000.00 |
| 2013-14 | 26500.00 | 15353.30 | 13926.86 | 15500.00 |
| 2014-15 | 38200.01 | 16200.00 | 8667.30 | 12000.00 |
| 2015-16 (Upto Feb. 16) | 38083.41 | 16138.91 | 9088.66 | 11412.70 |

Reasonable pricing of medicines

1641. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

KUMARI SELJA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pharmaceutical companies charge exorbitant prices for their drugs and formulations without any control/check;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to monitor prices of drugs; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to ensure availability of life-saving drugs in sufficient quantity at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Ceiling prices of scheduled medicines as per the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 are fixed/

notified by the NPPA under provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013. As provided in the DPCO, 2013, no person is authorized to sell any such scheduled medicine/formulation to any consumer at a price exceeding the ceiling price (plus local taxes) fixed by the NPPA. As regards non-scheduled drugs, not covered under price control, manufacturers are not allowed to increase maximum retail price (MRP) beyond 10% of the price in the preceding 12 months. In case any manufacturer/marketer is found violating the provisions of the said Order, action on recovery of amount as per Essential Commodities Act is taken by NPPA. Accordingly, NPPA has issued demand notices to pharmaceutical companies for recovery of overcharged amount alongwith interest thereon for violation under various provisions of DPCO, 1995 and DPCO, 2013 read with Section 7A of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the last financial year and the current year upto 29.02.2016 as under:—

| Year | Demand Notice issued (₹ in crore) | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| | DPCO, 1995 | DPCO, 2013 | Total |
| 2014-15 | 536.27 | 54.07 | 590.34 |
| 2015-16 (Till 29.02.2016) | 905.98 | 20.33 | 926.31 |

The year-wise list of these overcharging cases (updated upto 29.02.2016) has been uploaded on the website of NPPA i.e. www.nppaindia.nic.in. Since inception of NPPA, there are 1389 cases as on 29.02.2016 (1250 cases under DPCO 1995 and 139 cases under DPCO 2013) where demand notices have been issued by NPPA to Pharmaceutical companies. The status of these cases is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) NPPA regularly monitors the prices of scheduled and non-scheduled formulations under provisions of DPCO, 2013. Whenever complaints on shortage of medicines are received, NPPA requests the State Drug Controllers (SDCs) and the pharmaceutical companies to take appropriate steps that may be required, to ensure smooth supply of the medicines across the country, and in the affected areas.

Statement

Status of the Overcharging Cases

| (₹ in crore) | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Sl. No. | Particulars | DPCO 1995 | DPCO 2013 | Cumulative (Aug, 97 to 29.02.2016) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | No. of cases | 1250 | 139 | 1389 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|--|---------|--------|---------|
| 2. | Overcharged amount demanded including interest whenever updated | 4861.52 | 74.4 | 4935.92 |
| 3. | Total amount realised | 316.31 | 68.6 | 384.91 |
| 4. | Amount outstanding (2-3) | 4545.21 | 5.80 | 4551.01 |
| 5. | Cases under Litigation including Cases referred to collector but contested by the companies in the court of law and in r/o Cipla Ltd. and its associate, where no coercive action can be initiated as per order of Supreme Court | 3673.36 | 24.96 | 3698.32 |
| 6. | Cases referred to collector and amount still to be recovered | 67.85 | 0.01 | 67.86 |
| 7. | Pending with BIFR/Official Liquidator | 5.41 | 0 | 5.41 |
| 8. | Amount pending relating to the overcharging cases under process (4-(5+6+7)) | 798.59 | -19.17 | 779.42 |

Further, the demand raised in 37 overcharging cases under DPCO, 2013 amounting to ₹ 145.11 crore against the petitioner companies have been treated as show cause notices in pursuance of order dated 24.11.2015 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in various writ petitions filed by them.

Price control mechanism for life saving drugs

1642. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of life saving drugs/medicines have increased during recent months, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has set up or proposes to set up any high powered committee for review of price control mechanism of drugs along with their availability in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government till date to keep the prices of life saving drugs/medicines under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) "Life Saving drugs"

are not defined in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) or in the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012 (NPPP, 2012). All medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the First Schedule of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 for the purpose of price regulation. The prices of scheduled medicines are fixed on the principle of market based pricing as enunciated in the NPPP, 2012. Out of total 680 scheduled formulations (628 net) under DPCO, 2013, NPPA fixed the ceiling prices of 530 scheduled formulations on market based pricing methodology (This includes 53 formulations for cardiovascular diseases, 6 for diabetes, 20 for HIV/AIDS, 24 for Tuberculosis, 47 for Cancer and 6 for kidney diseases). The reduction in prices of 530 scheduled formulations effected under DPCO, 2013 after price fixation of scheduled formulations by NPPA as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 is given the Statement-I (*See* below).

Annual revision in the prices of scheduled formulations is provided for to the extent of increase or decrease in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the particular year. NPPA has revised the ceiling prices in respect of 530 scheduled drugs after incorporating WPI @ 6.32% for the year 2013 (*w.e.f.* 01.04.2014) and 3.849% for the year 2014, (*w.e.f.* 01.04.2015) in compliance with the provisions contained in Para 16 of DPCO, 2013. DPCO also provides that the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of non-scheduled formulations can increase upto 10 per cent of the MRP of the preceding twelve months.

NPPA has also fixed the retail price of 283 'new drugs' (which fall within the purview of Para 2(u) of DPCO.2013). NPPA also capped the MRP of 106 non-scheduled formulations (84 cardiovascular formulations and 22 antidiabetics) under Para 19 of DPCO, 2013. The reduction in prices effected as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to price capping for these 106 non-scheduled medicines is given the Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) No, Madam

(c) NPPA is mandated to regulate the price of scheduled medicines. NPPA is also authorized to recover the overcharging amount if pharmaceutical companies are selling at prices higher than the ceiling price (plus local taxes) in case of scheduled formulations and in case of non-scheduled formulations if increase in Maximum Retail Price (MRP) is more than 10 per cent of the MRP of the preceding twelve months as the case may be. In order to ensure compliance of the prices notified under DPCO, 2013 NPPA also analyzes test samples from market. In 2015-16 up to 29.02.2016, about 2576 cases were analysed by NPPA in which 649 *prima facie* overcharging cases were detected.

NPPA has issued demand notices to pharmaceutical companies for recovery of overcharged amount alongwith interest thereon for violation under various provisions of DPCO, 1995 and DPCO, 2013 read with Section 7A of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the last financial year and the current year upto 29.02.2016 as under:—

| Year | Demand Notice issued (₹ in crore) | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| | DPCO, 1995 | DPCO, 2013 | Total |
| 2014-15 | 536.27 | 54.07 | 590.34 |
| 2015-16 (Till 29.02.2016) | 905.98 | 20.33 | 926.31 |

The year-wise list of these overcharging cases (updated upto 29.02.2016) has been uploaded on the website of NPPA *i.e.* www.nppaindia.nic.in. Since inception of NPPA, there are 1389 cases as on 29.02.2016 (1250 cases under DPCO 1995 and 139 cases under DPCO 2013) where demand notices have been issued by NPPA to Pharmaceutical companies. The status of these cases is given the Statement-III (*See* below).

Statement-I

*Details regarding reduction in price of Scheduled Medicines
with respect maximum price*

| % 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 |
| TOTAL | 530 |

Statement-II

*Reduction with respect to Highest prevailing MRP
under para 19 of DPCO, 2013*

% reduction with respect to Highest Prevailing MRP

(No. of Drugs)

| | Diabetic | Cardiovascular | Total |
|-----------|----------|----------------|-------|
| 0 <= 5% | 7 | 10 | 17 |
| 5 <= 10% | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| 10 <= 15% | 1 | 11 | 12 |
| 15 <= 20% | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| 20 <= 25% | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| 25 <= 30% | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 30 <= 35% | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 35 <= 40% | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Above 40% | 4 | 15 | 19 |
| TOTAL | 22 | 84 | 106 |

Statement-III

Status of the Overcharging Cases

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | Particulars | DPCO 1995 | DPCO 2013 | Cumulative (Aug, 97 to 29.02.2016) |
|---------|--|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | No. of cases | 1250 | 139 | 1389 |
| 2. | Overcharged amount demanded including interest whenever updated | 4861.52 | 74.4 | 4935.92 |
| 3. | Total amount realised | 316.31 | 68.6 | 384.91 |
| 4. | Amount outstanding (2-3) | 4545.21 | 5.80 | 4551.01 |
| 5. | Cases under Litigation including Cases referred to collector but contested by the companies in the court of law and in r/o Cipla Ltd. and its associate, where no coercive action can be initiated as per order of Supreme Court | 3673.36 | 24.96 | 3698.32 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|---|--------|--------|--------|
| 6. | Cases referred to collector and amount still to be recovered | 67.85 | 0.01 | 67.86 |
| 7. | Pending with BIFR/Official Liquidator | 5.41 | 0 | 5.41 |
| 8. | Amount pending relating to the overcharging cases under process (4-(5+6+7)) | 798.59 | -19.17 | 779.42 |

Further, the demand raised in 37 overcharging cases under DPCO, 2013 amounting to ₹ 145.11 crore against the petitioner companies have been treated as show cause notices in pursuance of order dated 24.11.2015 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in various writ petitions filed by them.

Speedy implementation of Bharat Net

1643. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of the National Broadband project, Bharat Net is very slow and is repeatedly falling short of its desired objective, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is planning to speed up Bharat Net by increasing the participation of private players under Public-Private-Partnership mode, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was planned, in 2011, to connect all Gram Panchayats (GPs) 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 fiber 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), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012 under Indian Companies Act 1956. Under this project, at least 100 Mbps bandwidth has 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. The Project was to be executed in phases. Under Phase-I, one lakh GPs was targeted by 31.03.2015. Considering the vastness of project execution, the very limited resources deployed by the institutions, coordination with multiple agencies, time required for tendering, mobilisation of physical resources,

the budgeted resources, the time line for completion of NOFN project could not be met. The timeline for connecting one lakh GPs with OFC to provide broadband connectivity under Phase-I has been revised to 31.12.2016.

As on 06.03.2016, OFC laying in 42,110 GPs have been completed and 1,26,799 kilometer pipe laid for OFC as against 59 GPs and 2,000 kilometer pipe laid for OFC as on 31.05.2014.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in its recommendations dated 01.02.2016 on Implementation Strategy for Bharat Net to provide broadband connectivity to panchayats has recommended for a Public Private Partnership model based on Build-Own-Operate Transfer/Build-Operate-Transfer for implementation of BharatNet. Summary of Recommendations of TRAI is given in the Statement.

Statement

Summary of Recommendations of TRAI on Implementation Strategy for Bharat Net

- (1) A PPP model that aligns private incentives with long term service delivery in the vein of the Build-Own-Operate-Transfer/Build-Operate-Transfer models of implementation be the preferred means of implementation.
- (2) The scope of the concessionaire's work should include both the deployment and implementation of the OFC and other network infrastructure as well as operating the network for the concession period. Concessionaires shall be entitled to proceeds of revenue from dark fibre and/or bandwidth.
- (3) Concessionaires should be selected by way of a reverse bidding process to determine minimum Viability Gap Funding sought for concession. The area of implementation may be analogous with the Licensed Service Areas (LSAs)/ or the State/UT. The use of a reverse bid process to determine lowest VGF sought can ensure that the amount of support from public funds is rational.
- (4) The Contracting Agency may, in the first phase, explore the appetite and response of the potential BOOT participants through bidding process. This can either be done in one go for the entire country (by having States/LSA or packages as 'Schedules') or it can be done beginning with certain States with larger potential of bidders' response.
- (5) In the second phase (after excluding those area where BOOT model can be implemented), EPC contractor may be selected. Such EPC contractor should be responsible for building the network and will have defect liability period of two years after completing the network. When the network is about to be completed, the Contracting Agency should engage a third party (through

bidding process) who should be responsible for managing and marketing the 60 network as per the broad principles laid down by the Government. The overlapping defect liability period of two years should be used to ensure smooth transition from construction to maintenance phase.

- (6) The VGF payments should be divided into two components—an initial capital expenditure amount to allow the concessionaire adequate funds to meet initial capital costs and to be able to raise complementary finance from financial institutions at reasonable rates, and the rest should be annualised over the concession period and be paid out on the achievement of predefined milestones. Early achievement of the milestones would merit early payments incentivizing speedy delivery. The two components must be carefully balanced over the concession period – while excess payment at the initiation stage can result in the risk of poor quality delivery, not providing concessionaires with sufficient funding in the beginning will necessitate the deployment of more expensive private finance (the additional costs of which will end up being reflected in the VGF bidding process and thus come from public funds).
- (7) The period of concession should be coterminous with the technical life of the fibre at present the consensus on this is 25 years. Such a period should be sufficient time to align the concessionaire's incentives with high quality installation for service delivery, while also providing a large enough window to make a reasonable profit. The period may be further extended in blocks of 10/20/30 years after concession period at the mutual agreement of the Government and the concessionaire.
- (8) Exceptionally high windfall profits may be dealt with by way of a one-time “windfall tax” and the suspension of further VGF support. However, such measures must be clearly outlined at the outset prior to the bidding stage, in order to ensure the necessary stability and predictability to encourage private sector involvement in this manner of long term infrastructure project. A clear definition of what shall be considered a windfall profit must thus be provided a priori to bidders, in order to allow this to be factored into their financial and outlay plans.
- (9) Care must be taken to ensure that the concessionaire provides access to all service providers in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner. Such competition is essential given that all manner of content (including entertainment, entitlements and Government services) will be delivered on the network.
- (10) In addition the relationship between the concessionaire and the service provider should be at arm's length. This can be ensured by mandating a

legal separation of the businesses of infrastructure provision and service provision in case of overlapping interests to preclude the possibility of a vertically integrated entity abusing its position.

- (11) Conditions requiring concessionaires to adhere to a maximum set price can ensure service provision at an affordable level and prevent anti-competitive conduct. Such a requirement can be included within the terms of the concession agreement as well as be a prerequisite for the provision of Viability Gap Funding. The maximum price ceiling for wholesale of bandwidth and its evolution over time can be set by the Authority and revised from time to time (or left under forbearance), while retail pricing can be left to market forces subject to the usual competitive safeguards.
- (12) Liberal eligibility criteria that allows for broad participation is necessary to ensure the participation of a large number of bidders and guarantee a strong and competitive auction process to enable optimal price discovery.
- (13) There is no need to place a cap on participation in the bidding process – however a cap should be set on the number of implementation areas that are allocated. This can ensure that the bidders' capacity and resources are not stretched thin due to winning bids for too many areas.
- (14) Any bidding agency/consortium with winning bids in more than the maximum number of implementation areas permitted for allocation can be allowed to choose the areas it wishes to be allocated.
- (15) As winning bidders maximize allocations slots available to them they will be removed from consideration. In the remaining areas the agency/consortium with the second best bid may be offered the implementation contract on the same terms as under the winning bid. However where areas remain but the winning L1 bidders no longer have allocations slots available, the L2 bidder may be engaged.
- (16) Concessionaires be provided with flexibility in terms of route for laying optical fibre, choice of construction, topology and technology in order to ensure technical as well as economic efficiency. This flexibility is subject to the same standards of redundancy and quality as outlined for BharatNet by the Committee on NOFN.
- (17) Concessionaires be encouraged to and have the flexibility to deploy large amounts of dark fibre in order to ensure that the network remains future proof and easy to upgrade.
- (18) The Central and State Governments act as anchor clients to purchase a minimum amount of bandwidth (100 Mbps) to be purchased at market prices

for the provision of services. Additionally, the mandating of a minimum amount of fibre (eg. 50%) be set aside for use by other service providers in order to encourage competition may be considered.

- (19) RoW is perceived as a major risk factor by the private sector, safeguards recognising such a possibility and outlining the steps to be taken must be put in place under the agreement to attenuate such risk and encourage participation. Guaranteed provision of free RoW is a necessary and non-negotiable precondition to successful deployment of BharatNet, subject to the reinstatement of public property to its original condition.
- (20) Involvement of State Governments is essential for success of the project irrespective of the strategy chosen for implementing it. States/UTs should be made an integral part of the project implementation and an institutional mechanism both at the State and District level should be created to effectively coordinate and sort out the implementation issues.
- (21) The Central and State Government should additionally consider becoming involved with the concessionaire by becoming a minority equity partner (~26%) in the selected consortium - this can reduce the perceived risks and thus lower the costs of obtaining private finance while also automatically solving the risks associated with windfall profits. In addition, this can help the Government check monopolistic behaviour on the part of the concessionaire.
- (22) Last but not the least, capacity enhancement at BBNL is essential. A structural rehaul to bring in professional management (perhaps by way of secondment of experts from the private sector) as well as to restructure the organization along the lines of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation may be considered.

Shortage of pulses

1644. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the plans of Government to reduce shortage of pulses;
- (b) the reason that the production of pulses has not increased in the last decades *vis-a-vis* demand for this;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to motivate the farmers for increasing the production of pulses;
- (d) why cannot the Food Corporation of India (FCI) be asked to procure pulses after announcing suitable MSP, so that, the farmers have assured marketing for their produce; and

(e) the extent of foreign exchange utilized during last five years for importing pulses along with quantity of pulses imported during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) In order to encourage farmers to produce more pulses, Government has been implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. Assistance for interventions like demonstration of improved technologies, distribution of quality seeds of newer varieties, micro-nutrients, soil amendments, plant protection chemicals, farm machinery and implements, efficient water application tools and capacity building of farmers is being provided to motivate farmers for cultivation of pulses. Besides this, various initiatives planting of arhar on rice bunds, pulses as inter-crop with cereals, oilseeds, commercial crops, cropping system based approach to promote pulses as second crop after rice to utilize rice fallow areas are being taken to increase area under pulses.

In order to increase productivity of pulses, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed improved technologies for pulses including high yielding varieties. Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of pulses every season. For 2015-16, Government has announced bonus of ₹ 200/- per quintal for kharif pulses and ₹ 75/- per quintal for rabi pulses over MSP.

The production of pulses has increased from 14.20 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 17.15 million in 2014-15.

(d) Government has engaged Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) and Small Farmers' Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) for procurement of pulses to create a buffer stock of pulses.

(e) The amount of foreign exchange utilized for import of pulses during last five years is as under:—

| Year | Quantity (in tonnes) | Value (US million dollar) |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2010-11 | 2777827 | 1645.13 |
| 2011-12 | 3495842 | 1961.33 |
| 2012-13 | 4013236 | 2449.98 |
| 2013-14 | 3177892 | 1828.21 |
| 2014-15 | 4584852 | 2786.10 |

Domestic manufacturing of telecom equipments

1645 SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that inspite of availability of skilled manpower in the country, domestic manufacturing of telecom equipments is not satisfactory considering the fact that the total import of telecom equipments by India in 2013-14 was ₹ 74,115 crore; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to promote domestic manufacturing of telecom equipments under Make in India programme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), import of telecom equipment during 2013-14 and 2014-15 was as under:

| Year | Value (₹ Crore) |
|---------|-----------------|
| 2013-14 | 67,844 |
| 2014-15 | 89,929 |

(b) Steps taken by the Government to promote domestic manufacturing of electronic (including telecom) equipment under Make in India programme are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government to promote domestic manufacturing of
Electronic (including Telecom) Equipment in the country*

- (1) Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) provides financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the electronics hardware (including telecom equipment) manufacturing. The scheme provides subsidy for investments in capital expenditure - 20% for investments in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 25% in non-SEZs. The scheme is open to receive applications till 26th July, 2020.
- (2) Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing units. For Greenfield EMC, the financial assistance of 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 crore for 100 acres of land and for Brownfield EMC 75% of the cost of infrastructure, subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 crore is provided as Grant.

- (3) The policy for providing preference to domestic manufacturers for 23 notified telecom products in Government procurement has already been implemented.
- (4) Approvals for all foreign direct investment up-to 100% in the electronic hardware (including telecom equipment) manufacturing sector are under the automatic route.
- (5) Electronics Development Fund (EDF) Policy has been approved to support Daughter Funds including Early Stage Angel Funds and Venture Funds in the area of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing, Nano-electronics and IT. The supported Daughter Funds will promote innovation, R&D, product development and within the country.
- (6) Tariff Structure has been rationalized to promote indigenous manufacturing of hardware (including telecom equipment) manufacturing sector.
- (7) To promote domestic manufacturing, 10% Basic Customs Duty (BCD) has been imposed on specified telecommunication equipment that are outside the purview of the Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) of WTO.
- (8) 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 India specific environment, which is expected to promote domestic R&D and manufacturing.
- (9) 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.
- (10) The Scheme to enhance the number of PhDs in the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 PhDs are proposed to be supported under the Scheme.
- (11) A meeting of State IT Ministers and State Government Officials was held on 26.08.2014 to encourage them to actively promote electronics (including telecom equipment) manufacturing. Several States have shown keen interest.
- (12) The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) provides funding under several schemes for promotion of R&D, including support for International Patents in Electronics & IT (SIP-EIT); Multiplier Grants Scheme and Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of Electronics, ICT and Management.

Fool-proof biometric identification

1646. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not possible to have a fool-proof biometric identification beyond a particular age; and

(b) if so, whether this aspect will be factored in working towards the universal operationalisation of the Aadhaar card project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) For enrolment of Aadhaar, the demographic details as well as the biometrics of the resident are captured. The biometrics consists of 10 fingerprints and iris image.

UIDAI also has provision to enrol those people who have poor quality biometrics, partial or no biometrics, due to any reasons such as old age, worn out/amputated finger etc.

Participating PSUs for nofn projects

1647. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the participating public sector units for the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project and their respective areas of coverage; and

(b) whether there is a proposal under consideration for creating a holding company and region-wise subsidiaries for the present Bharat Broadband Network Ltd. (BBNL)?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was planned, in 2011, to connect all Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) utilizing existing fibres of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and laying incremental fiber 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), which has been incorporated on 25.02.2012 under Indian Companies Act 1956.

State-wise work allocated among three Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) *i.e.* Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) There is no proposal for creating a holding company and region-wise subsidiaries for Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL).

Statement

State-wise work allocated to Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for NOFN project

| Sl. No | State/Union Territory (UT) |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) | |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands |
| 2. | Assam |
| 3. | Bihar |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh |
| 5. | Haryana |
| 6. | Jammu and Kashmir |
| 7. | Karnataka |
| 8. | Kerala |
| 9. | Maharashtra |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh (MP) |
| 11. | Punjab |
| 12. | Rajasthan |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh (East) |
| 14. | Uttar Pradesh (West) |
| 15. | Uttarakhand |
| 16. | West Bengal |
| 17. | Sikkim |
| RailTel | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh |
| 2. | Manipur |
| 3. | Meghalaya |
| 4. | Mizoram |
| 5. | Nagaland |
| 6. | Tripura |
| 7. | Gujarat |
| 8. | Puducherry |

| Sl. No | State/Union Territory (UT) |
|--|----------------------------|
| Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) | |
| 1. | Jharkhand |
| 2. | Odisha |
| 3. | Telangana |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh |
| 5. | Andhra Pradesh |

Delay of international posts by customs

1648. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether posts for International addresses are being delayed by Customs, causing delay in delivery of packages to consumers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

Delay in postal operations due to lack of internet services

1649. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal operations are delayed due to lack of effective internet services, causing thereby difficulties to the citizens; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures being taken to resolve the same?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir. In some offices, unstable internet services do hamper postal operations occasionally.

(b) Multiple safeguards have been built into the system to ensure stable internet connectivity for the post offices. Most of the Offices have been provided with two Network Service Providers, NSP-1 (BSNL) and NSP-2 (SIFY Technologies Ltd). The NSP-2 is used as back- up in case of any problem arising in NSP-1. Therefore, adequate redundancy has been built into the system. Monitoring of bandwidth utilization is done on real time basis to identify network problem. Service Level Agreements with

penalties are in place with the Service Providers. To address operational problems, Circle Heads are authorized to upgrade bandwidth as and when required. In case of any network problems that arise as part of regular operations, a well managed response system has been set up. The project has a Help Desk wherein individual problems are raised, which are managed and resolved immediately.

Audit of CAFs by term cell

1650. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Customer Application Forms (CAFs) audited by the Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cell in the last four years;

(b) the details of the number of non-compliant forms found during these audit processes, year-wise;

(c) the details of the number of non-compliant forms in the last four year, operator-wise;

(d) the number of cases where connections were found to be obtained *via* forged documents; and

(e) the details of other violations registered by the TERM Cell during their audit process?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, as on 31.12.2015, a total of around 4.45 crore Customer Acquisition Forms (CAFs) of the acquired customers, by all TSPs, have been audited by the Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells during the last four years *i.e.* (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)

(b) The details of number of non-compliant forms found during the audit of CAFs and related documents carried out by TERM Cells during the last four years *i.e.* (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), year-wise, audited upto 31.12.2015 is given the Statement-I. (*See* below).

(c) The details of number of non-compliant forms found during the audit of CAFs and related documents carried out by TERM Cells during the last four years *i.e.* (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), operator-wise, audited upto 31.12.2015 is given the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) As on 31.01.2016, approximately 6.39 lacs mobile connections have been detected by TERM Cells which have been issued on apparently fake/forged documents during last 4 years *i.e.* (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015) and current year (upto 31.01.2016).

(e) TERM Cells are mandated to carry out verification of CAFs along with supporting documents to cross check the compliance on Photo, Identity and Address (PIA) to ensure compliance of terms and conditions of license. The following are the major deficiencies other than subscriber's acquisition based on apparently forged/fake documents as noted by TERM Cells during the CAF verification/audit process:—

- (i) Missing CAF.
- (ii) Missing Photo/Proof of Identity/Proof of Address (Non PIA Cases)
- (iii) Pre-activated Mobile Connections.
- (iv) Bulk connections (more than 9 connections) issued to an individual by all Licensed Service Providers in a Licensed Service Area (LSA).
- (v) Bulk Connections issued to a company or an organization or at any given address by all Licensed Service Providers in a LSA without following due procedure.

Statement-I

Details of number of non-compliant forms found in the audit of CAFs during the last four years

| Sl. No. | Year | Number of CAFs audited by TERM Cells (audited upto 31st December, 2015) | Number of Non-compliant CAFs found by TERM Cells (audited upto 31st December, 2015) |
|-------------|------|---|---|
| 1. | 2012 | 1,19,13,024 | 5,54,637 |
| 2. | 2013 | 1,15,71,754 | 5,74,126 |
| 3. | 2014 | 1,24,85,523 | 5,59,795 |
| 4. | 2015 | 85,17,227 | 3,77,707 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 4,44,87,528 | 20,66,265 |

Statement-II

Details of number of non-compliant forms found during audit of CAFs up to 31st December 2015

| Sl. No. | Name of Operator | Number of Non-compliant CAFs found by TERM Cells (audited upto 31st December, 2015) |
|---------|-----------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | AIRCEL/DISHNET | 1,47,566 |
| 2. | ALLIANZ/ETISALAT/AIPL | 270 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------|------------------|-----------|
| 3. | AIRTEL/BAL/BHL | 4,22,958 |
| 4. | BSNL | 1,69,406 |
| 5. | IDEA/ICL/ABTL | 3,07,050 |
| 6. | LOOP | 81 |
| 7. | MTNL | 6,404 |
| 8. | QTL (HFCL) | 6,367 |
| 9. | RELIANCE/RCL/RTL | 3,10,910 |
| 10. | SSTL (MTS) | 19,580 |
| 11. | STEL | 2,551 |
| 12. | SPICE TELECOM | 24,089 |
| 13. | TATA/TTSL/TTML | 1,82,795 |
| 14. | UNINOR/TELEWINGS | 62,740 |
| 15. | VODAFONE | 3,96,740 |
| 16. | VIDEOCON | 6,758 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 20,66,265 |

Unearthing of illegal telecom operations by TERM Cell

1651. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cell has unearthed illegal telecom operation across the country which were being operated in contravention of Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885;

(b) if so, the details of operators and the action taken against the illegal operators; and

(c) whether Government has assessed the loss to the exchequer due to illegal telecom operations, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, during last year *i.e.* 2015 and current year (upto January 2016), a total of 25 cases in respect of illegal telecom operations which were being operated in contravention of Section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 have been unearthed by Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells across the country. The Year wise details of individual cases indicating the name of company, action taken, estimated notional loss are given the Statement.

Statement*Unearthing of illegal telecom operations by TERM Cells*

| Sl. No. | Year | Customer/ Company found with illegal telecom operation | Action Taken | Estimated Notional Loss |
|---------|------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | 2015 | Mr. Harish Kumar S/o Mr. Shankar Lal, A-271 opposite IPS School, Ganga Nagar, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. | FIR No: 40/2015 dated 16/01/2015 | ₹ 350.3 lakhs |
| 2. | 2015 | Yasir Nayyar s/o Islam Nayyar, Sharukh Nayyar s/o Islam Nayyar, Imran s/o Nasim, Zabair Khan s/o Jabbar Khan, Amjad s/o Ser Mohd, Janeshwar s/o Ram Swarup, Mohhalla Neem Talla Town Gangoh Police station Gangoh, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh | FIR No. 389/2015 dated 04/08/2015 | ₹ 13.70 lakhs |
| 3. | 2015 | Shri Rashmi Ranjan Mohanty, M/s Bigband Communications Pvt. Ltd., Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha | Complaint lodged with Police authorities | ₹ 2.58 lakhs |
| 4. | 2015 | M/s Telspin Projects Pvt. Ltd. & M/s Banik International, located at Systron Building, 5th Floor, J-5, Block-EP & GP, Sec-V, Salt lake, Kolkata-700091 | FIR No: 28/15 dated 16/03/2015 | ₹ 372.18 lakhs |
| 5. | 2015 | M/s Trilokpati Food Processing Pvt. Ltd, Nr Hunuman Temple, Liliya Mota, Amreli, Gujarat | FIR No: I 32/214 dated 13.12.2014 | ₹ 100.5 lakhs |
| 6. | 2015 | M/s Prachi Mobile Store, Bengalipura, Wadala, Mumbai | FIR No. 115/2015 dated 07/05/2015 | ₹ 170 lakhs |
| 7. | 2015 | Anuroop Pittala and P. Sidhartha, 12-1-881/A, Asif nagar, Mallepally X Roads, Near Gandhi Statue, Behind Asif nagar Police Station, Hyderabad | FIR No. 10/2015 dated 10-01-2015. | Nil (No active Setup found) |
| 8. | 2015 | Gaddam Raj Sai Rahul Kumar, Moreis Krishna Chaitanya and Pitlam Ramakanth, Flat No. 207, Sivam Elite Apartments, Near Reliance Fresh, Hydershah Kote, Suncity, Hyderabad | FIR No. 10/2015 dated 10-01-2015 | Nil (No active Setup found) |
| 9. | 2015 | M/s Astavinayak Consultant & IT, Shop No B-231, Bhaskar commercial complex -2, Mayekar Wadi, Near Platform No. 8, Virar (West), Maharashtra. | FIR No: 53/15 dated 22-01-2015 | Case is under investigation |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------|--|---|--|
| 10. | 2015 | Mr. Sanjay Jaypal Kagwade, Janta Chowk, 1st Floor, Above Mayur Sadi Center, Ichalkaranji, District Kolhapur, Maharashtra. | FIR No: 11 dated 23-01-2015 | Case is under investigation |
| 11. | 2015 | M/s Shree Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd, at the datacenter of Mis inspected/ Raided Netmagic IT Services Private Limited H-223, sector-63, Noida | FIR No. 1141/15 dated 28.10.2015 | ₹ 250 lakhs |
| 12. | 2015 | M/s Piyush Cyber Cafe, I-126, Adhyapak Nagar, Najafgarh Road, Nangloi, New Delhi. | Complaint lodged with Police authorities on 13-01-2015 | ₹ 2.20 lakhs |
| 13. | 2015 | M/s High Flyer Network / Chaudhary Cable Network, RZ Block, Nihal Vihar (Nr. Hanuman Mandir), Nangloi, New Delhi-41. | Complaint lodged with Police authorities on 17.02.2015. | ₹ 3.22 lakhs |
| 14. | 2015 | M/s Shiv Internet Services, Shop No. 2, 1st Floor, DDA, Nehru Market, Jwalapuri Opp. B Block, Barat Ghar, Nangloi, New Delhi. | Complaint lodged with Police authorities on 24.04.2015 | ₹ 3.22 lakhs |
| 15. | 2015 | M/s Krishna Internet Services, Block RZ-A-32, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi-41 | Complaint lodged with Police authorities on 15.04.2015 | ₹ 3.22 lakhs |
| 16. | 2015 | Varun Enterprises and Shree Business solutions. (Operating from Delhi and Ghaziabad) | FIR No.752/15 dated 28.10.2015 | ₹ 273 lakhs |
| 17. | 2015 | Binsoft Techno Solutions, Jakooramma Building, #1/1, 1st 'E' Cross, 1st Main, Matikere, Bangalore | FIR No.635/2015 dated 27.11.2015 | ₹ 6 lakhs |
| 18. | 2015 | Shri Sarat Chandra Moharana, M/s Biswa Broadband, Kopanda, Jajpur Road, Odisha | Complaint lodged with Police authorities | ₹ 0.69 lakhs |
| 19. | 2015 | PRAJEESH.P.R, 07/382 Cell World-Appus Arcade, Vallanghy, Palghat, Kerala | FIR No.1401, dated 27/11/2015 | Being a recent case, notional loss is under calculation. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| 20. | 2015 | M/s Intellibuzz Communications, Mumbai | Legal counsel has been appointed and matter is being pursued for initiating further action in the court of law | Case is under investigation |

Summary of 2015: Total no. of cases unearthed – 20 Nos. Estimated notional loss – Approx. ₹ 15.50 crores

| | | | | |
|-----|------|---|---|--|
| 21. | 2016 | Mohd. Ahteram, Plot No. 146, RK Cottage, Sun City, P&T Colony, Hyderguda, Hyderabad | FIR No. 40/2016 dtd 25-01-2016 | Being a recent case, notional loss is under calculation. |
| 22. | 2016 | Mohd. Ahteram, H.No. 2-5-29/17, Mifaas Manzil, Upperpally, Near Pillar No. 2013, Hyderabad | FIR No. 40/2016 dtd 25-01-2016 | Being a recent case, notional loss is under calculation. |
| 23. | 2016 | Mohd. Ahteram, 4-25/3/2/A/3, Diamond City, Suleman Nagar, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad | FIR No. 40/2016 dtd 25-01-2016 | Nil (No active Setup found) |
| 24. | 2016 | Mohd. Imran, 2nd Floor, H.No. 19-1-376/68/2, Beside Suhana Function Hall, Gazimillath Colony, Chandrayanagutta, Hyderabad | FIR No. 40/2016 dtd 25-01-2016 | Nil (No active Setup found) |
| 25. | 2016 | Mohammed Nisar, Aatos Infotech, Ernakulam, Kerala | Culprit is in Middle East. His helper was arrested. | Being a recent case, notional loss is under calculation. |

Summary of 2016: Total no. of cases unearthed – 05 Nos

Internet network of BSNL in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1652. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL has extended its internet network to rural areas of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(b) if not, whether there is any time-frame to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The internet service of Bharat

Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has also reached to rural areas in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Out of 26613 villages in telecom circle of Andhra Pradesh (which includes the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana), BSNL has covered 13,125 villages by wireline broadband and 20,962 villages by wireless internet through GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) network.

BSNL connectivity in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1653. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL has achieved last mile connectivity in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The telecom services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reached to far off places including rural areas in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Out of 26613 villages in telecom circle of Andhra Pradesh (which includes the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana), BSNL has provided Village Public Telephones in 25107 villages, mobile coverage in 20962 villages and wireline broadband in 13125 villages.

Dismal service of BSNL in Himachal Pradesh

†1654. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL has only 1.75 lakh landline customers in Himachal Pradesh at present, whereas it had the largest customer base of seven lakh till 2005;

(b) if so, the concrete measures being taken by Government to sustain the operations of BSNL efficiently, as it is on the verge of closing down in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that as compared to BSNL, private operators are providing better services and the services of BSNL are deteriorating day-by-day?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has, at present, 1.65 lakh Landline connections as against 4.81 lakh landline

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

connections as on 31.03.2005 in Himachal Pradesh telecom Circle. The decline is mainly attributed to introduction of BSNL Mobile services and lower tariff of these services. Also, customers are now inclined towards mobile services as they can utilize these services from anywhere even while on move. Also, penetration of mobile services is more as compared to landline. BSNL has, at present, 16.15 lakh mobile connections as against 1.03 lakh mobile connections as on 31.03.2005 in Himachal Pradesh telecom Circle. As on 31.12.2015, the market share of BSNL in mobile connections in Himachal Pradesh Telecom Circle is 17.99%.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of service providers including BSNL against the Quality of Service (QoS) benchmarks for the various parameters laid down by the authority through performance monitoring reports submitted by service providers.

TRAI has reported that as per performance monitoring report for the quarter ending December, 2015, for basic (Wireline) services, BSNL is meeting all the parameters in Himachal Pradesh and its wireline services are comparable with other service providers in Himachal Pradesh.

VRS for employees of MTNL and BSNL

1655. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to announce Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for employees of MTNL and BSNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the eligibility criteria fixed for the purpose; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to improve the financial condition of BSNL and MTNL that has posted massive losses during the last several years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) At present, no proposal of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is under consideration of Department of Telecommunications.

(c) To enhance their revenues, BSNL and MTNL are taking several steps to improve their services and increasing their subscribers base. Some of these are as follows:

BSNL

- BSNL has planned to install 10510 of 3G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and 14232 of 2G BTSs under Phase-VII GSM (Global System for Mobile communication) expansion for 15 Million lines. It has also planned to install additional 9600 of 3G BTSs and replacing of 5300 old BTSs of GSM Phase I, II & III in North and South Zone. An approximate capacity of 5 million shall be added in the GSM network of North Zone and South Zone. BSNL has already commissioned over 16.42 million lines. Out of the planned BTSs, 9829 (3G) BTSs and 12,491 (2G) BTSs are radiating (Total 22,320). This will improve 2G & 3G network coverage and data capability of 3G network.
- BSNL has planned to implement ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) as one of the important IT initiative in two phases *i.e.* Phase-I Proof of Concept (POC) and Phase-2 Rollout. The ERP has been implemented in all the 49 units including eight Proof of Concept (POC) Circles.
- During this Five Year Plan (2012-17), BSNL has planned to make the entire wire line customer base network IP enabled. Next Generation Network (NGN) equipment based on the latest architecture are planned to be deployed gradually to replace the entire Circuit Switched equipments/ Digital Telephone Exchanges.
- BSNL has set wireline call centres for the customers of landline and broadband at Dehradun, Ajmer and Bangalore and traffic from all circles has been migrated to these call centres. These call centres are accessible through toll free number 1500 (from BSNL number) and 18003451500 (from other operator numbers).
- BSNL has launched various customer centric initiatives like Night free calling, Free Roaming, increased minimum speed of broadband to 2 Mbps etc.

MTNL

- 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 & 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 network in place of Microwave network.

- MTNL is also exploring synergy with BSNL for its mobile services amongst other initiatives.
- MTNL has set up wireline call centers for the customers of landline, mobile & broadband at Delhi and Mumbai. These call centers are accessible through Toll Free numbers 1500/1503/1504 (from MTNL numbers). These call centres handle all types of inbound queries, directory enquiries, complaints, requests, outbound calling and response through SMS (Short Message service)/e-mail/fax/web portal.

In addition, Government has assigned the following projects to BSNL and MTNL which will support BSNL in additional revenue generation:

- Providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- Providing mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam to BSNL on nomination basis at an estimated cost of ₹ 1975.38 crores.
- Implementation of transmission-media plan of NER at an estimated cost of ₹ 295.97 crore.
- Implementation of comprehensive development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep at an estimated cost of ₹ 99.03 crore.
- Government has assigned the work for providing Fibre-to-the Home (FTTH) facility to the residences of MPs in Delhi for ₹ 43.20 crore.

With concerted efforts, income of BSNL from services has increased by 4.16% in 2014-15 as compared to previous financial year. BSNL has earned an operating profit of ₹ 672 crores in FY 2014-15.

Transfer of Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana account from post office to Bank

1656. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for transfer of Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana account from Post Office to Bank and change in the guardianship and the documents required therefor;

(b) the period in which such process is completed;

(c) whether Post Offices/Banks are aware of such procedure of transfer of accounts from Post Office to Bank and change in the guardianship; and

(d) the options available if a Post Office/Bank does not entertain such request and within stipulated period along with the number of requests received so far in this regard, by Post Offices in Delhi region?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) As per Gazette Notification No. G.S.R 863 (E) dated 2nd December, 2014 issued by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) there is no provision for transfer of Sukanya Samridhi Yojana Account from Post Office to Bank and change in the guardianship.

(d) Question does not arise in view of answer (a) to (c) above. No such requests have been received in Delhi region.

Consultation paper on net neutrality

1657. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued any Consultation Paper to the public on introduction of Net Neutrality in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether TRAI has ascertained the response from the public on the implementation of Net Neutrality, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) TRAI has released a consultation paper on “Regulatory framework for Over-The-Top services” on 27th March, 2015 for inviting comments from various stakeholders. This consultation paper also covers the issues related to net neutrality. TRAI has received a large number of comments in response to the consultation paper.

In addition, TRAI had issued a separate consultation paper on differential pricing for data services, an important aspect of net neutrality, on 09.12.2015, inviting comments of stakeholders. An overwhelming number of detailed and well-reasoned responses, representing a diverse set of views were received in the consultation process. After consulting the comments, TRAI issued “Prohibition of discriminatory tariffs for data services regulations, 2016” on 08.02.2016, which, *inter-alia*, prohibits any service provider from offering or charging discriminatory tariffs for data services on the basis of content.

(c) 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.

Agreement for linking video/voice enabled call with Aadhaar

1658. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is set to enter into an agreement with an American multinational company linking up a video and voice enabled call application with Aadhaar; and

(b) if so, the rationale behind such a move, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) UIDAI has not entered into any agreement with any American multinational company linking up a video and voice enabled call application with Aadhaar. There is no such proposal pending or under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Securing data ecosystem created under Digital India

1659. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enact a data privacy legislation with a view to ensure that the vast data ecosystem created through Digital India is secured;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that personal data of over 3,00,000 Aadhaar applicants in Maharashtra was leaked in 2013 due to inadequate privacy and data protection guidelines; and

(d) if so, the specific time-line by which Government intends to ensure that Digital India is bolstered by a robust privacy architecture?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Section 43, Section 43A and Section 72A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides legal framework for privacy and Security of data in digital form. Section 43A mandates that body corporate, who

collect personal data or information must provide privacy policy for handling of or dealing in personal information including sensitive personal data or information on their websites. Sections 43 and 43A of the Act provides for compensation to be paid to the victim in case of unauthorized access of information and leakage of sensitive personal information respectively. Section 72A provides for punishment for disclosure of information in breach of the lawful contract.

Further, the bill namely “The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery Of Financial And Other Subsidies, Benefits And Services) Bill, 2016” introduced in Lok Sabha on 3rd March 2016 contains a chapter relating to protection of information collected and stored by UIDAI and correspondingly a separate chapter on offences and penalties thereto.

(c) and (d) Aadhaar data of residents (who gave their consent for sharing their data with banks for account opening, during Aadhaar enrolment) was shared with banks in a secured manner for the purpose of opening of their bank accounts by banks. There was no leakage of data or inadequate privacy and data protection issue.

Specific legislation to protect net neutrality

1660. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry recognizes the need for a specific legislation to protect Net Neutrality in the country with a view to ensure a free, fair and open internet of consumers and fair competition on the internet;

(b) whether Government acknowledges that the TRAI Act needs to be reviewed and strengthened in order to ensure that it is able to effectively regulate and penalize violations of Net Neutrality; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government is committed to core principles of Net Neutrality in non-discriminatory access through appropriate policy framework.

(b) and (c) Under Section 11(2) of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act 1997, as amended in TRAI (Amendment) Act 2000, TRAI is mandated to notify rates at which telecommunication services are provided. Accordingly, TRAI has recently released its regulation “Prohibition of discriminatory tariffs for data services, Regulations, 2016”, an important aspect of Net Neutrality, 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 and specifies financial disincentive for contravention of the regulation.

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.

Consultation paper on differential pricing for data services

1661. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering differential pricing for data services, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that TRAI has issued a consultation paper on differential pricing for data services; and

(c) whether differential pricing for data services has been opposed by all concerned, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued a consultation paper on differential pricing for data services on 09.12.2015, inviting comments of stakeholders. An overwhelming number of detailed and well reasoned responses, representing a diverse set of views were received in the consultation process. The comments received during the consultation process contained both supporting and opposing views on differential pricing for data services. Certain service providers, their associations, organization/ institutions and individuals opposed the practice of differential pricing for data services. There were also suggestions that differential pricing should be allowed on a case to case basis and for services to be in public interest. Some had suggested that differential pricing along dimensions of time, locally dependent pricing and application dependent pricing should be allowed.

After considering the comments, TRAI issued “prohibition of discriminatory tariffs for data services regulations, 2016” on 08.02.2016, which, *inter-alia*, prohibits any service provider from offering or charging discriminatory tariffs for data services on the basis of content and specifies financial disincentive for contravention of the regulation.

Cyber attacks and hackings

1662. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry conducts awareness campaign for organizations, including Government departments about possibilities of cyber attack, hacking and how to respond in such situation, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is in touch with foreign Governments on coordinated efforts in case of cyber espionage and cyber attacks, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many major cyber attacks and hackings had taken place in the last three years in respect of various public websites in the country and the time taken for restoration, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Department of Electronics and Information Technology has approved a project entitled 'Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project, Phase-II' in the year 2014 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 awareness about information security among users. Under the activities of the project, it is envisaged to train about 13000 Government officials through direct/technology enhanced training on information security related topics. So far, more than 500 Government officials have been trained in various training programs. Besides this, half/one day awareness programs on information security have been organized covering 4003 participants in 31 organisations including 29 Government departments.

The Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) conducts regular training programmes to make the network and system administrators aware about securing the Information Technology infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks. During the year 2015, CERT-In has conducted 25 trainings on various specialized topics of cyber security. 814 officers including System/Network Administrators, Database Administrators, Application Developers, Information Technology Managers, Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs)/ Chief information officers (CIOs), from Government Departments/ Ministries and Critical Sector organisations attended these trainings. CERT-In also conducts training programs to enable organisations for formulating their cyber crisis management plans for countering cyber attacks.

National Informatics Centre (NIC) which provides Information Technology related services to Government departments publishes cyber policies, procedures, guidelines and advisories in the security portal for its users.

(b) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) receives reports of cyber security incidents and analyses the same. For resolution of incidents involving systems outside the country, CERT-In devises response measures in coordination with its counterpart agencies in foreign countries. Besides this, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) are signed between CERT-In and overseas CERTs for enhancing cooperation in the area of cyber security for effective resolution of cyber security incidents and mitigation of cyber attacks.

(c) As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), a total number of 189, 155 and 164 Government websites were hacked during the year 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively. CERT-In regularly tracks the hacking of websites and alerts the website owners concerned to take actions to secure the websites to prevent recurrence. Restoration of the affected website is done after taking necessary remedial measures.

The National Informatics Centre NIC has deployed state-of-the-art security solutions including firewalls, intrusion prevention systems, anti-virus solution for protection of cyber assets. Additionally, periodic security audits of resources are performed followed by subsequent hardenings. These are complemented by round-the-clock monitoring of security events and remedial measures are carried out for solving the problems subsequently. NIC is operating a security monitoring centre for detecting and responding to security incidents.

Increase in call drops

1663. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI PANKAJ BORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in call drops in mobile network since July, 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by TRAI in this regard; and

(d) the details of the action Government proposes to take to stop call drops?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) TRAI has taken cognizance of increased number of call drops as reported from different areas in the country and initiated the actions by undertaking independent technical assessment of the cellular mobile services in Mumbai and Delhi during June to July, 2015. Following these assessments, the matter has been taken up with the concerned cellular mobile service companies at the level of Chief Executive Officers for resolution of the problem reported. Accordingly, regular technical assessments on independent basis have been carried out in different areas of the country to measure and reduce the severity of call-drops.

On a comparison of the performance of cellular mobile service providers (2G & 3G) for the quarter ending September, 2015 and December, 2015, it is seen that in the case of 2G services, the number of service providers not able to meet the benchmark for the parameter “Call Drop Rate” has decreased and as per the December 2015 quarter only one licensee in one service area is not meeting the benchmark. As regards the parameter “Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH drop (call drop) rate”, the number of licensees not able to meet benchmark has decreased from 54 to 39 during the period, September to December, 2015.

As regards to 3G voice services, the rate of call drop *i.e.* 2% on average for the given network has been met except by the two service providers. Further, the number of worst affected cells having call drop rate more than 3% has reduced and number of the service providers not able to meet the benchmark has reduced from 20 in September, 2015 to 18 in December, 2015.

In order to deal with the consistent non-compliance by some of the service providers, TRAI has provided financial disincentives mores stringent in the event of consistent failure for not meeting the prescribed QoS benchmarks.

In order to provide relief to the consumers experiencing the call drops, TRAI has issued Ninth Amendment to the Telecom Consumers Protection Regulations on 16th October 2015, mandating compensation to the consumers by the mobile Service providers for call drops with effect from 1st January, 2016. It is provided that the subscriber experiencing the call drop in a given cellular mobile network shall be refunded with ₹ 1/- per call drop, subject to the maximum limit of 3 such call drops in a day.

The said regulations were challenged by the association of the cellular mobile companies in the High Court of Delhi in December, 2015. The High Court *vide* its judgment dated 29th February, 2016 has upheld the said Regulations applicable from 1st January 2016 onwards. Recently, an appeal has been filed by the association of

these companies against the judgment of the High Court of Delhi before the Supreme Court of India. No interim stay has been granted by the Court so far.

(d) The Department of Telecommunications is actively coordinating to improve upon the current status of call drops by involving concerned government agencies such as New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), Directorate of Estates, Central Public Works Department (CPWD) and Security agencies as well as State governments for granting permission for deployment of additional sites. Further, the Department as well as TRAI has been spreading the awareness amongst the general public and mobile users that the radio emissions from telecommunications equipments have no potential health hazards. Proactive efforts of the Department are bearing fruits culminating improvement in call drops situation. For 2G services, around 20 thousand additional sites have been installed in the last six months across the country. Similarly, for 3G services, around 45 thousand additional sites have been installed during the same time period.

Progress under Digital India campaign

1664. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in achieving the objectives envisaged under the 'Digital India' campaign;

(b) the number of companies within the country as well as abroad which have entered into an agreement with Government under the 'Digital India' campaign;

(c) the investment made and the employment likely to be generated as a result thereof;

(d) the details of funds disbursed under the project in the current fiscal till January, 2016; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure coordination among different agencies involved in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Digital India is a programme to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. It is an Umbrella Programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments. Digital India is to be coordinated by DeitY and implemented by the entire Government.

The programme aims at pulling together many existing schemes. The schemes will be restructured and re-focused and will be implemented in a synchronized manner.

Vision of Digital India: The Vision of Digital India is centred on three key areas:

1. Digital Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen
2. Governance and services on Demand
3. Digital Empowerment of Citizens

Pillars of Digital India: There are nine pillars of growth areas under the Digital India programme. Each of these areas is a complex programme in itself and cuts across multiple Ministries and Departments. The progress made so far is as follows:

Pillar 1: Broadband Highways

- Under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, optical fibre has reached to 44,109 Gram Panchayats and optical fiber cable has been laid for 124,794 kms.

Pillar 2: Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity

- Rural tele-density has reached to more than 50.04%.
- Spectrum Sharing and Trading has been approved and guidelines issued on 24.09.2015 and 12.10.2015.

Pillar 3: Public Internet Access Programme

- 1,61,808 Common Services Centres have been set up under CSC 2.0 scheme in Gram Panchayats.
- 18,231 Post Offices for Core Banking Solution (CBS) and 25,406 Post Offices for Core Insurance Solution (CIS) have been migrated. ATM services are installed in 576 Post Offices.

Pillar 4: E-Governance : Reforming government through Technology

- Data Digitization and Aadhaar seeding initiated in various depts.
- Number of user Departments for e-Office is 129.

Pillar 5: e-Kranti-Electronic delivery of services

- The portfolio of Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) has been increased from 31 MMPs to 44 MMPs under e-Kranti. 27 MMPs have been implemented.
- 222 out of 252 services are live.
- The MMPs of e-Kranti have delivered more than 587 crore e-Transactions from 01 April, 2015 to 29 Feb, 2016.

Pillar 6: Information for All

- MyGov platform, a medium to seek ideas/ suggestions from Citizen, has been implemented. Till date, 43 Groups, 497 discussion themes, 398 tasks and 168 blogs have been published on MyGov platform.
- Weekly newsletters are being sent to more than 18.6 lakh registered users.
- Open Government Data platform has been implemented which exposes government data to citizens. Currently 21,207 datasets from 100 Departments are available and 21.8 lakhs downloaded. 63,239 users have registered

Pillar 7: Electronics Manufacturing - Target NET ZERO Imports

- 175 Investment proposals under Modified Specific Incentive Programmes (MSIPs) having a proposed investment of ₹ 1.18 lakh crores have been so far received.
- 7 Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs) and 1 Common Facility Centre (CFC) in Brownfield have been approved. In principle approval has been given to 17 Greenfield and 3 CFCs in Brownfield EMCs.
- Electronic Development Fund has been launched and four daughter funds involving ₹ 169.00 crore have been approved.

Pillar 8: IT for Jobs

- 48,300 seats have been approved under India BPO scheme and over 5000 seats have been approved for BPOs in North East.
- 5.5 lakh students have been trained for IT sector jobs by National Institute for Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT).
- Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) has empanelled 157 training partners across the country and trained 1.21 lakh persons so far in Telecom Training courses.
- Around 33.74 lakh candidates have been enrolled for training, 24.43 lakh candidates have been trained and more than 6.35 lakh candidates have been certified so far under Digital Literacy Program (Digital Saksharta Abhiyan)

Pillar 9: Early Harvest Programme

- Secure email within government project has been implemented for 10 lakh employees in Phase I.
- Wi-fi services have been commenced in 12 public wi-fi hotspots.
- SMS based weather information and disaster alerts have been made operational.
- Over 11.15 lakh residents have created their accounts on Digital Locker. More than 18.81 lakh documents have been uploaded on it.

- More than 5.25 lakh Life Certificates have been successfully processed through Jeevan Pramaan portal.
- Online Registration System (ORS) has been made operational in 33 hospitals and 16.63 lakh online appointments have been provided so far.
- 2.61 lakh documents have been digitized through Digitize India platform.
- Since 15th August 2014, over 54 crore mailers have been sent on 163 campaigns through SAMPARK (IT platform for messages).
- The Government e-Greetings have been sent to more than 10 lakh citizens directly from the portal. The portal has more over 530 cards.
- Biometric Attendance has been implemented in 628 Central Government offices covering 1.79 lakh employees and 20 States/UTs involving more than 3 lakh employees.
- On the National Portal for Lost and Found children (Khoya-Paya), 4474 users have registered, 2693 are being sighted and 730 missing children have been reported.
- e-Basta, an electronic platform of e-Books for schools, have been made operational. Till date, 1250 e-Contents and 37 e-Basta (collection of books) have been made available and 798 e-Basta and 7732 e-Contents have been downloaded.
- The National Scholarships Portal, a one stop solution for end to end scholarship process, have been implemented. 21 scholarship schemes from 9 Ministries/ Departments have been registered and more than 1 crore applications submitted.

(b) Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has executed a Joint Declaration of Intent with Department of State of the Government of USA on cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technology and Electronics. Tripartite MOUs between (i) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and Lomonsov Moscow State University (MSU) on Collaboration for Education in High Performance Computing and (ii) C-DAC, Open Joint Stock Company “GLONASS” Russia and GLONASS Union Russia on Cooperation for Development of Technologies and application based on Navigational Satellites were also signed.

(c) An investment of ₹ 4.5 lakh crore has been committed by various companies on July 1, 2015 for Digital India programme.

- Under Modified Specific Incentive Programmes (MSIPs), investments of nearly ₹ 1.18 lakh crores have been received, which would generate employment to nearly 1.62 lakh people.

- Under the Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) scheme proposals with a total outlay of ₹ 8,313 crore have been received.
- India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) with an outlay of about ₹ 493 crore would generate employment opportunities for about 1.45 lakh persons.

(d) Digital India is being implemented and funded by various Ministries/Departments in Government of India. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has made an expenditure of ₹ 3036.77 crore in current fiscal till 31st January 2016 for various projects/schemes under the Digital India.

(e) The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) is coordinating department for the implementation of Digital India. The monitoring of the Digital India programme has been envisaged through three committees namely,

- (i) Monitoring Committee on Digital India under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister
- (ii) Digital India Advisory Group under the Chairmanship of Minister of Communications and Information Technology
- (iii) Apex Committee on Digital India under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary.

Expansion of communication system in Uttarakhand

†1665. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the programme for expansion of communications is getting hampered due to non-availability of apparatus in the State of Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to ensure smooth running of the expansion programme; and

(c) the details of the amount provided to the State for expansion of communications from year 2013 to 2016?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The programme for expansion of Communications in Uttarakhand is not getting hampered.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The details of the amount provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for the State of Uttarakhand for expansion of communications from the year 2013 to 2016 are as below:

(₹ in crores)

| Sl. No. | Period | Amount disbursed by BSNL | Amount disbursed by USOF |
|---------|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | 2013-14 | 37.53 | 4.70 |
| 2. | 2014-15 | 45.50 | 1.48 |
| 3. | 2015-16 | 32.03 | 102.08 |
| | | (upto Feb., 2016) | (upto Jan., 2016) |
| TOTAL | | 115.06 | 108.26 |

Report of World Economic Forum on Future of Jobs

1666. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a research report from World Economic Forum (WEF) released recently, jobs in India's IT sector are likely to remain stable at least upto 2020;

(b) whether the report suggests that demand for traditional IT work might decline with strong recruitment trends expected for data analytics and cloud computing; and

(c) the other salient points made out in the WEF report titled 'Future of Jobs' that relate to Indian scenario?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to a research report from WEF released recently, jobs in India's IT sector are likely to remain stable at least upto 2020. According to National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), the Indian Information Technology and Information Technology enabled Services (IT-ITES) industry continues to be the largest private sector employer and a net hirer of personnel and currently employing about 3.7 million personnel. Further, as per NASSCOM-Mckinsey Study "Perspective 2025" about 1.2-2 million people will be added to the IT-ITES workforce by 2020. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology does not have any specific observations about the report related to Indian scenario.

Famine like condition in Bundelkhand

1667. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a rapid survey found evidence of famine-like conditions developing in Bundelkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) why has the Government failed to implement the National Food Security Act (NFSA) in time?

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

(a) and (b) In the eventuality of drought and other natural calamity State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. During Kharif 2015, the Government of Uttar Pradesh declared drought in 50 districts including Bundelkhand region and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance under NDRF. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited the State to carry out an assessment of the drought situation and the quantum of financial assistance to be made available to the State by way of relief. Government of India considered the report of the IMCT and approved ₹ 1304.52 crore from NDRF to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Main responsibility for implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) lies with States/UTs. This *inter-alia* includes evolving criteria for identification of eligible households and their actual identification, issue of ration cards, delivery of foodgrains upto door-steps of fair price shops, setting up of grievance redressal mechanism and introducing transparency in implementation through end-to-end computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). States have come forward for implementation of the Act at different times after completing their preparatory activities. The Act is currently being implemented in 30 States/UTs and based on reported identification of eligible households and their preparedness to implement the Act, foodgrains under the Act are being allocated to them. Foodgrains allocation under erstwhile TPDS is being continued in remaining States/UTs.

So far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, the Act has been implemented in Uttar Pradesh *w.e.f.* January, 2016. Presently about 1350.60 lakh people are being covered under the NFSA for which 714199 tons of foodgrains per month is being allocated.

Shortage of pulses

†1668. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of buffer stock available to put a check on the prices of pulses;

(b) whether prices of pulses could not be controlled for want of adequate quantity of import thereof;

(c) the quantity of pulses imported in tonnes in last one year; and

(d) whether lack of coordination between the Ministries is creating problem in overcoming the shortage of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Government has recently taken a decision to create a buffer stock of 1.5 lakh tonnes of pulses. Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) have already procured 50,4225.21 tonnes of pulses.

(b) to (d) The recent increase in the prices of pulses was mainly on account of the lower domestic production due to adverse weather conditions. In addition, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing also put pressure on prices of pulses.

There is a demand-supply gap of 3-4 million tonne per annum in availability of pulses, which is met mainly through imports by private agencies. During 2015-16 (as on 11.02.2016), a total of 5.31 million tonnes of pulses has been imported *i.e.* 0.73 million tonnes higher than 4.58 million tonnes imported during 2014-15.

Officials of North Eastern Railway in agreed and secret lists of CBI and CVC

†1669. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of such officers/employees of North Eastern Railway who are in Agreed List of CBI and Secret List of CVC and whether they have been deployed as per CVC guidelines;

(b) since when are the posts of Chief Commercial Manager, Passenger Service and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Marketing and Chief Commercial Manager, Freight Services in Marketing Department of North Eastern Railway lying vacant;

(c) whether suitable officers are not available for deployment at these posts; and

(d) whether officers have been deployed on these posts after downgrading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Four(4) officers of the North Eastern Railway are in the current Agreed List. All the four officers have been posted on non-sensitive posts as per CVC guidelines.

Eighteen(18) officers of North Eastern Railway are in the Secret list. Thirteen(13) of these officers are posted on non-sensitive posts as per CVC guidelines. Five (5) officers are working on sensitive posts; however, as per provisions of Indian Railway Vigilance Manual 2006, the financial powers have been withdrawn in respect of four(4) officers and one(1) officer is on long sick leave.

(b) In North Eastern Railway, the post of Chief Commercial Manager/Passenger Services is vacant since 01.06.2015 and that of Chief Commercial Manager/Freight and Marketing since 24.09.2015.

(c) Suitable officers are posted against the posts falling vacant subject to availability, which is a continuous and ongoing process.

(d) At present, in North Eastern Railway, the post of Chief Commercial Manager/Passenger Services is operated as Chief Traffic Planning Manager and the post of Chief Commercial Manager/Freight and Marketing is operated in lower grade as Dy. Chief Commercial Manager.

Implementation of the National Food Security Act

†1670. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court had recently commented on the non-implementation of the National Food Security Act by all States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether special efforts are being made by Central Government to ensure early implementation of the Act by all States after the said comment of the Supreme Court; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) During the hearing in *Writ* Petition (Civil) No. 857/2015 – Swaraj Abhiyan *Vs.* Union of India and others-pertaining to measures taken by the Government in drought affected areas, the Hon'ble Supreme Court made following observations about implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA):

| Date of hearing | Observation made |
|-----------------|--|
| 18.01.2016 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India may call a meeting of his counter-parts in 12 respondent States to discuss various issues, including whether the Government has implemented NFSA in the State. State Governments should consider implementation of various measures in drought affected areas, including implementation of provisions of NFSA. |
| 01.02.2016 | Whether it is constitutionally permissible for any State not to implement NFSA. |
| 12.02.2016 | It expects State Governments to act in accordance with the provisions of the NFSA. |

(b) and (c) The Government is constantly pursuing with States/UTs for early implementation of the Act. This *inter-alia* includes regular meetings with Food Ministers and Food Secretaries of the States/UTs. As a result, implementation of the Act has started in 30 States/UTs. This includes Meghalaya, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Mizoram, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, where implementation has started in February and March, 2016.

Rise in prices of pulses and vegetables

1671. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last six months the commodity prices have soared around 25 per cent high from last year;

(b) if so, the reasons behind this spike; and

(c) the proposal of Government to control the prices of pulses and other vegetable commodities?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for All Commodities has actually declined by 0.5 percent over the last six months *i.e.* between January, 2016 and August, 2015 and by 4.6 percent for the corresponding period last year *i.e.* between January, 2015 and August, 2014.

(c) The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by Government to control the prices of essential food items:

1. Regular review meetings on prices and availability trends are being held at the highest level.
2. Higher MSP is announce like cereals, pulses and oilseeds to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of essential food items which may also help moderate prices.
3. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.
4. Advisory are 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.
5. Export of onion is being regulated through effective imposition of Minimum Export Price from time to time depending upon exigencies.
6. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by up to 2nd July, 2016 and that of pulses up to 30.9.2016.
7. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.
8. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
9. Import of onion and pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
10. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention in future.

Rise in prices of essential commodities

1672. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the rise in prices of various essential commodities like foodgrains, pulses, edible oils and vegetables in the country during

the recent months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the cases of hoarding and blackmarketing detected/reported along with the action taken against those held responsible, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and to check recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) During recent months, the prices of essential food-items based on Wholesale Price Index has showed a decline except for wheat, palm oil and soybean oil as given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

The requisite details are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The requisite details are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

Statement-I

Rise in prices of essential commodities

| Commodities | Nov. 2015 | Dec. 2015 | Jan.* 2016 | % change Jan. 16 over Nov. 15 |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Rice | 237.4 | 237.3 | 235.9 | -0.63 |
| Wheat | 221.3 | 222.7 | 223.5 | 0.99 |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mustard and Rapeseed oil | 192.2 | 193.0 | 188.7 | -1.82 |
| Soybean oil | 150.3 | 150.4 | 150.4 | 0.07 |
| Sunflower oil | 134.3 | 132.4 | 133.6 | -0.52 |

* Latest available:

Source: Office of Economic Adviser, D/o Industrial Policy and Promotion.

Statement -II

Steps taken by Government to control the prices of essential food-items

1. Regular review meetings on prices and availability trends are being held at the highest level.
2. Higher MSP is announce like cereals, pulses and oilseeds to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of essential food-items which may also help moderate prices.
3. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.
4. Advisory are 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.
5. Export of onion is being regulated through effective imposition of Minimum Export Price from time to time depending upon exigencies.
6. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by up to 2nd July, 2016 and that of pulses up to 30.9.2016.
7. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.
8. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
9. Import of onion and pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
10. 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.
11. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention in future.

Statement-III

*Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the years 2012-2015
(Relating to offences of violation of stock control orders)*

(Updated as on 31.12.2015)

| Sl. No. | State/UTs | No. of Raids Conducted | | | | | | | | | | No. of Persons | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------------|------|------|------|------|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | Arrested | | | | | Prosecuted | | | | | Convicted | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 16783 | 21051 | 6884 | 987 | 77 | 138 | 64 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 23 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 23 | | | | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 12 | NR | NR | 3 | NR | NR | NR | 1 | NR | NR | NR | - | NR | NR | NR | - | | | | |
| 3. | Assam | 576 | 969 | 148 | Nil | 2 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 3 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | | | | |
| 4. | Bihar | 102 | 61 | 25 | Nil | 42 | 4 | 9 | Nil | - | - | 6 | Nil | Nil | - | - | Nil | | | | |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 482 | 493 | 101 | 56 | 0 | 92 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 77 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| 6. | Delhi | Nil | NR | NR | 18 | Nil | NR | NR | 2 | Nil | NR | NR | Nil | Nil | NR | NR | Nil | | | | |
| 7. | Goa | 620 | 640 | 93 | 90 | 4 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | | | | |
| 8. | Gujarat | 21868 | 17707 | 11089 | 8040 | 67 | 95 | 41 | 24 | 36 | 52 | 25 | 16 | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 9. | Harayana | 18 | 113 | 99 | 52 | 7 | 1 | 46 | 103 | 3 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | | | | |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 35739 | 32278 | 27220 | 28842 | 4 | 2 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | | | | |
| 12. | Jharkhand | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | | | | |
| 13. | Karnataka | 784 | 468 | 525 | 571 | 69 | 172 | 225 | 128 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | | | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 14. | Kerala | 26285 | 39649 | 24855 | 8430 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 21607 | 13929 | 3255 | 37679 | 17 | 71 | 35 | - | 36 | 20 | 89 | 111 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 1455 | 1014 | 973 | 583 | 2267 | 1618 | 7173 | 707 | 2045 | 1280 | 250 | 242 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 17. | Manipur | 18 | 6 | Nil | Nil | 16 | 16 | Nil | Nil | 6 | - | Nil | Nil | 2 | - | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 604 | 1059 | 373 | 41 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 1 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. | Mizoram | 223 | 194 | 145 | 141 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | Nil | Nil | 0 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | - |
| 20. | Nagaland | 3 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 21. | Odisha | 43420 | 27740 | 10102 | 2111 | 2 | 80 | - | Nil | 147 | 58 | 18 | Nil | - | - | - | Nil |
| 22. | Punjab | 120 | 450 | 1763 | 5557 | 1 | 5 | 3 | - | 1 | 9 | Nil | - | 1 | - | Nil | - |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 279 | 243 | NR | NR | 28 | 19 | NR | NR | 212 | 50 | NR | NR | 132 | 13 | NR | NR |
| 24. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil | 60 | Nil | 0 | Nil | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | - | Nil | Nil | Nil | - |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 10499 | 9196 | 9176 | 29 | 4467 | 5609 | 3949 | 41 | 2891 | 3402 | 1980 | 41 | 92 | 162 | 2068 | 0 |
| 26. | Tripura | 392 | 671 | 447 | 199 | 2 | Nil | 10 | NR | 1 | Nil | 10 | 1 | Nil | Nil | NR | NR |
| 27. | Uttarakhand | 1477 | 1683 | NR | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 25524 | 36234 | 25879 | 1966 | 273 | 332 | 202 | 105 | 984 | 1075 | 738 | 121 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 17 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 489 | 339 | 729 | 687 | 232 | 99 | 173 | 158 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 51 | 129 | 8 | - | - |
| 30. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 211 | Nil | Nil | 67 | 3 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 9 | 3 | NR | 2 | 22 | 7 | NR | 1 | - | - | NR | 16 | - | - | NR | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 32. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 5 | 2 | 3 | Nil | 13 | 0 | 0 | Nil | 5 | Nil | 0 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 33. | Daman and Diu | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 0 | NR | NB | 3 | 0 | NR | NB | Nil | Nil | NR | NB | Nil | NR | NB | NB | Nil |
| 35. | Puducherry | 770 | 520 | 848 | 674 | 161 | 49 | 14 | 0 | - | 8 | 24 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| 36. | Telangana | 8718 | 13701 | 7136 | 2183 | NR | NR | 55 | 286 | NR | NR | 0 | 2 | NR | NR | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | 219092 | 220413 | 131868 | 99076 | 7782 | 8413 | 12017 | 1571 | 6403 | 6009 | 3185 | 641 | 375 | 273 | 2074 | 55 |

Source: State Governments/UTs.
NR: Not Reported.
NB: No Blackmarking.

Subsidised community kitchens

1673. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a Food Security Bill which proposes to feed the homeless and needy through subsidised community kitchens, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that, if implemented, it will benefit crores of people in the country who are homeless, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Wheat stock available with FCI

1674. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as on 1 January, 2016 the FCI's wheat stock was 74 per cent, up at 240 lakh tonnes as against the 138 lakh tonnes required as per buffer stocking norms;

(b) whether there would not be any shortage of wheat even if the FCI goes ahead with its plan to sell wheat in the open market; and

(c) whether with the sale of wheat by FCI there will be enough wheat in the market enabling the prices to remain under check, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The stock of wheat in the central pool as on 1.1.2016 was 237.88 lakh tonnes as against the foodgrain stocking norms for the central pool (earlier called buffer norms) of 138 lakh tonnes.

(b) Only surplus stock of foodgrain which is in excess of foodgrain stocking norms for the central pool are offloaded through open sale in the domestic market.

(c) The main objective of open sale in the domestic market scheme is to enhance the supply of foodgrains to moderate the open market prices thereby controlling price rise and inflation.

Non-purchasing of farmers' crops in Bihar

1675. DR. C.P. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for purchasing of crops by the FCI, especially in case the State Government fails to do so, the details thereof; and

(b) what the Central Government will do to get farmers of Bihar out of distress in view of their crops not being purchased by any entity?

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, 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.

Under Non-Decentralized Procurement (DCP) System, the procurement of foodgrains in Central Pool are undertaken either by FCI directly or State Government agencies procures the foodgrains and handover the stocks to FCI for storage and subsequent issue against GoI allocations in the same State or movement of surplus stocks to other States. The cost of the foodgrains procured by State agencies is reimbursed by FCI as per cost-sheets issued by GoI as soon as the stocks are delivered to FCI.

Under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) System, procurement is done by the State agencies and only the surplus foodgrain stocks over and above the State's requirement under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/National Food Security Act (NSFA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) is taken over by FCI for dispatch to other consuming regions.

(b) Bihar is a DCP State where State Government/State Agencies procure, store and distribute (against GoI's allocation for TPDS & OWS) rice/wheat within the State.

Government of Bihar has entered into a Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) with GoI for procurement under DCP mode. As per MoU, the State Government, if required, may request FCI to participate in procurement operations in interior and remote areas where the State Government is not in a position to operate. However, no such request has been received from State Government of Bihar for participation of FCI in procurement of foodgrains. Presently, State Government Agencies are solely involved in procurement of paddy/rice in Bihar to prevent distress sale by the farmers.

Outstanding dues of sugarcane growers

1676. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding dues of sugarcane growers against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, as on date, together with the dues pertaining to the previous year;

(b) the number of private, co-operative and Government sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh together with the number of mills which are in operation;

(c) the rate of sugarcane being paid to farmers and the facilities provided by Government to sugar mills;

(d) whether Government has received complaints regarding non-purchasing of the entire sugarcane; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) As on 5.03.2016, the outstanding dues of sugarcane growers against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh of 2015-16 and 2014-15 sugar season is as under:—

| Sl.No. | Sugar season | Cane Price due in ₹ crore |
|--------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 2015-16 | ₹ 3375.78 |
| 2. | 2014-15 | ₹ 406.41 |

(b) Sector-wise number of installed and operational sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh in 2015-16 is as under:

| Name of Sector | Number of mills installed | Number of mills in operation in 2015-16 |
|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| Public Sector | 14 | 01 |
| Cooperative | 28 | 23 |
| Private | 116 | 92 |
| TOTAL | 158 | 116 |

(c) The Central Government has fixed Fair and Remunerative Price of sugarcane @ ₹ 230 per quintal for season 2015-16 at 9.5% recovery which is the bench mark price to be paid to sugarcane farmers. However, farmers in the States like U.P., Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana and Tamil Nadu are being paid at State Advised Price (SAP) which is normally higher than FRP. In order to facilitate sugar mills to clear cane price arrears, Government has taken following measures:-

- (i) Provided Incentive for exporting raw sugar in sugar seasons 2013-14 and 2014-15.
 - (ii) Fixed remunerative prices for supplies of ethanol to OMCs for blending with petrol; waived excise duty on ethanol supplies to OMCs during 2015-16 and scaled up of blending targets from 5% to 10%.
 - (iii) Extended loans with interest subvention @ 10% p.a. for one year under Soft Loan Scheme 2015.
 - (iv) Provided production subsidy @ ₹ 4.50 per quintal to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

Rise in prices of pulses and vegetables

1677. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the rising prices of pulses and vegetables in the country;
- (b) whether Government has formulated any plan to increase the production of pulses and vegetables in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and how does Government plan to control the prices of these items?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Assistance is being given to improve production and productivity of pulses in the country under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM). As regards horticulture crops including vegetables, various measures are being taken to improve production under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). Details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Details of steps taken to manage availability and prices of essential food-items (including pulses and vegetables) is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Statement-I

Steps taken for increasing production of pulses and vegetable in the country Pulses (under NFSM)

- National Food Security Mission was launched in 2007-08 to increase the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tonnes, respectively

by the end of XI Plan. The Mission is continued during Twelfth Five Year Plan with new targets of additional production of 25 million tonnes of food grains comprising of 10 million tonnes rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat, 4 million tonnes of pulses and 3 million tonnes of coarse cereals by the end of XII Plan.

- The NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in 622 districts of 27 States *i.e.* Andhra Pradesh (13), Arunachal Pradesh (17), Assam (27), Bihar (38), Chhattisgarh (27), Gujarat (26), Haryana (21), Himachal Pradesh (12), Jammu and Kashmir (22), Jharkhand (24), Karnataka (30), Madhya Pradesh (51), Maharashtra (33), Manipur (9), Meghalaya (11), Mizoram (8), Nagaland (11), Odisha (30), Punjab (22), Rajasthan (33), Sikkim (4), Tamil Nadu (30), Telangana (9), Tripura (8), Uttar Pradesh (75), Uttarakhand (13), and West Bengal (18). From the year 2016-2017, 14 districts of Kerala and 2 districts of Goa also have been included under NFSM-Pulses.
- Around 50% of the total allocation of NFSM is made to NFSM-Pulses to increase the production of pulses in the country through area expansion and productivity enhancement.
- Financial Assistance for various interventions like demonstration of improved technologies, distribution of quality seeds of new varieties, integrated pest management and soil amendments, farm machinery and implements, water saving devices and capacity building of farmers are being provided under NFSM to enhance the production and productivity of pulses.
- Under revamped NFSM since 2014-15, the pulses component of NFSM is extended from 468 to 622 districts of 27 States including all districts of North-Eastern States and hill states like Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand.
- The cultivation of pulses as inter-crop with cereals, oilseeds, commercial crops and on farm bunds of paddy fields is being promoted to increase the area under pulses.
- At least 30% of the cluster demonstrations under NFSM and BGREI are being conducted by adopting cropping system approach to utilize the paddy fallow area for pulses cultivation.
- Under NFSM, a programme of Additional area coverage for increasing pulses production during Rabi/Summer was also implemented during 2012-13 to expand area and enhancement of productivity of pulses during Rabi/summer season in major pulse growing States.

- Moreover, value chain integration of pulse growers through formation of Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPO) are also being promoted particularly to support the small and marginal farmers to offer collective strength for seed production, procurement and access to improved technologies. Besides this, for realization of better market price, primary processing of pulses is encouraged by establishment of mini dall mills under NFSM.
- SAUs/ICAR/CGIAR institutes are also involved to address various researchable issues of pulses and demonstrations of latest technologies for better yield realization at farmers' field.
- For front line demonstrations of Rabi pulses in 2015-16 through Krishi Vigyan Kendras for spread of new technologies and seed varieties, an amount of ₹ 12.00 Crores has been sanctioned to ICAR.

Vegetables (under MIDH)

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) launched in 2014-15 subsumes various missions/schemes on horticulture sector. Under this mission various measures are taken to improve production of horticulture crops including vegetables. The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) aims at the holistic development of horticulture sector by ensuring forward and backward linkage through a cluster approach with the participation of all stakeholders.

Statement-II

Steps taken by Government to manage availability and prices of essential food-items (including pulses and vegetables)

1. Regular review meetings on prices and availability trends are being held at the highest level.
2. Higher MSP is announce like cereals, pulses and oilseeds to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of essential food-items which may also help moderate prices.
3. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.
4. Advisory are 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.
5. Export of onion is being regulated through effective imposition of Minimum Export Price from time to time depending upon exigencies.

6. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by up to 2nd July, 2016 and that of pulses up to 30.9.2016.
7. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.
8. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
9. Import of onion and pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
10. 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.
11. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention in future.

Holding of old stock of foodgrains by FCI

1678. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) holds more than five years old stock of foodgrains in its godowns across the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Payment of outstanding dues to sugarcane growers

†1679. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of dues of farmers is outstanding with sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of outstanding dues to farmers in last year and the current year and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh are in pitiable condition due to non-payment of their dues and are facing acute crisis of supporting their families; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the essential steps being taken for making payment to farmers and whether Government has any concrete and effective plan for making timely payment to farmers in future?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As on 05.03.2016, the outstanding dues of sugarcane growers against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh of 2015-16 and 2014-15 sugar season is as under:-

| Sl.No. | Sugar season | Cane Price due in ₹ crore |
|--------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 2015-16 | ₹ 3375.78 |
| 2. | 2014-15 | ₹ 406.41 |

Due to surplus sugar production during the last four consecutive sugar seasons over domestic consumption and depressed sugar prices, the liquidity of the sugar mills have been adversely affected leading to accumulation of cane price arrears of the farmers.

(c) No, Sir. For the last sugar season 2014-15, only 1.96% cane price is pending. As regards current sugar season 2015-16, crushing is going on and the dues position of farmers changes continuously on account of fresh supplies received and payment made for previous supplies.

(d) The measures taken by the Government to improve the liquidity of sugar mills to clear cane price arrears are as under:-

- (i) Provided incentive for exporting raw sugar in sugar seasons 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- (ii) Fixed remunerative prices for supplies of ethanol to OMCs for blending with petrol; waived excise duty on ethanol supplies to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during 2015-16 and scaled up blending targets from 5% to 10%.
- (iii) Extended loans with interest subvention @ 10% p.a. for one year under Soft Loan Scheme 2015.
- (iv) Provided performance based production subsidy @ ₹ 4.50 per quintal to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane.

Use of regional language in consumer related documents

1680. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to form a rule to use regional languages for all the documents which are related to the consumers;

(b) whether there is any rule to use English language on the said documents; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) There is no provision in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, Consumer Protection Rules, 1987 and Consumer Protection Regulations, 2005 about use any specific language with regard to documents related to consumers. There is no proposal for framing any rule in this regard.

Updation of beneficiary database of PDS

1681. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of households-rural and urban, that have purchased subsidised foodgrains from Fair Price Shops under the Public Distribution System (PDS), State-wise and year-wise, during the last five years;

(b) the number of ration cards issued each year, since 2010;

(c) the steps taken by Government to update beneficiary database of PDS since implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013; and

(d) the number of Fair Price Shops in rural and urban areas, State-wise and year-wise, since 2010?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under joint responsibility under which Central Government is *inter-alia* responsible for allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government are responsible for further operation of TPDS scheme including actual distribution of foodgrains to beneficiaries by issuing ration cards to them. Details showing allocation and offtake of rice and wheat for the year 2010-11 to 2015-16 under TPDS are given in the Statement-I. However figures of foodgrains purchased by actual beneficiaries are not maintained by this Department.

(b) As per reports received from all States/UTs Government, total number of ration cards issued by State/UT Governments under TPDS and NFSA, 2013 since 2010 are as under:-

| As per reports received from State/UT Governments upto | Total number of Ration cards (in lakhs) |
|--|---|
| 31.12.2010 | 2398.56 |
| 31.12.2011 | 2400.03 |
| 31.12.2012 | 2429.97 |
| 31.12.2013 | 2437.26 |
| 31.12.2014 | 1991.76 |
| 31.12.2015 | 2233.68 |
| 01.03.2016 | 2418.96 |

(c) Under Component I of the scheme namely “End-to-end Computerization Programme”, digitisation of Ration card is also covered. As on 1st March, 2016, the ration cards being issued by various State/UT Governments have been completely digitized except Himachal Pradesh.

(d) The number of Fair Price Shops, State-wise and year-wise, since 2010 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of allocation and offtake of rice and wheat under TPDS

(A) Allocation and Offtake of rice and wheat for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 under TPDS

| | | (in thousand tonnes) | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2010-11 | | 2011-12 | |
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3676.48 | 3433.137 | 3738.252 | 3065.474 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 101.556 | 85.023 | 101.556 | 83.589 |
| 3. | Assam | 1673.126 | 1591.641 | 1806.756 | 1662.751 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 3543.192 | 2969.154 | 3650.312 | 2757.35 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 1168.032 | 1135.107 | 1218.752 | 1085.194 |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 595.734 | 607.303 | 597.858 | 545.295 |
| 7. | Goa | 68.751 | 53.804 | 60.316 | 60.421 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 1885.998 | 1532.88 | 2018.738 | 1242.799 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 685.242 | 613.097 | 732.422 | 586.431 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 508.988 | 486.462 | 519.146 | 512.663 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 757.104 | 749.115 | 756.804 | 743.485 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 1319.412 | 1032.747 | 1339.032 | 1022.038 |
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 2260.476 | 2132.04 | 2386.646 | 2234.612 |
| 14. | Kerala | 1399.646 | 1373.157 | 1431.674 | 1428.807 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 2610.454 | 2707.86 | 2680.736 | 2653.417 |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 4490.412 | 3687.169 | 4647.114 | 3539.245 |
| 17. | Manipur | 141.844 | 71.209 | 160.446 | 144.884 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 182.928 | 156.605 | 181.696 | 182.69 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 70.14 | 64.502 | 70.14 | 66.233 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126.876 | 138.126 | 126.876 | 140.094 |
| 21. | Odisha | 2221.788 | 2052.089 | 2118.908 | 2058.005 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 786.348 | 680.707 | 814.1 | 686.355 |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 2037.128 | 1937.843 | 2115.14 | 2078.693 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 44.25 | 43 | 44.27 | 44.936 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 3722.832 | 3698.126 | 3722.832 | 3700.634 |
| 26. | Telangana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Tripura | 302.622 | 249.02 | 308.034 | 275.381 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 6948.948 | 6555.953 | 7114.59 | 6645.333 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 474.122 | 455.838 | 501.702 | 456.876 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 3601.864 | 3325.618 | 3763.754 | 3281.205 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 34.02 | 17.921 | 34.02 | 16.026 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 31.38 | 25.975 | 34.98 | 34.216 |
| 33. | D&N Haveli | 9.924 | 2.457 | 10.284 | 10.247 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 4.98 | 1.162 | 5.43 | 4.669 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 4.62 | 6.385 | 4.62 | 4.053 |
| 36. | Puducherry | 56.112 | 48.435 | 58.912 | 47.816 |
| TOTAL | | 47547.329 | 43720.667 | 48876.848 | 43101.917 |

(A-1) Allocation and Offtake of rice and wheat for the year 2012-13 and 2013-14 under TPDS

| (in thousand tonnes) | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2012-13 | | 2013-14 | |
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3822.816 | 3130.234 | 3822.816 | 2688.167 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 101.556 | 98.376 | 101.556 | 100.162 |
| 3. | Assam | 1886.856 | 1830.998 | 1886.856 | 1788.041 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 3703.872 | 2639.407 | 3804.791 | 3195.481 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 1244.112 | 1178.578 | 1255.803 | 1232.282 |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 598.92 | 566.777 | 554.894 | 521.49 |
| 7. | Goa | 63.036 | 62.909 | 63.036 | 64.063 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 2085.108 | 1265.504 | 2085.108 | 1505.321 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 756.012 | 465.415 | 632.504 | 486.102 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 527.94 | 524.927 | 517.968 | 502.905 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 756.804 | 760.644 | 756.804 | 756.635 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 1358.652 | 977.751 | 1358.652 | 1022.392 |
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 2806.928 | 2304.402 | 2456.382 | 2467.432 |
| 14. | Kerala | 1472.688 | 1473.184 | 1472.688 | 1466.713 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 2736.426 | 3551.778 | 2743.016 | 2519.347 |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 4819.044 | 3724.189 | 4716.136 | 4307.369 |
| 17. | Manipur | 170.952 | 172.661 | 170.952 | 160.435 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 188.58 | 189.6 | 188.58 | 188.567 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 70.14 | 66.538 | 70.14 | 66.393 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126.876 | 135.953 | 126.876 | 125.048 |
| 21. | Odisha | 2194.266 | 2120.509 | 2191.872 | 2073.182 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 827.976 | 613.964 | 781.044 | 587.37 |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 2179.5 | 2149.291 | 2485.536 | 2399.933 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 44.28 | 45.046 | 44.28 | 45.932 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 3722.832 | 3634.495 | 3722.832 | 3010.254 |
| 26. | Telangana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 27. | Tripura | 304.836 | 289.291 | 303.24 | 311.409 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 7268.52 | 6568.015 | 7268.52 | 6755.502 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 617.992 | 596.557 | 511.992 | 511.274 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 3857.196 | 3616.745 | 3857.196 | 3560.451 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 34.02 | 14.908 | 34.02 | 32.045 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 36.78 | 33.429 | 35.852 | 24.725 |
| 33. | D&N Haveli | 10.464 | 10.499 | 10.464 | 13.192 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 5.652 | 4.53 | 5.652 | 0.725 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 6.62 | 5.706 | 4.62 | 3.09 |
| 36. | Puducherry | 60.312 | 53.313 | 60.312 | 33.427 |
| TOTAL | | 50468.564 | 44876.123 | 50102.99 | 44526.856 |

(A 2) Allocation and offtake of rice and wheat for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16* under TPDS

(in thousand tonnes)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2014-15 | | 2015-16 | |
|---------|-------------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2629.793 | 1587.263 | 1954.265 | 1911.403 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 101.556 | 96.646 | 93.093 | 92.929 |
| 3. | Assam | 1890.094 | 1840.293 | 1673.419 | 1558.779 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 4914.9 | 3938.148 | 4783.453 | 4656.747 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 1337.466 | 1329.701 | 1268.718 | 1268.718 |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 356.693 | 360.925 | 387.196 | 390.467 |
| 7. | Goa | 63.148 | 57.239 | 56.775 | 58.79 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 2087.795 | 1885.738 | 1911.349 | 1841.391 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 795 | 732.473 | 728.75 | 708.912 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 507.996 | 498.365 | 465.663 | 469.702 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 756.804 | 666.045 | 693.737 | 709.397 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 1359.442 | 958.781 | 1330.011 | 966.672 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 2542.657 | 2313.096 | 2391.462 | 2046.865 |
| 14. | Kerala | 1474.349 | 1441.726 | 1349.964 | 1312.659 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 3194.247 | 2911.381 | 3082.453 | 2898.195 |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 4527.492 | 4045.779 | 4221.426 | 3976.168 |
| 17. | Manipur | 171.379 | 172.281 | 156.706 | 154.07 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 188.858 | 188.197 | 171.817 | 172.567 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 70.14 | 67.419 | 64.295 | 65.612 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126.876 | 137.329 | 116.303 | 123.253 |
| 21. | Odisha | 2192.981 | 2008.221 | 1939.433 | 1684.022 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 870.12 | 191.434 | 797.61 | 615.232 |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 2791.572 | 2723.6 | 2558.941 | 2447.585 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 44.283 | 42.789 | 40.597 | 36.874 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 3722.832 | 3082.407 | 3412.596 | 3438.23 |
| 26. | Telangana | 1196.445 | 425.164 | 1354.18 | 1164.225 |
| 27. | Tripura | 303.249 | 300.224 | 261.848 | 251.234 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 7274.773 | 6213.857 | 6758.17 | 6554.767 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 512.647 | 539.743 | 465.576 | 487.026 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 3860.971 | 3752.948 | 3317.9 | 3135.857 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 34.02 | 24.727 | 31.185 | 22.378 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 31.212 | 27.018 | 13.005 | 14.762 |
| 33. | D & N Haveli | 10.47 | 12.436 | 9.592 | 9.232 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 5.661 | 2.266 | 5.293 | 3.937 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | 4.62 | 5.044 | 4.235 | 3.162 |
| 36. | Puducherry | 60.372 | 5.95 | 30.156 | 4.526 |
| TOTAL | | 52012.913 | 44586.653 | 47901.172 | 45256.345 |

* Offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

Above allocation and offtake includes addl. APL allocation and offtake also.

Note (2): APL allocation and Offtake includes APL additional allocation and offtake also.

@ AAY and APL allocation and Offtake includes NFSA and other than NFSA allocation and offtake
Offtake Source: FCI

(B) Allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice+wheat) of special adhoc additional allocations made during 2010-11 to 2011-12 under TPDS

(in thousand tonnes)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2010-11 | | 2011-12 | |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1035.747 | 526.576 | 428.367 | 412.287 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 19.81 | 11.774 | 8.329 | 6.746 |
| 3. | Assam | 769.848 | 364.721 | 236.134 | 214.373 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 818.415 | 371.593 | 1196.725 | 787.26721 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 498.805 | 379.898 | 275.736 | 279.27 |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 130.167 | 46.009 | 31.364 | 29.976 |
| 7. | Goa | 15.024 | 6.383 | 3.68 | 3.849 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 455.504 | 163.605 | 214.074 | 214.924 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 165.225 | 75.162 | 70.243 | 43.009 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 76.913 | 65.195 | 50.953 | 38.9088 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir (NFSA) | 150.213 | 139.286 | 68.197 | 63.023 |
| 12. | Jharkhand (NFSA) | 300.223 | 135.302 | 315.813 | 203.698 |
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 537.297 | 297.648 | 271.341 | 271.359 |
| 14. | Kerala | 459.416 | 369.521 | 124.236 | 124.16 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 802.352 | 31.923 | 594.368 | 384.026 |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 1045.375 | 353.853 | 606.872 | 379.366 |
| 17. | Manipur | 29.88 | 22.991 | 13.945 | 13.929 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 32.44 | 24.56 | 15.752 | 15.521 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 34.041 | 31.816 | 10.373 | 8.701 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 38.642 | 27.427 | 19.825 | 19.991 |
| 21. | Odisha | 444.172 | 202.555 | 396.839 | 294.975 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 379.625 | 158.864 | 37.727 | 36.074 |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 777.598 | 599.699 | 285.474 | 249.954 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 8.429 | 6.617 | 11.042 | 6.455 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 804.679 | 517.448 | 418.866 | 418.789 |
| 26. | Telangana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 27. | Tripura | 44.165 | 22.623 | 25.356 | 24.323 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 1598.927 | 626.884 | 1135.604 | 928.747 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 224.561 | 112.787 | 40.79 | 34.489 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 846.865 | 658.353 | 656.467 | 456.398 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 4.673 | 0.455 | 2.146 | 1.82 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 9.122 | 3.671 | 1.764 | 1.635 |
| 33. | D&N Haveli | 2.385 | 1.083 | 1.382 | 0.017 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 0.746 | 0.112 | 0.268 | 0.032 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep (NFSA) | 0.591 | 0.724 | 0.23 | 0.23 |
| 36. | Puducherry (NFSA) | 13.289 | 6.104 | 10.711 | 8.492 |
| TOTAL | | 12575.164 | 6363.222 | 7580.993 | 5976.814 |

(B-1) Allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice+wheat) of special adhoc additional allocations made during 2012-13 to 2013-14 under TPDS

(in thousand tonnes)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2012-13 | | 2013-14 | |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3822.816 | 3130.234 | 3822.816 | 2688.167 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 101.556 | 98.376 | 101.556 | 100.162 |
| 3. | Assam | 1886.856 | 1830.998 | 1886.856 | 1788.041 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 3703.872 | 2639.407 | 3804.791 | 3195.481 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 1244.112 | 1178.578 | 1255.803 | 1232.282 |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 598.92 | 566.777 | 554.894 | 521.49 |
| 7. | Goa | 63.036 | 62.909 | 63.036 | 64.063 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 2085.108 | 1265.504 | 2085.108 | 1505.321 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 756.012 | 465.415 | 632.504 | 486.102 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 527.94 | 524.927 | 517.968 | 502.905 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir (NFSA) | 756.804 | 760.644 | 756.804 | 756.635 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 12. | Jharkhand (NFSA) | 1358.652 | 977.751 | 1358.652 | 1022.392 |
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 2806.928 | 2304.402 | 2456.382 | 2467.432 |
| 14. | Kerala | 1472.688 | 1473.184 | 1472.688 | 1466.713 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 2736.426 | 3551.778 | 2743.016 | 2519.347 |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 4819.044 | 3724.189 | 4716.136 | 4307.369 |
| 17. | Manipur | 170.952 | 172.661 | 170.952 | 160.435 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 188.58 | 189.6 | 188.58 | 188.567 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 70.14 | 66.538 | 70.14 | 66.393 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126.876 | 135.953 | 126.876 | 125.048 |
| 21. | Odisha | 2194.266 | 2120.509 | 2191.872 | 2073.182 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 827.976 | 613.964 | 781.044 | 587.37 |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 2179.5 | 2149.291 | 2485.536 | 2399.933 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 44.28 | 45.046 | 44.28 | 45.932 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 3722.832 | 3634.495 | 3722.832 | 3010.254 |
| 26. | Telangana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Tripura | 304.836 | 289.291 | 303.24 | 311.409 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 7268.52 | 6568.015 | 7268.52 | 6755.502 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 617.992 | 596.557 | 511.992 | 511.274 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 3857.196 | 3616.745 | 3857.196 | 3560.451 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 34.02 | 14.908 | 34.02 | 32.045 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 36.78 | 33.429 | 35.852 | 24.725 |
| 33. | D&N Haveli | 10.464 | 10.499 | 10.464 | 13.192 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 5.652 | 4.53 | 5.652 | 0.725 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep (NFSA) | 6.62 | 5.706 | 4.62 | 3.09 |
| 36. | Puducherry (NFSA) | 60.312 | 53.313 | 60.312 | 33.427 |
| TOTAL | | 50468.564 | 44876.123 | 50102.99 | 44526.856 |

(B-2) Allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice+wheat) of special adhoc additional allocations made during 2014-15 to 2015-16* under TPDS

(in thousand tonnes)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | 2014-15 | | 2015-16 | |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|----------|------------|---------|
| | | Allocation | Offtake | Allocation | Offtake |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2629.793 | 1587.263 | 121.136 | 104.326 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 101.556 | 96.646 | 6.963 | 5.361 |
| 3. | Assam | 1890.094 | 1840.293 | 93.864 | 92.373 |
| 4. | Bihar (NFSA) | 4914.9 | 3938.148 | | |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh (NFSA) | 1337.466 | 1329.701 | | |
| 6. | Delhi (NFSA) | 356.693 | 360.925 | | |
| 7. | Goa | 63.148 | 57.239 | 2.456 | 0.301 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 2087.795 | 1885.738 | 149.017 | 147.612 |
| 9. | Haryana (NFSA) | 795 | 732.473 | | |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh (NFSA) | 507.996 | 498.365 | | |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir (NFSA) | 756.804 | 666.045 | 47.03 | 13.401 |
| 12. | Jharkhand (NFSA) | 1359.442 | 958.781 | 91.794 | 64.575 |
| 13. | Karnataka (NFSA) | 2542.657 | 2313.096 | | |
| 14. | Kerala | 1474.349 | 1441.726 | 109.241 | 105.262 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh (NFSA) | 3194.247 | 2911.381 | | |
| 16. | Maharashtra (NFSA) | 4527.492 | 4045.779 | | |
| 17. | Manipur | 171.379 | 172.281 | 11.671 | 11.408 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 188.858 | 188.197 | 11.7 | 12.87 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 70.14 | 67.419 | 4.774 | 4.616 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 126.876 | 137.329 | 8.712 | 8.71 |
| 21. | Odisha | 2192.981 | 2008.221 | 162.217 | 140.448 |
| 22. | Punjab (NFSA) | 870.12 | 191.434 | | |
| 23. | Rajasthan (NFSA) | 2791.572 | 2723.6 | | |
| 24. | Sikkim | 44.283 | 42.789 | 2.75 | 2.475 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 3722.832 | 3082.407 | 341.847 | 338.409 |
| 26. | Telangana | 1196.445 | 425.164 | 64.932 | 12.414 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 27. | Tripura | 303.249 | 300.224 | 9.43 | 9.619 |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | 7274.773 | 6213.857 | 750.64 | 584.575 |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | 512.647 | 539.743 | 19.092 | 7.675 |
| 30. | West Bengal | 3860.971 | 3752.948 | 308.449 | 142.892 |
| 31. | A&N Islands | 34.02 | 24.727 | 1.969 | 0 |
| 32. | Chandigarh (NFSA) | 31.212 | 27.018 | | |
| 33. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 10.47 | 12.436 | 1.276 | 0.852 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | 5.661 | 2.266 | 0.154 | 0.048 |
| 35. | Lakshadweep (NFSA) | 4.62 | 5.044 | 0.114 | 0.051 |
| 36. | Puducherry (NFSA) | 60.372 | 5.95 | 2.685 | 0.22 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 52012.913 | 44586.653 | 2323.913 | 1810.493 |

* offtake is against the allocation upto February, 2016.

Offtake Source: FCI.

Statement-II

State-wise and year-wise number of fair price shops

(A) State-wise no. of fair price shops

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | No. of Fair Price Shops | |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| | | (as on 31.12.2010) | (as on 31.12.2011) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 43615 | 43615 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1568 | 1568 |
| 3. | Assam | 34053 | 34053 |
| 4. | Bihar | 44480 | 44480 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 10400 | 10400 |
| 6. | Delhi | 2508 | 2508 |
| 7. | Goa | 501 | 501 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 16506 | 16499 |
| 9. | Haryana | 9287 | 9370 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 4404 | 4404 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 5492 | 5772 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| 12. | Jharkhand | 14395 | 14395 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 20468 | 20437 |
| 14. | Kerala | 14236 | 14255 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 20311 | 20688 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 50470 | 50555 |
| 17. | Manipur | 2551 | 2551 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 4110 | 4203 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 1241 | 1244 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 241 | 259 |
| 21. | Odisha | 28744 | 28744 |
| 22. | Punjab | 14348 | 14348 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 22830 | 22830 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 1414 | 1414 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 31649 | 32977 |
| 26. | Tripura | 1586 | 1586 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 73004 | 73004 |
| 28. | Uttarakhand | 8679 | 8713 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 20258 | 20253 |
| 30. | A&N Islands | 481 | 481 |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 22 | 22 |
| 32. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 77 | 76 |
| 33. | Daman and Diu | 51 | 51 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 35 | 36 |
| 35. | Puducherry | 498 | 498 |
| TOTAL | | 504513 | 506790 |

(B) State-wise no. of fair price shops

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | No. of Fair Price Shops | |
|---------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| | | (as on 31.12.2012) | (as on 31.12.2013) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 44778 | 45322 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------------|-------|-------|
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1568 | 1568 |
| 3. | Assam | 37124 | 37124 |
| 4. | Bihar | 44480 | 44480 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 10400 | 10888 |
| 6. | Delhi | 2508 | 2508 |
| 7. | Goa | 501 | 501 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 16930 | 17236 |
| 9. | Haryana | 9331 | 9160 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 4404 | 4404 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 5902 | 5902 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 14395 | 14395 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 20410 | 20393 |
| 14. | Kerala | 14267 | 14305 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 20688 | 20688 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 50555 | 45828 |
| 17. | Manipur | 2551 | 2551 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 4279 | 4202 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 1247 | 1247 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 1425 | 1425 |
| 21. | Odisha | 30710 | 29482 |
| 22. | Punjab | 14348 | 17815 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 22830 | 23491 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 1420 | 1420 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 33407 | 33490 |
| 26. | Tripura | 1673 | 1755 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 73004 | 73004 |
| 28. | Uttarakhand | 8713 | 8915 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 20281 | 20364 |
| 30. | A&N Islands | 491 | 504 |
| 31. | Chandigarh | 47 | 60 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------|
| 32. | D&N Haveli | 76 | 76 |
| 33. | Daman and Diu | 51 | 51 |
| 34. | Lakshdweep | 36 | 38 |
| 35. | Puducherry | 514 | 516 |
| TOTAL | | 515344 | 515108 |

(C) State-wise total no. of fair price shops, under existing TPDS

(As on 31.12.2014)

| Sl. No. | State/UT | Total No. of Fair Price Shops |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 45552 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1568 |
| 3. | Assam | 32833 |
| 4. | Goa | 501 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 17256 |
| 6. | Jammu and Kashmir | 5902 |
| 7. | Jharkhand | 14395 |
| 8. | Kerala | 14320 |
| 9. | Manipur | 2551 |
| 10. | Meghalaya | 4352 |
| 11. | Mizoram | 1786 |
| 12. | Nagaland | 1692 |
| 13. | Odisha | 29482 |
| 14. | Sikkim | 1420 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 33490 |
| 16. | Tripura | 1770 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 73004 |
| 18. | Uttarakhand | 8915 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 20375 |
| 20. | A & N Islands | 504 |
| 21. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 76 |
| 22. | Daman and Diu | 51 |

| Sl.No. | State/UT | Total No. of Fair Price Shops |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 23. | Lakshadweep | 38 |
| 24. | Puducherry | 516 |
| SUB-TOTAL (1) | | 312349 |
| States that have furnished information under NFSA, 2013 | | |
| 1. | Bihar | 44480 |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | 10888 |
| 3. | Delhi | 2508 |
| 4. | Haryana | 9278 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 4628 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 20405 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | 20311 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 50632 |
| 9. | Punjab | 17815 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | 23491 |
| 11. | Chandigarh | 59 |
| SUB-TOTAL (2) | | 204495 |
| TOTAL (1) +(2) | | 516844 |

(D) State-wise total no. of fair price shops under existing TPDS

(As on 30.06.2015)

| Sl. No. | State/UT | Total No. of Fair Price Shops* |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 28599 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1569 |
| 3. | Assam | 37124 |
| 4. | Goa | 431 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 17301 |
| 6. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6360 |
| 7. | Jharkhand | 24017 |
| 8. | Kerala | 14325 |
| 9. | Manipur | 2052 |
| 10. | Meghalaya | 4347 |

| Sl.No. | State/UT | Total No. of Fair Price Shops* |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11. | Mizoram | 1224 |
| 12. | Nagaland | 1691 |
| 13. | Odisha | 28351 |
| 14. | Sikkim | 1541 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 34298 |
| 16. | Telangana | 17291 |
| 17. | Tripura | 1819 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 77340 |
| 19. | Uttarakhand | 9088 |
| 20. | West Bengal | 20278 |
| 21. | A & N Islands | 501 |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 76 |
| 23. | Daman and Diu | 51 |
| 24. | Lakshadweep | 38 |
| 25. | Puducherry | 516 |
| SUB-TOTAL (1) | | 330228 |
| States that have furnished information under NFSA, 2013 | | |
| 1. | Bihar | 44480 |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | 11670 |
| 3. | Delhi | 2427 |
| 4. | Haryana | 9278 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 4837 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 20849 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | 22409 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 54105 |
| 9. | Punjab | 19547 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | 26912 |
| 11. | Chandigarh | 59 |
| SUB-TOTAL (2) | | 216573 |
| TOTAL (1) +(2) | | 546801 |

(E) state-wise total no. of fair price shops.

(As on 01.03.2016)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Total No. of Fair Price Shops |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 28,942 |
| 2. | Madhya Pradesh | 22,430 |
| 3. | Gujarat | 17,281 |
| 4. | Rajasthan | 26,912 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 12,342 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 20,786 |
| 7. | Jharkhand | 24,186 |
| 8. | Tamil Nadu | 34,506 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 51,596 |
| 10. | Delhi | 2,502 |
| 11. | Daman and Diu | 51 |
| 12. | Odisha | 18,250 |
| 13. | Tripura | 1,795 |
| 14. | Haryana | 9,355 |
| 15. | Telangana | 17,159 |
| 16. | Kerala | 14,335 |
| 17. | Andaman and Nicobar | 509 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 77,440 |
| 19. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1,569 |
| 20. | Assam | 40,543 |
| 21. | Bihar | 42,117 |
| 22. | Goa | 453 |
| 23. | Himachal Pradesh | 4,859 |
| 24. | Jammu and Kashmir | 5,970 |
| 25. | Lakshadweep | 39 |
| 26. | Manipur | 2,052 |
| 27. | Meghalaya | 4,474 |
| 28. | Mizoram | 1,223 |
| 29. | Nagaland | 1,691 |

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Total No. of Fair Price Shops |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 30. | Punjab | 17,815 |
| 31. | Sikkim | 1,361 |
| 32. | Uttarakhand | 9,139 |
| 33. | West Bengal | 20,278 |
| 34. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli* | 62 |
| 35. | Chandigarh (DBT) | ** Direct Cash Transfer |
| 36. | Puducherry (DBT) | ** Direct Cash Transfer |
| TOTAL | | 5,34,022 |

Unentitled people getting the benefit of BPL families

†1682. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether BPL families in Mayurbhanj area of Odisha are being provided rice at one or two per kg.;

(b) if so, whether Central Government is taking any measures for those poor families which are in thousands and are not getting this subsidised rice; and

(c) whether any action would be taken against those who are not entitled to the benefits of this scheme but are getting rice at one or two per kg.?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 which has come into force with effect from 5.7.2013. The Act provides for coverage upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population of the country for receiving 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month to Priority Households (PHH) and 35 kg per family per month to Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at subsidized prices of ₹ 3/2/1 for rice, wheat and coarsegrains respectively. The coverage under NFSA has been delinked from below poverty estimates. State Government of Odisha has reported that under NFSA, 5,61,366 number of families, 21,19,752 number of individuals, comprising 82.13% of 2011 census population of Mayurbhanj have been covered and all of them are being provided with Rice or/and Wheat @ ₹ 1/- per Kg as per their entitlements under NFSA.

(c) There is a provision in the National Food Security Act, 2013 as well as PDS (Control) Order, 2015 that the State Governments shall update the list of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

eligible households, within the number of persons determined, in accordance with the guidelines framed and place the list of the identified households in the Public domain and display it prominently. The exercise of deletion of bogus/ineligible cards and inclusion of eligible families is a continuous process and State Governments are to periodically carry out the same. Under the NFSA, States/UTs are being encouraged to set up AADHAR based authentication of beneficiaries for distribution of food grains in order to ensure proper targeting of eligible persons.

Monitoring of foodgrains and eatables to prevent irregular inflation

1683. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made/is making any list of essential foodgrains, fruits and daily routine essential eatables which need special monitoring to avoid any irregular inflation almost every year;

(b) if so, the details of those products, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the assessment on reasons identified for rise in price of each product under frequent inflation; and

(d) the Government's plan for future course of action?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Government is monitoring the prices of 22 essential food items which includes cereals (rice and wheat), pulses (gram, arhar, urad, moong and masoor dal), vegetables (potato, onion and tomato), edible oils (groundnut, mustard, vanaspati, soya, sunflower and palm oil) and others (atta, milk, sugar, tea, gur and salt).

(c) Rise in the prices of essential food items are due to factors such as shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities and hoarding and black marketing.

(d) Details are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement-II appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 1677 part (a to c)].

New scheme to boost sugar export

1684. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of debt/dues sugar mills owe to farmers as of 2014-15;

(b) whether Government is working on a new scheme to boost export of surplus sugar; and

(c) if so, the details of such a scheme and how this scheme will be different from the previous such scheme and the projected boost to sugar shipments with the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) As on 05.03.2016, ₹ 1366 crores are outstanding against sugar mills towards cane price dues of farmers for the sugar season 2014-15.

(b) and (c) With a view to reduce the inventory pressure on domestic sugar prices, the Government has fixed Minimum Indicative Export Quota (MIEQ) for each sugar mill for the sugar season 2015-16 so as to evacuate surplus sugar stocks. Unlike earlier export promotion schemes, under the present MIEQ scheme no export subsidy is provided and the industry is expected to export at prevailing international prices and absorb the losses so incurred. The industry can export greater quantities as the quota has also been made tradable and the industry is at liberty to export raw, white or refined sugar depending on global market demand.

Rise in prices of pulses

1685. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of factors responsible for sharp increase in the prices of pulses in the country recently;

(b) whether the situation was not anticipated by the authorities;

(c) the details of measures taken to stabilize the prices of pulses; and

(d) the prices of pulses before and after taking of various measures to stabilize their prices?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The recent increase in the prices of pulses was mainly on account of the lower domestic production due to adverse weather conditions. In addition, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing also put pressure on prices of pulses.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government has taken timely steps to enhance domestic availability and stabilise prices of pulses. These steps included extension of zero import duty, extension of stock limit 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, suspension of future trading in Urad and Tur, export ban on pulses with exceptions, importing Tur to improve availability and creating buffer stock. Further, domestic searches and surveys were also conducted on a number of importers, traders and financiers engaged in pulses trade.

(d) The requisite details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Variation in the Retail Prices of Pulses over the 6 Months

| Items | All-India Daily Average Retail Price (₹/kg) | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|----------|
| | Price As On | 1 Month Ago | 3 Months Ago | 6 Months Ago | % Variation over | | |
| | 8.3.2016 | 8.2.2016 | 8.12.2015 | 8.9.2015 | 1 Month | 3 Months | 6 Months |
| Gram Dal | 65.19 | 66.41 | 69.53 | 63.22 | -1.84 | -6.24 | 3.12 |
| Tur/Arhar Dal | 134.67 | 140.83 | 150.93 | 117.52 | -4.37 | -10.77 | 14.59 |
| Urad Dal | 132.89 | 137.44 | 143.57 | 105.22 | -3.31 | -7.44 | 26.3 |
| Moong Dal | 101.05 | 102.79 | 107.77 | 99.01 | -1.69 | -6.24 | 2.06 |
| Masoor Dal | 79.05 | 80.91 | 88.03 | 88.53 | -2.3 | -10.2 | -10.71 |

Source: State/UT Civil Supplies Deptts.

Inflation in food prices

1686. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inflation in food prices;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to control the same;

(c) whether any step has been taken to strengthen the Public Distribution System to control the inflation in food prices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As per the latest

Wholesale Price Index (*i.e.* January, 2016), primary Food Articles and manufactured Food Products prices have shown rise of 6.02% and 2.79% respectively. Steps taken by Government to manage availability and prices of essential food items is given in the Statement. [*Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 1683 (part d)*].

(c) and (d) Government allocates foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarsegrains) to all States/UTs for distribution through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of these items have remained unchanged since, 2002. Under the National Food Security Act, 2013, the CIP of rice, wheat and coarse grains are ₹ 3, ₹ 2 and ₹ 1 per kg respectively.

Prevention of hoarding of essential commodities

1687. KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether provisions of the Essential Commodities Act are adequate to enable States to prevent hoarding of essential commodities such as pulses, etc., thereby checking undue price rise;

(b) if so, how many traders have been booked for crossing the limits imposed by State Governments during the last two years when powers under this Act were invoked and renewed every six months till now, State-wise; and

(c) the other steps being taken to prevent any further price rise of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes Sir. However, hoarding is not only one reason of price rise of essential commodities such as pulses. Rise of prices of any essential commodity depends on various factors such as demand and supply mismatch, trend of prices in international market, etc.

(b) Details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Details are given in the Statement-II.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 12. Jharkhand | NR | 140 | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| 13. Karnataka | 525 | 3178 | 225 | 199 | 0 | NR | 1 | NR | NR |
| 14. Kerala | 24855 | 8465 | 17 | 26 | 3 | 12 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 15. Madhya Pradesh | 3255 | 38648 | 35 | - | 89 | 111 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Maharashtra | 973 | 6288 | 7173 | 707 | 250 | 257 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 17. Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 2 | 2 |
| 18. Meghalaya | 373 | 41 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. Mizoram | 145 | 141 | 0 | - | 0 | - | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | - | - |
| 21. Odisha | 10102 | 2291 | - | Nil | 18 | Nil | - | Nil | Nil |
| 22. Punjab | 1763 | 10443 | 3 | - | Nil | - | Nil | - | - |
| 23. Rajasthan | NR | 875 | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| 24. Sikkim | Nil | 71 | Nil | - | Nil | - | Nil | - | - |
| 25. Tamil Nadu | 9176 | 29 | 3949 | 41 | 1980 | 41 | 2068 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. Telangana | 7136 | 2871 | 55 | 349 | 0 | 2 | 0 | - | - |
| 27. Tripura | 447 | 199 | 10 | NR | 10 | 2 | NR | 0 | 0 |
| 28. Uttarakhand | NR | 5 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | NR | NR |
| 29. Uttar Pradesh | 25879 | 2045 | 202 | 107 | 738 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| 30. | West Bengal | 729 | 780 | 173 | 174 | 28 | 121 | - | 17 |
| 31. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | Nil | 86 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 52 | Nil | - |
| 32. | Chandigarh | NR | 2 | NR | 1 | NR | Nil | NR | Nil |
| 33. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 3 | Nil | 0 | Nil | 0 | 17 | Nil | 3 |
| 34. | Daman and Diu | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | Nil | NR | Nil |
| 35. | Lakshadweep | NB | 3 | NB | Nil | NB | NR | NB | NR |
| 36. | Puducherry | 848 | 741 | 14 | 1 | 24 | Nil | 0 | Nil |
| TOTAL | | 131868 | 134264 | 12017 | 1765 | 3185 | 802 | 2074 | 59 |

Source: Reports received from State Governments/UTs.

NR : *Not Reported.

NB : No Black marketing.

Statement-II

Steps taken by the Government to prevent price rise of foodgrains:

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.
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 onions 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.
11. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
12. Imports 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.
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.

Selling of excess stock by FCI

1688. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) aims to realize more than 10,400 crore by the end of the current fiscal year by selling its excess stock in the open market, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that FCI has so far sold close to 41 lakh tonnes of wheat in 2015, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) On the directions of Government of India, Food Corporation of India (FCI) sells foodgrains in the open market under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) at predetermined reserve price through e-auctions from time to time. However, no target in terms of money realization has been fixed. FCI has been allowed to sell stock in excess of stocking norms on a regular basis in week/month. The details of quantity of wheat and rice sold and sales realization under this scheme during the financial year 2015-16 till end of February, 2016, are as under:—

| Commodity | Wheat | Rice | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|
| Quantity sold (In lakh MTs) | 66.83 | 0.92 | 67.75 |
| Sales Realisation (in crore ₹) | 10570.29 | 211.55 | 10781.84 |

(b) Under Open Market Sale Scheme, 42.37 lakh MT wheat was sold in the fiscal year 2014-15 and 66.83 lakh MT wheat has been sold in the fiscal year 2015-16 till end of February, 2016.

**Providing foodgrains and other essential
commodities free-of-cost**

1689. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to provide foodgrains and essential commodities free-of-cost across the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide financial support to States/Union Territories to provide free foodgrains and essential commodities to the poor; and

(c) whether Government has taken any new initiatives to provide foodgrains and essential commodities to the people below poverty line as well as to the old persons, disabled people, destitute and orphaned women, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, presently the Government of India (GoI) has no proposal to provide foodgrains and essential commodities free-of-cost under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above;

(c) The GoI has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) *w.e.f.* 5-7-2013 which provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. Under the Act the eligible persons are entitled to receive 5 kgs of foodgrains per person per month in the Priority category and 35 kgs of foodgrains per household per month in the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category at subsidized prices of ₹ 3/2/1 per kg for rice/wheat/coarsegrains. So far 30 States/UTs have implemented the Act and 6 States/UTs are yet to implement the Act. The GoI has provisionally allocated 289.46 lakh tons under NFSA and 207.31 lakh tons of foodgrains under erstwhile TPDS during the current year. Further, an additional 50.01 lakh tons of foodgrains have also been allocated during the current year for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families to the States/UTs where NFSA has not been implemented. In addition, during the current year, 11.70 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated to the States for festival, calamities and other additional requirements. The Government of India has also allocated 52.18 lakh tons of foodgrains under Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Mid Day Meal Scheme, Annapurna Scheme, SC/ST/OBC Hostel Scheme, Welfare Institutions Scheme, SABLA Scheme and Wheat Based Nutrition Programme.

Cash transfer of food subsidy rules

1690. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of consultations carried out by Government for the formulation of Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy rules notified on 21 August, 2015;

(b) the steps Government will take to ensure that those who choose not to enrol under Aadhaar will be able to access their food subsidy, as ordered by the Supreme Court; and

(c) the steps Government will take to ensure that the cash transfer quantum is increased regularly in line with inflation rates?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) For finalization of the Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, consultations on the draft Rules were held with the concerned agencies of the Government of India and the States/UTs.

(b) Cash transfer of food subsidy is made into bank accounts of beneficiaries. Seeding of bank accounts with Aadhaar is not mandatory for the cash transfer, though it is being encouraged for de-duplication of beneficiaries and to ensure correct transfer of cash. All the States/UTs have however been advised to ensure that no beneficiary is denied benefits for not getting the Aadhaar. Further, in areas not under cash transfer mode, eligible households are getting benefits of subsidized foodgrains, distributed through the Targeted Public Distribution System.

(c) Under the Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015, the amount of food subsidy payable to beneficiaries is linked to the applicable Minimum Support Price (MSP). Since the MSP is revised every year, the amount payable as cash subsidy is adjusted upwards accordingly.

Paste and powder formulation of onions and potatoes

1691. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering promoting consumption of onions and potatoes in processed form after taking cognizance of the extreme price fluctuations of these two vegetables;

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to promote this idea to benefit the average consumer, and the funds Government proposes to set aside to incentivize farmers to convert the vegetables to flake, paste and powder form; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) For development of food processing sector in the country, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing a scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries since Eleventh Plan under which financial assistance is provided in the form of grant-in-aid.

This Scheme was being implemented up to 31.03.2012 under Central Sector Scheme. This scheme was subsumed in the Centrally sponsored Scheme (CSS)-National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) with effect from 01.04.2012. At present, the Ministry is liquidating the spillover liabilities of Eleventh Plan.

With effect from 01.04.2015, the NMFP scheme has been delinked from Central Government support except for UTs. The State Governments may decide its continuance from their increased resource as per recommendation of Fourteenth Finance Commission.

Status of Mega Food Parks

1692. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed status of the Mega Food Parks sanctioned by Government, State-wise;

(b) whether any time-frame has been fixed for the completion of these Parks; and

(c) the number of Mega Food Parks that have become operational so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The State-wise detailed status of approved Mega Food Parks is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) As per the extant Mega Food Parks Scheme Guidelines, the timeline for completion and operationalization of a Mega Food Park project is 30 month from the date of release of 1st installment unless extended by Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee (IMAC) for the reasons recorded in writing.

(c) 7 (Seven) Mega Food Parks have become operational.

Statement*Status of Mega Food Parks*

| Sl. No. | Project Name | Project Cost | Date of In-principle Approval | Date of Final Approval | Amount of grant approved | Amount of grant released | Status of implementation (₹ in crore) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Andhra Pradesh | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC), Krishna | 184.88 | 31.03.2015 | 31.12.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 2. | Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Chittoor | 121.10 | 16.12.2008 | 27.03.2009 | 50.00 | 49.92 | Operational |
| 3. | Godavari Mega Aqua Park Pvt. Ltd., West Godavari | 122.60 | 21.09.2012 | 16.12.2013 | 50.00 | 15.00 | Under implementation |
| Assam | | | | | | | |
| 4. | North East Mega Food Park Ltd., Nalbari | 80.85 | 16.12.2008 | 27.03.2009 | 50.00 | 45.00 | Operational |
| Bihar | | | | | | | |
| 5. | Mums Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Buxar | 141.26 | 31.03.2015 | 08.02.2016 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 6. | Pristine Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khagaria | 127.64 | 21.09.2012 | 06.08.2014 | 50.00 | 5.00 | Under implementation |
| 7. | JVL Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Rohtas | 114.21 | 19.12.2013 | 10.08.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |

Chhattisgarh

8. Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Raipur 06.09.2012 04.06.2014 50.00 0.00 Under implementation

Gujarat

9. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd., Kutch 31.03.2015 "In-principle" approval has been accorded on 31.03.2015 50.00 9.71 Under implementation

10. Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Surat 21.09.2012 22.05.2014 50.00 0.00 Under implementation

Haryana

11. Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, Sonapat 31.03.2015 06.11.2015 50.00 0.00 Under implementation

12. Continental Warehousing Pvt. Ltd. (Nhava Seva) 30.11.2015 "In-principle" approval has been accorded on 30.11.2015 50.00 5.00 Under implementation

Himachal Pradesh

13. Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Una 21.09.2012 06.08.2014 50.00 5.00 Under implementation

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--------------------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Jammu and Kashmir | | | | | | | |
| 14. | RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Pulwama | 79.43 | 21.09.2012 | 19.02.2014 | 50.00 | 5.00 | Under implementation |
| Jharkhand | | | | | | | |
| 15. | Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ranchi | 114.74 | 16.12.2008 | 27.03.2009 | 50.00 | 43.78 | Operational |
| Karnataka | | | | | | | |
| 16. | Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Tumkur | 144.33 | 03.08.2010 | 27.03.2011 | 50.00 | 45.00 | Operational |
| Kerala | | | | | | | |
| 17. | Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (KSIDC), Alappuzha | 129.15 | 31.03.2015 | 27.11.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 18. | Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA), Palakkad | 119.02 | 31.03.2015 | 27.11.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| Madhya Pradesh | | | | | | | |
| 19. | Avantee Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. (formerly RuchiAcroni Industries Ltd.), Dewas | 144.12 | 31.03.2015 | 31.12.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 20. | Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khargaoan | 127.70 | 10.10.2011 | 27.08.2012 | 50.00 | 45.00 | Operational |
| Maharashtra | | | | | | | |
| 21. | Wardha Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly known as Jain Agro Trading Company Private Limited), Wardha | 92.36 | 31.03.2015 | 13.01.2016 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------|------------|--|-------|-------|----------------------|
| 22. Vinay Tiwari Agro Estates and Farms Pvt. Ltd., Ahmednagar | 119.08 | 31.03.2015 | "In-principle" approval has been accorded on 31.03.2015. | | | |
| 23. Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd., Aurangabad | 124.56 | 01.04.2011 | 08.03.2013 | 50.00 | 5.00 | Under implementation |
| 24. Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Satara | 139.33 | 21.09.2012 | 06.08.2014 | 50.00 | 15.00 | Under implementation |
| Mizoram | | | | | | |
| 25. Zoram Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Aizawl | 75.20 | 19.12.2013 | 10.06.2015 | 50.00 | 5.00 | Under implementation |
| Odisha | | | | | | |
| 26. Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO), Khurda | 134.13 | 31.03.2015 | 06.11.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 27. MITS Mega Food Park Ltd., Rayagada | 80.17 | 29.04.2011 | 16.04.2012 | 50.00 | 15.00 | Under implementation |
| Punjab | | | | | | |
| 28. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Ludhiana | 117.61 | 31.03.2015 | 27.11.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 29. The Sukhjit Starch and Chemical Limited, Kapurthala | 123.72 | 31.03.2015 | 06.11.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 30. International Mega Food Park Ltd., Fazilka | 130.38 | 03.08.2010 | 25.05.2011 | 50.00 | 45.00 | Operational |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--------------------|---|--------|------------|------------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| Rajasthan | | | | | | | |
| 31. | Greentech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ajmer | 113.57 | 21.09.2012 | 19.02.2014 | 50.00 | 14.69 | Under implementation |
| Telangana | | | | | | | |
| 32. | Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd., Khammam | 154.42 | 31.03.2015 | 05.02.2016 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 33. | Raaga Mayuri Agrovet Pvt. Ltd., Mahboobnagar | 112.05 | 31.03.2015 | 31.12.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| 34. | Smart Agro Industries Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Nizamabad | 108.95 | 19.12.2013 | 10.06.2015 | 50.00 | 0.00 | Under implementation |
| Tripura | | | | | | | |
| 35. | Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., West Tripura | 87.45 | 29.04.2011 | 30.11.2011 | 50.00 | 20.79 | Under implementation |
| Uttarakhand | | | | | | | |
| 36. | Patanjali Food and Herbal Park Pvt. Ltd., Haridwar | 95.08 | 16.12.2008 | 27.03.2009 | 50.00 | 50.00 | Operational |
| 37. | Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Udham Singh Nagar | 99.96 | 21.09.2012 | 23.01.2014 | 50.00 | 15.00 | Under implementation |
| West Bengal | | | | | | | |
| 38. | Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Ltd., Murshidabad | 132.70 | 16.12.2008 | 16.03.2010 | 50.00 | 45.00 | Under implementation |

Development of Mega Food Parks in the country

1693. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to boost the Food Processing Industries, Government is considering a ₹ 1,500 crore subsidy scheme for development of Mega Food Parks across the country;

(b) if so, whether as per the proposal, the Food Parks would be developed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), jointly by Central Government, State Governments and the private sector; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing Mega Food Park Scheme since Eleventh Five Year Plan to create modern infrastructure facilities for the food processing along the value chain on a cluster based approach. It includes creation of infrastructure for primary processing and storage near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centres and Collection Centres and common facilities and enabling infrastructure like roads, electricity, water, ETP facilities etc. at Central Processing Centre. The scheme envisages grant-in-aid @ 50% of eligible project cost in general areas and @ 75% of eligible project cost in NE Region and difficult areas (Hilly States and ITDP areas) subject to maximum of ₹ 50 crore per project. A total of 42 Mega Food Parks have been approved by the Government during Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan involving grants-in-aid of ₹ 2100 crore.

(b) The responsibility of execution, ownership and management of the Mega Food Park is vest with a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) registered under the Companies Act. However, State Government/State entities/cooperatives are not required to form a SPV while implementing the Mega Food Park project. Private sector as well as state public sector is allowed to implement Mega Food Park projects.

(c) Does not arise.

Operationalizing Mega Food Parks

1694. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the Mega Food Parks, which were conceived during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, are still non-starter, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is taking any pro-active steps to make all of them operational during the current financial year, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Government had sanctioned setting up of 30 Mega Food Parks in three phases during Eleventh Five Year Plan for creation of modern infrastructure for food processing industries in the country. Out of 10 projects approved in the 1st Phase by the Ministry, 6 Mega Food Park projects have become operational, 2 projects are under implementation and 2 projects have been cancelled. Out of 5 Mega Food Park projects of 2nd Phase, one has become operational, 2 projects are under implementation and 2 projects have been cancelled. In the 3rd Phase, out of 15 projects approved by the Ministry, 9 projects are under implementation and 6 projects were cancelled. The details of Mega Food Parks approved/operational/cancelled during Eleventh Plan is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has taken various steps to facilitate speedy implementation of Mega Food Park projects and made them operational:

- (i) amendments have been made in the Scheme of Mega Food Parks and its guidelines to remove bottlenecks in implementation of the projects.
- (ii) issues are taken up with State Governments to expedite statutory clearances and to remove the bottlenecks in implementation of projects. State Governments and Ministry of Finance have been requested to provide fiscal incentives to the Mega Food Park projects.
- (iii) issues were taken up with the Banks/FIs to expedite sanction of term loan to the projects.
- (iv) a special fund of ₹ 2000 crore has been created by the Government with NABARD to provide affordable credit to Mega Food Parks and entrepreneurs setting up units in these Parks.
- (v) State Governments have been involved in selection and monitoring of the projects.

Statement

Details of operationalizing Mega Food Parks

| Sl. No. | Name of the project | Name of the State/UTs | Location of the project | Status |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Phase-I | | | | |
| 1. | M/s Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh | Chittoor | Operational |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|--|---------------|------------|----------------------|
| 2. | M/s Patanjali Food and Herbal Park Ltd. | Uttarakhand | Haridwar | Operational |
| 3. | M/s North East Mega Food Park Ltd. | Assam | Nalbari | Operational |
| 4. | M/s Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Jharkhand | Ranchi | Operational |
| 5. | M/s Tamil Nadu Mega Food Park Ltd. | Tamil Nadu | Dharmapuri | Cancelled |
| 6. | M/s Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | West Bengal | Jangipur | Under implementation |
| 7. | M/s Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Karnataka | Tumkur | Operational |
| 8. | M/s International Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Punjab | Fazilka | Operational |
| 9. | M/s Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd. | Maharashtra | Aurangabad | Under implementation |
| 10. | M/s Shaktiman Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., (formerly known as M/s Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd.) | Uttar Pradesh | Sultanpur | Cancelled |

Phase-II

| | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 11. | M/s Keventer Food Park Infra Ltd. | Bihar | Bhagalpur | Cancelled |
| 12. | M/s Sikaria Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd. | Tripura | Agartala | Under implementation |
| 13. | M/s Anil Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., | Gujarat | Vadodara | Cancelled |
| 14. | M/s MITS Mega Food Park Ltd. | Odisha | Rayagada | Under implementation |
| 15. | M/s Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Madhya Pradesh | Khargone | Operational |

Phase-III

| | | | | |
|-----|---|--------------|--------|----------------------|
| 16. | M/s Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Chhattisgarh | Raipur | Under implementation |
|-----|---|--------------|--------|----------------------|

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 17. | M/s Chekranemi Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Puducherry | Abhishekh-pakkam | Cancelled |
| 18. | M/s Raipur Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., (formerly known as M/s Chhattisgarh Agro Mega Food Park Ltd.) | Chhattisgarh | Raipur | Cancelled |
| 19. | M/s RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd., (formerly known as M/s Greens Food Park India Pvt. Ltd.) | Jammu and Kashmir | Pulwama | Under implementation |
| 20. | M/s Soma New Towns (P) Ltd. | Haryana | Sirsa | Cancelled |
| 21. | M/s Greentech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Rajasthan | Ajmer | Under implementation |
| 22. | M/s Godavari Mega Aqua Park Pvt. Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh | West Godavari | Under implementation |
| 23. | M/s Pristine Logistics and Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd. | Bihar | Khagaria | Under implementation |
| 24. | M/s Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park | Gujarat | Surat | Under implementation |
| 25. | M/s Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd., (formerly known as M/s Poliyan Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.) | Himachal Pradesh | Una | Under implementation |
| 26. | M/s Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Maharashtra | Satara | Under implementation |
| 27. | M/s Huma Coastal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Odisha | Ganjam | Cancelled |
| 28. | M/s Kanchenjunga Organic Mega food Park Ltd. | Sikkim | South Sikkim | Cancelled |
| 29. | M/s Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | Uttarakhand | Udham Singh Nagar | Under implementation |
| 30. | M/s Bengal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. | West Bengal | Jalpaiguri | Cancelled |

Investment in Food Processing Industry

1695. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of public and private investment made in the Food Processing Industry during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, year-wise; and

(b) the measures Government proposes to take to increase this investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) As per Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), 2012-13 and provisional estimates of ASI, 2013-14, fixed capital invested in Food Processing Industries was ₹ 1,58,865 crore and Rs. 1,68,433 crore respectively. To increase investment in Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing schemes of Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation and Setting up/Modernization of Abattoirs and Strengthening of Institutions.

Appointing quality lawyers under Legal Aid Scheme

1696. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of quality lawyers under the Legal Aid Scheme has resulted in increasing conviction and under trial population of the poor people, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government has taken any measures to appoint widely experienced and educated lawyers for the poor under the Legal Aid Scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir. All persons in custody are eligible for free legal services including filing of bail petitions provided they are covered under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Legal services are provided not only to the Under Trial Prisoners but also to the victims, if he/she is covered under the Act. However, the conviction or the acquittal in a criminal case doesn't solely depend upon the quality of legal representation by either side.

A total number of 653 Under Trial Prisoners (UTPs) were found to be entitled to the benefit of Section 436 A of the Criminal Procedure Code, out of which 194 UTPs have already been released.

(b) National Legal Services Authority has framed the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulation, 2010 under which it has been provided that no legal practitioner having less than three years' experience at the Bar shall ordinarily be empanelled and the competence, integrity, suitability and experience of such lawyers shall be taken into account. Accordingly, the legal services institutions have been empanelling widely experienced lawyers for providing free legal services.

Pending civil and criminal cases in High Courts

1697. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civil and criminal cases pending in various High Courts of the country, particularly in the High Court of Orissa and Allahabad; and

(b) whether Government has taken any initiatives to expedite the final settlement of these cases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) Data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information made available by High Courts, details of civil and criminal cases pending in all High Courts and in the High Courts of Orissa and Allahabad are as under:-

| Number of pending cases in all High Courts as on 31.12.2014 | | Number of pending cases in High Court of Orissa as on 31.12.2014 | | Number of pending cases in High Court of Allahabad as on 31.12.2014 | |
|---|-----------|--|----------|---|----------|
| Civil | Criminal | Civil | Criminal | Civil | Criminal |
| 31,16,492 | 10,37,465 | 1,65,724 | 36,358 | 6,55,793 | 3,58,353 |

Disposal of cases pending in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Chief Justices' Conference held on 03rd and 04th April 2015 has resolved that each High Court shall establish an Arrears Committee to clear the backlog of cases pending for more than five years. As per information available, Arrears Committees have been set up in the High Courts of (i) Allahabad, (ii) Bombay, (iii) Calcutta, (iv) Chhattisgarh, (v) Delhi, (vi) Himachal Pradesh, (vii) Jammu and Kashmir, (viii) Jharkhand, (ix) Karnataka (x) Kerala, (xi) Madhya Pradesh, (xii) Madras, (xiii) Manipur, (xiv) Meghalaya, (xv) Orissa, (xvi) Patna (xvii) Punjab and Haryana, (xviii) Sikkim, (xix) Tripura, and (xx) Uttarakhand.

Lawyers with fake degrees

1698. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 2000 practicing advocates registered with the Delhi Bar Council have degrees from the same college and university which are reported to have been fake; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry either by the Delhi Bar Council or by Government has been conducted, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reintroduction of Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill

1699. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to reintroduce the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, which seeks to include 'irretrievable breakdown of marriage' as a ground for divorce, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government intends to introduce any legislation in this light to provide for sufficient compensation to the wife and children from the husband's immovable property in case of a divorce, if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to bring any legislation in this regard.

Bogus Voter Identity Cards

1700. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the presence of a large number of bogus Voter Identity Cards in the country which not only has adverse impact on our transparent democratic election process but also pose threat to national security as foreign nationals of neighbouring countries easily access them to establish Indian identity;

(b) if so, updated status of action taken by Central Government, in coordination with State Governments, to abolish bogus Voter Identity Cards; and

(c) the State-wise number of cases of bogus Voter Identity Cards coming to light during last three years till date and the action taken thereon?

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

(a) and (b) The Election Commission has informed that it is not correct that large number of bogus Electoral Photo Identity Cards exist in India. Issuance of Electoral Photo Identity Cards is an act subsequent to registration as an elector. The Election Registration Officer after following the process enrolls the eligible citizens to Electoral rolls after which Electoral Photo Identity Cards issued. There are sufficient safeguards and Election Commission's guidelines to prevent any ineligible person's registration as elector. As and when the Commission comes to know of any specific case in this regard, necessary action under the law is taken.

(c) The Election Commission has informed that no such data is compiled in the Commission.

Promotion of Law as a career for women

1701. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women judges, judicial officers and lawyers registered with various Bar Councils in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to promote Law as a career option for women in the country;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation for women in various Bar Councils in the country; and

(d) if so, the details along with the present status thereof?

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

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Special Courts to deal with cases pertaining to atrocities on SCs/STs

1702. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Special Courts set up to examine the cases pertaining to atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) the number of cases decided during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 in the above Courts, State-wise; and

(c) the details of cases pending as on 31st March, 2015 in the above States, State-wise?

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

(a) to (c) In accordance with Section 14 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989, the State Governments with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court, specify for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court for the purpose of speedy trial of offences under the Act. Accordingly, State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have designated District Session Courts as Special Courts. Further, to accelerate the pace of trial of cases under the PoA Act, exclusive Special Courts have also been set up in these States namely Gujarat (26), Maharashtra (3), Madhya Pradesh (43) and Rajasthan (25). The number of cases disposed off/pending in these courts are as under:-

| Name of State | Year | Disposed off | Pending |
|----------------|------|--------------|---------|
| Gujarat | 2013 | 1319 | 10042 |
| | 2014 | 892 | 7364 |
| Maharashtra | 2013 | 860 | 8471 |
| | 2014 | 969 | 7559 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 2013 | 3485 | 14025 |
| | 2014 | 4111 | 14268 |
| Rajasthan | 2013 | 1867 | 14483 |
| | 2014 | 2198 | 13678 |

The data for the year 2015 has not yet been generated by the National Crime Records Bureau.

Fake and unqualified lawyers

1703. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, nowadays, a large number of fake and unqualified lawyers are found moving in court corridors across the country;

(b) whether the Apex Court has taken a serious note of this and directed the apex regulatory body for lawyers, Bar Council of India (BCI) and all State Bar Councils to “continue with the new rules” for verifying the advocates and do extra checks to weed out fake lawyers; and

(c) if so, a factual report along with Government’s reaction thereon?

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

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance for opening of new courts

1704. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given to the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra for opening of new courts; and

(b) the details of total number of judges in the High Courts of Gujarat and Rajasthan as on 31 March, 2015?

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

(a) The development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. However, in order to augment the resources of the State Governments, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary has been in operation since 1993-94. The scheme presently covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of judicial officers of district and subordinate courts. The details of funds sanctioned to the State Governments of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra under the above mentioned scheme are as follows:-

(₹ in crore)

| Sl. No. | State | Total funds sanctioned as on 08.03.2016. |
|---------|----------------|--|
| 1. | Gujarat | 402.64 |
| 2. | Madhya Pradesh | 301.13 |
| 3. | Rajasthan | 114.02 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | 549.41 |

(b) The details of approved and working strength in the High Courts of Gujarat and Rajasthan as on 31.03.2015 are as follows:-

| Name of the High Court | Approved Strength | | | Working Strength | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------|------------------|------------|-------|
| | Permanent | Additional | Total | Permanent | Additional | Total |
| 1. Gujarat | 39 | 13 | 52 | 27 | 03 | 30 |
| 2. Rajasthan | 38 | 12 | 50 | 27 | 03 | 30 |

Rail Neer plants in North-Eastern States

1705. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Government proposal to set up Rail Neer (packaged drinking water) plants in Assam and other North-Eastern States;
- (b) whether Government has carried out any survey to set up such water bottling plants in the North-East, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has got a feasibility study survey done for setting up Rail Neer plants over Indian Railways by M/s Grant Thornton and has proposed to set up a Rail Neer plant at Chayagaon, at the outskirts of Guwahati, Assam. The Assam State Industrial Development Corporation, Government of Assam, has offered land at Chayagaon for the project.

Setting fire to Ratnachal Express

1706. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have incurred more than ₹ 25 crore loss recently due to fire set up by unknown miscreants to Ratnachal Express and other trains in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Railways have given only 17 bogies to Ratnachal Express after this incident instead of having complete 24 bogies, if so, the details thereof and reasons for giving less bogies to this train so far; and
- (c) whether Railways are facing shortage of bogies, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Repair cost of ₹ 8.29 crore has been assessed for 23 coaches involved in fire incident of Ratnachal Express on 31.01.2016.

(b) As all the 24 coaches were rendered non-serviceable after this incident, coaches had to be provided from other sources. While initially the train service was restored with available 17 coaches, the train has now been restored to its scheduled 24 coach composition *w.e.f.* 08.03.2016.

(c) No, Sir. Presently, adequate numbers of coaches have been provided to all Zonal Railways for running passenger carrying trains to their scheduled compositions.

Irregularities in VRS appointments

†1707. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General's report of January, 2011 to March, 2014 has brought to the fore several irregularities in VRS appointments in Railways;

(b) whether Railway Board changed its own rule repeatedly for VRS appointments, thereby clearing the way for such appointments;

(c) the irregularities due to which jobs were given against the rules and at what levels irregularities have been exposed; and

(d) the actual status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General has made certain observations in respect of the Safety Related Retirement Scheme (SRRS)/Liberalised Active Retirement Scheme for Guaranteed Employment for Safety Staff (LARSGESS) and appointments made under the scheme.

A Safety Related Retirement Scheme was introduced in January 2004, exclusively, for two frontline safety categories *viz.* Drivers and Gangmen. The working of Drivers and Gangmen has a critical bearing on safety of train operations and track maintenance in the form of quicker reaction time in emergency situations. The objective of the scheme is to improve safety in train operations and track maintenance and for this purpose, maintain comparatively younger age profile of employees.

Under the scheme, appointment is given to the ward of the employees seeking voluntary retirement due to aging, provided the ward is found suitable for appointment in all respects, including medical fitness for the same post.

The scheme was subsequently extended in the year 2010 to specified safety categories in Grade Pay 1800 and thereafter to these categories in Grade Pay 1900 in the year 2011. In keeping with objectives of this scheme, certain changes were made in the rules to permit voluntary retirement for employees of categories specified in the scheme in keeping with ground realities. This was a new scheme wherein changes were necessitated from time to time. Implementation has been done accordingly. Observations made by Audit are being examined.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Stoppage of Express trains

1708. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Railways would consider stoppage of Rourkela-Koraput Express and Nagavali-Nanded Express trains at Narla Road and Chatikona (Bissamcuttack) railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to provide stoppages of 18107/18108 Rourkela-Koraput Express and 18309/18310 Sambalpur-Nanded Nagavali Express at Norla Road and Bissamcuttack.

Railway Development Authority

1709. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Debroy Committee has recently recommended for setting up of Railway Development Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government proposes to set up such an Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Bibek Debroy Committee has recommended setting up of Railway Regulatory Authority of India (RRAI) independent of Ministry of Railways with powers and objective of economic regulation including tariff regulation, safety regulation, fair access regulation, service standard regulation, licensing/enhancing competition and setting technical standards.

In December, 2015, Ministry of Railways brought out for public consultation a concept paper on regulatory framework and setting up of Railway Development Authority to undertake functions of tariff determination, ensuring fair play and level playing field for private investments, setting efficiency and performance standards and dissemination of information.

No time frame has been fixed for setting up a Rail Development Authority.

Introduction of new Passenger trains in Kerala

1710. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are inclined to have more long distance Express trains while denying more short distance Passenger trains;

(b) whether more Passenger trains are denied to Kerala while people want them; and

(c) whether Government would instruct the Railway Board to introduce advanced communication system there to facilitate introduction of new Passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Introduction of more passenger trains in Kerala is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints including line capacity constraints on Palakkad-Shoranur-Ernakulam-Kottayam/Alappuzha-Kayankulam sections, infrastructural constraints in all the major coaching terminals in Kerala (Trivandram/Kochuveli, Alappuzha and Ernakulam) and non-availability of infrastructural facilities at Kozhikode and Kannur.

(c) At present, there is no plan to introduce advanced/modern communication system to facilitate introduction of new Passenger trains.

Setting up of Rail Coach Factory in Telangana

1711. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are planning to set up Rail Coach Factory in Telangana, as per the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As per Item 10 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, Indian Railways is required to examine the feasibility of establishing a Rail Coach Factory in the successor State of Telangana and take expeditious decision thereon. To, *inter-alia*, examine the feasibility of establishing the Rail Coach Factory, a committee of Senior Officers from Railways has been constituted by the Ministry of Railways. Before a final decision is taken on the report of the Committee, the Ministry of Railways has asked the Committee to consult the various stake holders also, which includes the Members of Parliament, State Governments, etc.

Construction of Dehradun-Vikasnagar-Uttarkashi railway line

†1712 . SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry will consider to send a team of railway experts to ascertain the possibility of construction of a new railway line from Dehradun to Uttarkashi *via* Vikasnagar in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, by when the team is likely to be sent there; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Dehradun-Vikasnagar new line (38 km.) survey was completed in 2012 and as per the Survey Report, the cost of construction of this line was assessed as ₹ 628.18 crore with a negative Rate of Return of 5.21%. The project could not be taken forward due to its unremunerative nature, huge throwforward of ongoing projects.

However, now in anticipation of State Government of Uttarakhand coming forward to take up project through a Joint Venture, work of Dehradun-Vikasnagar (38 km.) costing ₹ 628 crores has been included in Railways Capital Investment Programme 2016-17. As regards, Dehradun-Uttarkashi new line (90 km.), a survey has been taken up.

E-catering services in railways

1713. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise and railway zone-wise details of revenue earned through e-catering services during the last one year, including district-wise details for West Bengal;

(b) the State-wise and station-wise details of existing set of catering service providers along with the details of subsidies provided/expenditure incurred in relation to e-catering, if any; and

(c) whether Railways intend to expand the services provided to other stations and include more Indian brands for providing e-catering services to passengers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) State-wise and zone-wise details of revenue earned through e-catering

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

services during the last one year (*i.e.* 01.01.2015 to 31.12.2015) is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The State-wise and station-wise details of the e-catering service providers are given in the Statement-II (*See* below). Since the prices of e-catering services provided to the passengers are market driven, no subsidies have been granted by the Railways in this regard. In 2015, an expenditure of ₹ 96 lakhs (approx.) has been incurred for providing e-catering services, which include development and maintenance of e-catering website, mobile app, marketing and staff expenses.

(c) As announced in Budget Speech 2016-17, station based e-catering service is being further extended from existing 45 stations to all A1 and A category stations on Indian Railways.

Statement-I

State-wise and Zone-wise details of revenue earned through e-catering services during the last one year (*i.e.* 01.01.2015 to 31.12.2015) are as under:—

| State | IRCTC Revenue (@12% calculated on the Base price of E-Catering order) (In ₹) |
|-------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 |
| Odisha | 27071 |
| Maharashtra | 52201 |
| Chandigarh | 1655 |
| Bihar | 21115 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 30411 |
| Delhi | 58071 |
| Gujarat | 61076 |
| Rajasthan | 37345 |
| Tamil Nadu | 47410 |
| Haryana | 6463 |
| Chhattisgarh | 7694 |
| Jharkhand | 4843 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 2191 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 132787 |

| 1 | 2 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Uttar Pradesh | 152508 |
| Karnataka | 36688 |
| Assam | 3082 |
| Uttarakhand | 934 |
| Punjab | 17799 |
| Kerala | 42168 |
| West Bengal | 48552 |
| TOTAL | 7,92,064 |

Zonal Railway

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| South East Central Railway | 7819 |
| Western Railway | 68807 |
| East Central Railway | 39549 |
| North Western Railway | 30574 |
| South Eastern Railway | 15562 |
| Northern Railway | 119502 |
| Southern Railway | 91252 |
| South Western Railway | 34815 |
| North Eastern Railway | 3708 |
| South Central Railway | 99575 |
| Northeast Frontier Railway | 14892 |
| North Central Railway | 103569 |
| West Central Railway | 27340 |
| East Coast Railway | 59970 |
| Central Railway | 49665 |
| Eastern Railway | 25464 |
| TOTAL | 7,92,064 |

Statement-I

State-wise and station-wise details of existing set of catering service providers are as under:—

| Sl. No. | Station Name | Station Code | Vendor Name | State |
|---------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Abu Road | ABR | Express Food Services | Rajasthan |
| 2. | Abu Road | ABR | Sai Balaji Food Corporation | Rajasthan |
| 3. | Agra Cantt | AGC | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 4. | Agra Cantt | AGC | Indian Bites | Uttar Pradesh |
| 5. | Agra Cantt | AGC | R K Associates | Uttar Pradesh |
| 6. | Agra Cantt | AGC | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Uttar Pradesh |
| 7. | Agra Fort | AF | Indian Bites | Uttar Pradesh |
| 8. | Ahmedabad Jn | ADI | Dominos Pizza | Gujrat |
| 9. | Ahmedabad Jn | ADI | Food on Track Base Kitchen Adi | Gujarat |
| 10. | Akola Jn | AK | Nest Bar and Rest | Maharashtra |
| 11. | Aligarh Jn | ALJN | Brindavan Food Products | Uttar Pradesh |
| 12. | Aligarh Jn | ALJN | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 13. | Allahabad Jn | ALD | A. S. Sales Corporation | Uttar Pradesh |
| 14. | Allahabad Jn | ALD | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 15. | Allahabad Jn | ALD | Hotel Polo Towers | Uttar Pradesh |
| 16. | Alwar | AWR | Dominos Pizza | Rajasthan |
| 17. | Alwar | AWR | Goel And Goel | Rajasthan |
| 18. | Ambala Cant Jn | UMB | Dominos Pizza | Haryana |
| 19. | Ambur | AB | A K Nazeer Moosa | Tamil Nadu |
| 20. | Amritsar Jn | ASR | Dominos Pizza | Punjab |
| 21. | Amritsar Jn | ASR | Deepak And Co | Punjab |
| 22. | Anand Vihar Terminal | ANVT | Srinathji Caterers | Delhi |
| 23. | Anand Vihar Terminal | ANVT | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi |
| 24. | Andheri | ADH | Express Food Services | Maharashtra |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-----------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 25. | Arakkonam Jn | AJJ | P K Shefi | Tamil Nadu |
| 26. | Asansol Jn | ASN | Griham Food And Hotel Pvt. Ltd. | West Bengal |
| 27. | Asansol Jn | ASN | Tirupati Associates | West Bengal |
| 28. | Babina | BAB | Murti Devi | Uttar Pradesh |
| 29. | Bandra Terminus | BDTS | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra |
| 30. | Bandra Terminus | BDTS | Bhanu Hospitality | Maharashtra |
| 31. | Bangalore Cant | BNC | Hallimane | Karnataka |
| 32. | Bangalore Cant | BNC | Sai Balaji Food Corporation | Karnataka |
| 33. | Bangalore Cantt | BNC | Cpf India Pvt. Ltd. | Karnataka |
| 34. | Bangalore City | SBC | Hallimane | Karnataka |
| 35. | Bangalore City | SBC | Hello Curry Pvt. Ltd. | Karnataka |
| 36. | Bangalore City | SBC | P K Shefi | Karnataka |
| 37. | Bangalore City | SBC | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Karnataka |
| 38. | Bangalore Cy Jn | SBC | Dominos Pizza | Karnataka |
| 39. | Bangalore Cy Jn | SBC | Srinathji Caterers | Karnataka |
| 40. | Barauni Jn | BJU | Express Food Services | Bihar |
| 41. | Basti | BST | Krishna Enterprises | Uttar Pradesh |
| 42. | Begampet | BMT | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 43. | Begumpet | BMT | Hello Curry Pvt. Ltd | Andhra Pradesh |
| 44. | Belgaum | BGM | Sai Balaji Food And Beverages | Karnataka |
| 45. | Bellary Jn | BAY | GSK Agarwal | Karnataka |
| 46. | Betiah | BTH | Tirupati Associates | Bihar |
| 47. | Betul | BZU | Shegaon Kachori Centre | Madhya Pradesh |
| 48. | Bhagalpur | BGP | Express Food Services | Bihar |
| 49. | Bharatpur | BTE | Express Food Services | Rajasthan |
| 50. | Bharuch Jn | BH | Dominos Pizza | Gujarat |
| 51. | Bhopal | BPL | R And K Associates | Madhya Pradesh |
| 52. | Bhopal Jn | BPL | R D Sharma And Sons | Madhya Pradesh |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-----------------|------|------------------------------|----------------|
| 53. | Bhubaneswar | BBS | Dominos Pizza | Odisha |
| 54. | Bhubaneswar | BBS | Express Food Services | Odisha |
| 55. | Bhubaneswar | BBS | Hotel Eden Roc | Odisha |
| 56. | Bhubaneswar | BBS | Switz Foods | Odisha |
| 57. | Bhusaval Jn | BSL | KMA Caterers | Maharashtra |
| 58. | Bikaner Jn | BKN | Brindavan Food Products | Rajasthan |
| 59. | Bilaspur Jn | BSP | Dominos Pizza | Chhattisgarh |
| 60. | Bilaspur Jn | BSP | Express Food Services | Chhattisgarh |
| 61. | Bilaspur Jn | BSP | Sai Balaji Food Corporation | Chhattisgarh |
| 62. | Bilaspur Jn | BSP | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Chhattisgarh |
| 63. | Bina | BINA | Express Food Services | Madhya Pradesh |
| 64. | Bokaro Stl City | BKSC | Tirupati Associates | Jharkhand |
| 65. | Borivali | BVI | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra |
| 66. | Chandigarh | CDG | Brindavan Food Products | Chandigarh |
| 67. | Chandigarh | CDG | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Chandigarh |
| 68. | Chengalpattu Jn | CGL | P K Shefi | Tamil Nadu |
| 69. | Chennai Beach | MSB | Arenco Catering | Tamil Nadu |
| 70. | Chennai Central | MAS | Dominos Pizza | Tamil Nadu |
| 71. | Chennai Central | MAS | Ratna Cafe | Tamil Nadu |
| 72. | Chennai Central | MAS | Travel Food Services | Tamil Nadu |
| 73. | Chennai Egmore | MS | Adyar Ananda Bhavan | Tamil Nadu |
| 74. | Chennai Egmore | MS | Dominos Pizza | Tamil Nadu |
| 75. | Chennai Egmore | MS | Ratna Cafe | Tamil Nadu |
| 76. | Chennai Egmore | MS | Travel Food Services | Tamil Nadu |
| 77. | Chennai Park | MPK | Arenco Catering | Tamil Nadu |
| 78. | Chhapra Jn | CPR | Express Food Services | Bihar |
| 79. | Chhapra Jn | CPR | Tirupati Associates | Bihar |
| 80. | Chittorgarh Jn | COR | Express Food Services | Rajasthan |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|----------------|------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 81. | Coimbatore Jn | CBE | Arenco Catering | Tamil Nadu |
| 82. | Coimbatore Jn | CBE | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Tamil Nadu |
| 83. | Coimbatore Jn | CBE | Travel Food Services | Tamil Nadu |
| 84. | CST Mumbai | CSTM | A S Sales Corporation | Maharashtra |
| 85. | CST Mumbai | CSTM | Bhanu Hospitality | Maharashtra |
| 86. | Cuddapah | HX | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 87. | Dadar | DDR | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra |
| 88. | Damoh | DMO | Express Food Services | Madhya Pradesh |
| 89. | Darbhanga Jn | DBG | Express Food Services | Bihar |
| 90. | Daund Jn | DD | K M Khandelwal | Maharashtra |
| 91. | Davangere | DVG | Srinathji Caterers | Karnataka |
| 92. | Dehradun | DDN | Dominos Pizza | Uttarakhand |
| 93. | Delhi Jn | DLI | Dominos Pizza | Delhi |
| 94. | Delhi Jn | DLI | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi |
| 95. | Delhi Shahdara | DSA | Deepak And Co. | Delhi |
| 96. | Dhanbad Jn | DHN | Brindavan Food Products | Jharkhand |
| 97. | Dharmavaram | DMM | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 98. | Dimapur | DMV | Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd. | Assam |
| 99. | Dindigul Jn | DG | P K Shefi | Tamil Nadu |
| 100. | Durgapur | DGR | Tirupati Associates | West Bengal |
| 101. | Dwarka | DWK | Srinathji Caterers | Gujarat |
| 102. | Eranakulam Jn | ERS | Hotel Highway Palace | Kerala |
| 103. | Ernakulam Jn | ERS | Cafe Kudumbashree | Kerala |
| 104. | Ernakulam Jn | ERS | Dominos Pizza | Kerala |
| 105. | Ernakulam Jn | ERS | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Kerala |
| 106. | Ernakulam Town | ERN | Cafe Kudumbashree | Kerala |
| 107. | Ernakulam Town | ERN | Hotel Highway Palace | Kerala |
| 108. | Ernakulam Town | ERN | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Kerala |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|---------------|------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 109. | Erode Jn | ED | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Tamil Nadu |
| 110. | Erode Jn | ED | P K Shefi | Tamil Nadu |
| 111. | Faizabad | FD | Express Food Services | Uttar Pradesh |
| 112. | Faridabad | FDB | Travel Food Services | Haryana |
| 113. | Gadag Jn | GDG | Joshi and Co. | Karnataka |
| 114. | Gaya Jn | GAYA | Express Food Services | Bihar |
| 115. | Gondia | G | Express Food Services | Uttar Pradesh |
| 116. | Gondia Jn | G | A B Sawant And Bros | Uttar Pradesh |
| 117. | Gorakhpur Jn | GKP | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 118. | Gudur Jn | GDR | Fine Caterers And Suppliers | Andhra Pradesh |
| 119. | Gudur Jn | GDR | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 120. | Gulbarga | GR | Fine Caterers And Suppliers | Karnataka |
| 121. | Guntakal Jn | GTL | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 122. | Guntur Jn | GNT | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 123. | Gurgaon | GGN | Travel Food Services | Haryana |
| 124. | Guwahati | GHY | Dominos Pizza | Assam |
| 125. | Guwahati | GHY | Food On Track Jan Ahaar Ghy | Assam |
| 126. | Guwahati | GHY | Rmd Hotel And Resorts Pvt. Ltd. | Assam |
| 127. | Gwalior | GWL | Dominos Pizza | Madhya Pradesh |
| 128. | Gwalior | GWL | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Madhya Pradesh |
| 129. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | Dominos Pizza | Delhi |
| 130. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | Haldiram Marketing Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi |
| 131. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | R K Associates | Delhi |
| 132. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | Travel Food Services | Delhi |
| 133. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi |
| 134. | H. Nizamuddin | NZM | Happy Haaka By Food Panda | Delhi |
| 135. | Habibganj | HBJ | Hotel Samdariya | Madhya Pradesh |
| 136. | Habibganj | HBJ | Hotel Samdariya | Madhya Pradesh |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------|-----|---|---|-------------------|
| 137. Hajipur Jn | HJP | Ganga Dairy Limited | | Bihar |
| 138. Hatia | HTE | B M Singh | | Jharkhand |
| 139. Howrah | HWH | Dominos Pizza | | West Bengal |
| 140. Howrah | HWH | Food on Track Base Kitchen HWH | | West Bengal |
| 141. Howrah | HWH | Little Sister | | West Bengal |
| 142. Howrah | HWH | Only Ali Baba | | West Bengal |
| 143. Howrah | HWH | Sri Sri Radha Govindas Pilgrim Releft Trust | | West Bengal |
| 144. Howrah | HWH | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | | West Bengal |
| 145. Howrah Jn | HWH | Switz Foods | | West Bengal |
| 146. Howrah Jn | HWH | Travel Food Services | | West Bengal |
| 147. Hubli | UBL | P K Shefi | | Karnataka |
| 148. Hyderabad | HYB | Hello Curry Pvt. Ltd. | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 149. Hyderabad Deccan | HYB | Dominos Pizza | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 150. Itarsi | ET | A S Sales Corporation | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 151. Itarsi | ET | Express Food Services | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 152. Jabalpur | JBP | Hotel Samdariya | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 153. Jabalpur | JBP | Hotel Samdariya | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 154. Jaipur | JP | Dominos Pizza | | Rajasthan |
| 155. Jaipur | JP | Goel and Goel | | Rajasthan |
| 156. Jaipur | JP | Sai Balaji Food Corporation | | Rajasthan |
| 157. Jaipur | JP | Thali House | | Rajasthan |
| 158. Jalandhar City | JUC | Dominos Pizza | | Punjab |
| 159. Jalandhar City | JUC | Express Food Services | | Punjab |
| 160. Jalgaon Jn | JL | Brindavan Food Products | | Maharashtra |
| 161. Jamalpur Jn | JMP | Express Food Services | | Bihar |
| 162. Jammu Tawi | JAT | Dominos Pizza | | Jammu and Kashmir |
| 163. Janghai Jn | JNH | Express Food Services | | Uttar Pradesh |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------|------|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 164. Jhansi | JHS | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 165. Jolarpettai | JTJ | KMA Caterers | | Tamil Nadu |
| 166. Kacheguda | KCG | Hello Curry Pvt. Ltd. | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 167. Kacheguda | KCG | KFC | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 168. Kalyan | KYN | Bhanu Hospitality | | Maharashtra |
| 169. Kamakhya | KYQ | Food on Track Jan Ahaar GHY | | Assam |
| 170. Kannur | CAN | KVR Foods Service | | Kerala |
| 171. Kanpur Central | CNB | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 172. Kanpur Central | CNB | Deepak and Co. | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 173. Kanpur Central | CNB | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 174. Kantabanji | KBJ | Express Food Services | | Odisha |
| 175. Kathgodam | KGM | Vrindawan Enterprises | | Uttarakhand |
| 176. Katpadi Jn | KPD | Arenco Catering | | Karnataka |
| 177. Katra | KEA | Dominos Pizza | | Jammu and Kashmir |
| 178. Khandwa | KNW | Arenco Catering | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 179. Kharagpur | KGP | Dominos Pizza | | West Bengal |
| 180. Kharagpur | KGP | Little Sister | | West Bengal |
| 181. Khurda Road | KUR | Tirupati Associates | | Odisha |
| 182. Koderma | KQR | B M Singh | | Jharkhand |
| 183. Kolkata | CP | Brindavan Food Products | | West Bengal |
| 184. Kolkata Terminal | KOAA | Only Ali Baba | | West Bengal |
| 185. Kota Jn | KOTA | A S Sales Corporation | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 186. Kottayam | KTYM | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | | Kerala |
| 187. Kozhikkode | CLT | Dominos Pizza | | Kerala |
| 188. Kozhikkode | CLT | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | | Kerala |
| 189. Kozhikkode | CLT | Oriental Cuisines | | Kerala |
| 190. Lal Kuan | LKU | Deepak And Co. | | Uttar Pradesh |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| 191. Lokmanya Tilak | LTT | Bhanu Hospitality | | Maharashtra |
| 192. Lokmanyatilak T | LTT | Travel Food Services | | Maharashtra |
| 193. Lucknow | LKO | Krishna Enterprises | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 194. Lucknow | LKO | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 195. Lucknow Jn | LJN | Krishna Enterprises | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 196. Lucknow Nr | LKO | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 197. Lucknow Nr | LKO | Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd. | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 198. Lucknow Nr | LKO | Srinathji Caterers | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 199. Ludhiana | LDH | Dominos Pizza | | Punjab |
| 200. Ludhiana | LDH | Express Food Services | | Punjab |
| 201. Ludhiana Jn | LDH | Wimpy | | Punjab |
| 202. Lumding Jn | LMG | Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd. | Asam | |
| 203. Madhubani | MBI | Golden Caterers | | Bihar |
| 204. Madurai Jn | MDU | Oriental Cuisines | | Tamil Nadu |
| 205. Madurai Jn | MDU | P K Shefi | | Tamil Nadu |
| 206. Mahesana Jn | MSH | Express Food Services | | Gujarat |
| 207. Maihar | MYR | Hotel Ranjeet | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 208. Malda Town | MLDT | Tirupati Associates | | West Bengal |
| 209. Malkapur | MKU | R And K Associates | | Maharashtra |
| 210. Mangalore Central | MAQ | P K Shefi | | Karnataka |
| 211. Maninagar | MAN | S M Corporation | | Gujarat |
| 212. Manmad Jn | MMR | A S Sales Corporation | | Maharashtra |
| 213. Mariani | MXN | Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd. | Assam | |
| 214. Mathura Jn | MTJ | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 215. Mau Jn | MAU | Express Food Services | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 216. Mughal Sarai Jn | MGS | Brindavan Food Products | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 217. Mughal Sarai Jn | MGS | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 218. Mughal Sarai Jn | MGS | Express Food Services | | Uttar Pradesh |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|---------------------|------|--|----------------|
| 219. | Mughal Sarai Jn | MGS | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Uttar Pradesh |
| 220. | Mumbai Central | BCT | Brindavan Food Products | Maharashtra |
| 221. | Mumbai Central | BCT | Dominos Pizza | Maharashtra |
| 222. | Mumbai Central | BCT | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra |
| 223. | Mumbai Central | BCL | Bhanu Hospitality | Maharashtra |
| 224. | Mumbai Central Main | BCT | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Maharashtra |
| 225. | Mumbai Central Main | BCT | Bhanu Hospitality | Maharashtra |
| 226. | Mumbai CST | CSTM | Dominos Pizza | Maharashtra |
| 227. | Mumbai CST | CSTM | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra |
| 228. | Muzaffarnagar | MOZ | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 229. | Mysore Jn | MYS | Dominos Pizza | Karnataka |
| 230. | Mysore Jn | MYS | Srinathji Caterers | Karnataka |
| 231. | Nagda Jn | NAD | Tirupati Associates | Madhya Pradesh |
| 232. | Nagpur | NGP | Dominos Pizza | Maharashtra |
| 233. | Nagpur | NGP | Krishnum Restaurant | Maharashtra |
| 234. | Nagpur | NGP | Haldiram Food Int. Pvt. Ltd. | Maharashtra |
| 235. | Nalgonda | NLDA | Fine Caterers and Suppliers | Telangana |
| 236. | Nanded | NED | Fine Caterers and Suppliers | Maharashtra |
| 237. | Narkatiaganj Jn | NKE | B M Singh | Bihar |
| 238. | Nasik Road | NK | Arengo Catering | Maharashtra |
| 239. | Nasik Road | NK | Dominos Pizza | Maharashtra |
| 240. | New Delhi | NDLS | BTW India Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi |
| 241. | New Delhi | NDLS | Biryani Paradise By Foodpanda | Delhi |
| 242. | New Delhi | NDLS | Chaayos | Delhi |
| 243. | New Delhi | NDLS | Dominos Pizza | Delhi |
| 244. | New Delhi | NDLS | Deepak and Co. | Delhi |
| 245. | New Delhi | NDLS | DS Biryani By Food Panda | Delhi |
| 246. | New Delhi | NDLS | Food on Track Executive Lounge NDLS | Delhi |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 247. New Delhi | NDLS | Food On Track Jan Ahaar NDLS | Delhi | |
| 248. New Delhi | NDLS | Fa Yian By Foodpanda | Delhi | |
| 249. New Delhi | NDLS | KFC | Delhi | |
| 250. New Delhi | NDLS | Street Foods By Punjab Grill | Delhi | |
| 251. New Delhi | NDLS | Subway By Food Panda | Delhi | |
| 252. New Delhi | NDLS | Travel Food Services | Delhi | |
| 253. New Delhi | NDLS | Tadka By Food Panda | Delhi | |
| 254. New Delhi | NDLS | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Delhi | |
| 255. New Delhi | NDLS | Happy Haaka By Food Panda | Delhi | |
| 256. New Jalpaiguri | NJP | RMD Hotel And Resorts Pvt. Ltd. | West Bengal | |
| 257. New Jalpaiguri | NJP | Ramen Deka | West Bengal | |
| 258. New Tinsukia Jn | NTSK | Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd. | Assam | |
| 259. Nizamabad | NZB | Fine Caterers And Suppliers | Andhra Pradesh | |
| 260. Palakkad | PGT | Oriental Cuisines | Kerala | |
| 261. Palakkad Jn | PGT | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Kerala | |
| 262. Palakkad Jn | PGT | P K Shefi | Kerala | |
| 263. Palanpur | PNU | Tirupati Associates | Gujarat | |
| 264. Partapgarh Jn | PBH | Express Food Services | Uttar Pradesh | |
| 265. Pathankot | PTK | Dominos Pizza | Himachal Pradesh | |
| 266. Pathankot Cantt | PTKC | Dominos Pizza | Himachal Pradesh | |
| 267. Pathankot Cantt | PTKC | Food on Track Jan Ahaar PTKC | Himachal Pradesh | |
| 268. Patna Jn | PNBE | Dominos Pizza | Bihar | |
| 269. Patna Jn | PNBE | Express Food Services | Bihar | |
| 270. Patna Jn | PNBE | Hotel Gargee Grand | Bihar | |
| 271. Patna Jn | PNBE | Krishna Enterprises | Bihar | |
| 272. Pune Jn | PUNE | Dominos Pizza | Maharashtra | |
| 273. Pune Jn | PUNE | Hakmichand D Sons | Maharashtra | |
| 274. Pune Jn | PUNE | Travel Food Services | Maharashtra | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------------|-------|--|---|----------------|
| 275. Puri | PURI | Kishore H Caterers | | Odisha |
| 276. Raigarh | RIG | Express Food Services | | Chhattisgarh |
| 277. Raja Ki Mandi | RKM | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 278. Raja Ki Mandi | RKM | Indian Bites | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 279. Rajahmundry | RJY | River Bay | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 280. Rajendra Nagar | RJPB | Food on Track Base Kitchen RJPB | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 281. Rajkot | RJT | Express Food Services | | Gujarat |
| 282. Rajkot Jn | RJT | Kishore H Caterers | | Gujarat |
| 283. Rampur | RAMPU | Deepak and Co. | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 284. Ranchi | RNC | Airport Restaurant | | Jharkhand |
| 285. Ranchi | RNC | Dominos Pizza | | Jharkhand |
| 286. Raxaul Jn | RXL | Ganga Dairy Limited | | Bihar |
| 287. Renigunta | RU | P K Shefi | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 288. Roorkee | RK | Deepak And Co. | | Uttarakhand |
| 289. Saharanpur | SRE | Dominos Pizza | | Uttar Pradesh |
| 290. Saharsa Jn | SHC | Express Food Services | | Bihar |
| 291. Satara | STR | Murti Devi | | Maharashtra |
| 292. Satna | STA | Hotel Mahamaya | | Madhya Pradesh |
| 293. Sealdah | SDAH | Only Ali Baba | | West Bengal |
| 294. Sealdah | SDAH | Sri Sri Radha Govindas Pilgrim Releft Trust | | West Bengal |
| 295. Sealdah | SDAH | Travel Food Services | | West Bengal |
| 296. Secunderabad Jn | SC | Dominos Pizza | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 297. Secunderabad Jn | SC | Hello Curry Pvt. Ltd. | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 298. Secunderabad Jn | SC | Midwest Cateres Pvt. Ltd. | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 299. Secunderabad Jn | SC | Sai Balaji Food And Beverages | | Andhra Pradesh |
| 300. Shimoga Town | SMET | H S Sudheendra Aras | | Karnataka |
| 301. Shivajinagar | SVJR | Travel Food Services | | Karnataka |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 302. | Shoranur Jn | SRR | Hotel Highway Palace | Kerala |
| 303. | Solapur Jn | SUR | K M Khandelwal | Maharashtra |
| 304. | Surat | ST | Boon Catering | Gujarat |
| 305. | Surat | ST | Dominos Pizza | Gujarat |
| 306. | Surendranagar | SUNR | Express Food Services | Gujarat |
| 307. | Tadepalligudem | TDD | Sai Balaji Food Corporation | Andhra Pradesh |
| 308. | Tatanagar Jn | TATA | Hakmichand D Sons | Jharkhand |
| 309. | Thane | TNA | Arenco Catering | Maharashtra |
| 310. | Thanjavur Jn | TJ | P K Shefi | Tamil Nadu |
| 311. | Thrisur | TCR | Dominos Pizza | Kerala |
| 312. | Thrisur | TCR | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Kerala |
| 313. | Tiruchchirappalli Jn | TPJ | Vasantham Caterers | Tamil Nadu |
| 314. | Tirunelveli Jn | TEN | Vasantham Caterers | Tamil Nadu |
| 315. | Tirupati | TPTY | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 316. | Tirupati | TPTY | Fine Caterers and Suppliers | Andhra Pradesh |
| 317. | Tirupati | TPTY | Hotel Bhimas | Andhra Pradesh |
| 318. | Tirupati | TPTY | Hotel Sindhuri Park | Andhra Pradesh |
| 319. | Tirupati | TPTY | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 320. | Tiruppur | TUP | K R Bakes Pvt. Ltd. | Tamil Nadu |
| 321. | Tirur | TIR | Arenco Catering | Kerala |
| 322. | Tiruvananthapuram Central | TVC | Dominos Pizza | Kerala |
| 323. | Trivandrum Cntl | TVC | Sai Balaji Food And Beverages | Kerala |
| 324. | Tuni | TUNI | Sai Balaji Food And Beverages | Andhra Pradesh |
| 325. | Ujjain | UJN | Express Food Services | Madhya Pradesh |
| 326. | Vadodara Jn | BRC | Dominos Pizza | Gujarat |
| 327. | Vadodara Jn | BRC | Kishore H Caterers | Gujarat |
| 328. | Vapi | VAPI | Dominos Pizza | Gujarat |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------|-----------------|------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 329. | Varanasi | BSB | Deepak And Co. | Uttar Pradesh |
| 330. | Varanasi | BSB | Express Food Services | Uttar Pradesh |
| 331. | Varanasi Jn | BSB | Dominos Pizza | Uttar Pradesh |
| 332. | Varanasi Jn | BSB | Goel And Goel | Uttar Pradesh |
| 333. | Vijayawada | BZA | Arya Bhavan Hotel Southern Grand | Andhra Pradesh |
| 334. | Vijayawada | BZA | P K Shefi | Andhra Pradesh |
| 335. | Vijayawada | BZA | Comesum Restaurant Pvt. Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh |
| 336. | Vijayawada Jn | BZA | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 337. | Vijayawada Jn | BZA | Sai Balaji Food And Beverages | Andhra Pradesh |
| 338. | Villupuram Jn | VM | Vasantham Caterers | Tamil Nadu |
| 339. | Virudhunagar Jn | VPT | Vasantham Caterers | Tamil Nadu |
| 340. | Visakhapatnam | VSKP | Sai Aahar | Andhra Pradesh |
| 341. | Visakhapatnam | VSKP | Sri Raghavendra Caterers Pvt. Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh |
| 342. | Vishakapatnam | VSKP | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 343. | Vishakapatnam | VSKP | KFC | Andhra Pradesh |
| 344. | Warangal | WL | Dominos Pizza | Andhra Pradesh |
| 345. | Yadgir | YG | S Mohanlal Agarwal | Karnataka |
| 346. | Yesvantpur | YPR | Dominos Pizza | Karnataka |
| 347. | Yesvantpur | YPR | Hallimane | Karnataka |
| 348. | Yesvantpur Jn | YPR | KFC | Karnataka |
| 349. | Yesvantpur Jn | YPR | P K Shefi | Karnataka |

Extension of railway line from Lohardaga to Korba

†1714. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: the details of work done on the extension of railway line from Lohardaga to Korba till date, which was announced by the former Minister of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Updating survey for new line from Lohardaga to Korba has been completed

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in 2010-11. As per survey report, cost of construction of 326 Km. long line has been assessed as ₹ 2444 crore with ROR (-7.37%). The proposal could not be taken forward as erstwhile Planning Commission did not support the proposal due to its unremunerative nature and huge throwforward of ongoing projects.

Letter from Chief Minister of Odisha

1715. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister of Railways has received two letters, one on 2 December, 2015 and the second on 4 February, 2016, from the Chief Minister of Odisha; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon so far, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An enhanced allocation of ₹ 4760 crore for the projects falling partly/fully in Odisha has been earmarked in the Budget 2016-17 compared to the allocation of ₹ 3926 crore in 2015-16. Four new projects, including two new lines, *i.e.*, Jeypore-Malkangiri, Jeypore-Navrangpur, and two doubling projects, *i.e.* Narayangarh-Bhadrak 3rd line, Bondamunda-Rourkela 4th line have been proposed in Budget 2016-17 subject to clearance from the Government.

In addition, Berhampur-Sambalpur, Junagarh-Ambaguda *via* Navrangpur, Banspani-Barbil and Barsuan-Banspani/Narayangarh new lines, and Jagdalpur-Ambagaon doubling have also been included in the Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 in anticipation of State Government's coming forward to take up these projects through Joint Venture.

Galvanization of rail tracks

1716. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have considered galvanization of rail tracks to decrease corrosion and hence, reduce losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated towards the same; and

(c) the estimate of losses Railways are suffering due to corrosion and lack of maintenance of railway tracks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Galvanizing is not considered technically appropriate treatment, globally, for prevention of corrosion in case of rails. It is considered that the process of hot dip galvanization involving high temperature treatment may lead to micro structural change in rails and may thus cause reduction in strength of rails.

(c) Corrosion along with wear and tear of rails is a normal phenomenon. Somewhere it is less and somewhere it is more depending upon various factors including climatic conditions. Hence, there is nothing like loss to Railways due to corrosion and lack of maintenance of railway tracks as Maintenance of railway track is undertaken as per guidelines laid down.

Punctuality of trains

1717. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the punctuality of trains has deteriorated and has come down to just 79 per cent in March, 2015 as compared to 84.4 per cent in March, 2014;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to improve the deteriorating punctuality of trains; and

(c) whether any monitoring system is presently being used to monitor train movement to track and prevent delays and whether any improvement has been proposed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railways have initiated various measures aimed at improving punctuality of trains over Indian Railways network by sensitization of staff involved in train operations, controlling asset failures and their down-time, prioritization of preventive maintenance of assets, time tabling improvements, capacity enhancement through creation of new infrastructure etc. For factors affecting punctuality which are beyond railways control such as public agitations, law and order problems in left wing extremism affected areas etc. State Governments are being pursued for more effective resolution of these problems.

(c) Railways, in general, accord a very high priority to the punctual running of trains. The Indian Railways have put in place the IT enabled Integrated Coaching Management System (ICMS) which helps the online monitoring of punctuality of passenger carrying trains. This module consists of Punctuality Analysis and Monitoring (PAM) and Coaching Operation Information System (COIS) which continuously monitors

the running of trains, thus enabling the Zonal Railways and their divisional controls to take prompt decisions in according priorities in train movement, making-up time on run of delayed trains, ramping up resources at terminals to reduce rescheduling of trains arriving late on account of delayed running, training and counseling of supervisors and loco crew, monitoring of alertness of field staff through punctuality drives etc. Improving train operations is a continuous endeavour on Indian Railways.

Railways as an essential service

1718. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers Railways as an essential service for people or as a business concern for profit making;

(b) if former is the case, why Government is not mobilizing long term loans for new lines and production of rakes;

(c) why are workers and employees not assured fair wages and service conditions; and

(d) why private capital is being encouraged into Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Government considers Railways as an essential service which has to run on efficient commercial lines. Long-term loans, *inter-alia*, from multilateral/institutional sources are used for important infrastructure projects like Dedicated Freight Corridor, etc. Procurement of rolling stock is financed through market borrowing by Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC).

(c) Railway employees are provided wages and service conditions as per extant Government rules.

(d) Private investments in specified areas of infrastructure and service provision is encouraged to supplement budgetary and internally generated resources and to take advantage of the competence and efficiency of private sector.

Safety of women passengers

1719. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of safety and security provided to women passengers in Railways;

(b) whether closed circuit televisions are provided in Railways, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any additional measures are contemplated to ensure absolute safety of women passengers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of the GRP to provide security to passengers including women.

The following measures are being taken by Railways for safety and security of passengers including women passengers in trains:

- (1) On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2300 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
- (2) The ladies special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF constables.
- (3) The ladies compartments in sub-urban trains running in metropolitan cities are being escorted by RPF and GRP. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning in such trains to ensure proper security to the lady passengers.
- (4) RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP.

(b) At present, Close Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras have been provided at about 311 railway stations over Indian Railways. In addition, CCTV cameras have also been installed on trial basis, in a few coaches of some of the trains.

(c) Security has been identified as one of the priority areas for strengthening and upgradation. Measures initiated to strengthen security of women commuters include operationalization of 182 All India Security Helpline, development of security app over some of the zonal Railways, prosecution of offenders under relevant sections of Indian Railways, surveillance in station premises through CCTV etc.

Gate Mitras on unmanned level crossings

1720. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gate Mitras appointed so far in the country on unmanned level crossings, the details thereof, Zone-wise;

(b) whether the Gate Mitras have been given training etc., if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of salary/remuneration given to them and facilities provided to them, the details thereof;

(d) whether an appropriate place - a room, shed, hut etc. - to sit, have been provided to all of them; and

(e) whether these Gate Mitras are covered under labour laws, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways have not made any regular/permanent appointment of "Gate Mitras". Gate Counsellors or Gate Mitras are being deployed as a purely temporary measure on outsourcing on contractual basis at identified vulnerable unmanned level crossings till these gates are eliminated. Zone-wise deployment of Gate Mitras as on 1st February, 2016 is as under:

| Railway | No. of Gate Mitras deployed |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Central | 47 |
| Eastern | 39 |
| East Central | 143 |
| East Coast | 202 |
| Northern | 327 |
| North Central | 245 |
| North Eastern | 333 |
| Northeast Frontier | 0 |
| North Western | 402 |
| Southern | 448 |
| South Central | 677 |
| South Eastern | 537 |
| Southeast Central | 43 |
| South Western | 225 |
| Western | 520 |
| West Central | 0 |
| TOTAL | 4188 |

(b) Yes, Sir. Gate Mitras are imparted training and suitably counselled at appropriate level of the concerned Zonal Railway.

(c) Gate Mitras are engaged by the Zonal Railways through outsourcing on contract basis. Therefore, onus of payment of remuneration to them lies with the outsourcing agency, who are mandated to follow the Minimum Wages fixed by the respective State Governments.

(d) and (e) The onus of providing work related facilities to Gate Mitras lies with the outsourcing agency as per contract. However, these facilities are provided by some of the Zonal Railways on feasibility basis. As the Gate Mitras are being deployed through contract, they are covered under General Condition of Contract.

Setting up of modern railway laundry at Tirupati

1721. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to set up a modern railway laundry at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The contract for setting up of one mechanized laundry at Tirupati with capacity of 2.5 Ton on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) model has already been placed and Letter of Acceptance issued in May 2015 by South Central Railway.

Establishment of medical college in West Bengal

1722. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have established a medical college in West Bengal, as declared by the then Railway Minister in her Rail Budget speech during UPA-II;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The then Hon'ble Minister of Railways during her Budget speech 2009-10 had announced "Medical colleges are planned to be established attached to existing railway hospitals through PPP, to give higher education facilities to new generation of railway children."

As per Medical Council of India rules, Public Private Partnership (PPP) with Government (Railway) hospital is not permitted. This Ministry have, therefore, dropped the proposal of setting up of Railway Medical Colleges.

Improving facilities in general compartments

†1723. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in most of the trains, more passengers travel in the general compartments than in any other compartment and the Railways' income from these compartments is as much as from sleeper and 3rd AC compartments;

(b) if so, whether it should not be contemplated giving more facilities to the passengers travelling in the general compartments and increasing the number of general compartments; and

(c) if not, the ratio of the number of passengers travelling in the general compartment, 3rd AC and other classes and the income earned through them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In most of the trains, more passengers travel in the general compartment than in any other compartment. However, Railways' average income from a general compartment is lesser than that from a sleeper and a 3rd AC Compartment.

(b) As a part of continual improvement in improving passenger amenities in trains, following actions have been taken by Indian Railways:

- (i) Provision of cushioned seats/berths in General Second class non-Airconditioned coaches.
- (ii) Besides making provision of dustbins, it has also been decided to provide stainless steel mugs with chain arrangements in non-Airconditioned coaches including General Second class coaches.

During the period 2015-16 (up to January, 2016), total 884 coaches have been attached in existing trains on permanent basis, out of which 370 coaches are General Class coaches which is about 40% of the total augmentation done during the period.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) For the year 2014-15 (latest available), the ratio of the number of passengers travelling in the General Compartment, 3rd AC and other classes and the income earned through them are as under:-

| Class | Ratio of no. of passengers | Ratio of Earnings |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Second (General) | 89.3 | 38.1 |
| 3rd AC | 1.0 | 18.3 |
| Others | 9.7 | 43.6 |

Independent authority for regulating Railways

1724. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up of an independent authority for regulating the affairs of Railways, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the likely or proposed scope of activity of the said authority; and

(c) the time-frame contemplated for setting up the said authority and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) In the Rail Budget 2015-16, setting up of a mechanism for making regulations, setting performance standards, determining tariffs and dispute resolution was announced. In December 2015, Ministry of Railways brought out for public consultation a concept paper on regulatory framework and setting up of Rail Development Authority of India. The concept paper envisages an Authority to undertake functions of tariff determination, ensuring fair play and level playing field for private investments, setting efficiency and performance standards and dissemination of information.

At present, no time-frame has been fixed for setting up the Authority.

Railway projects in Himachal Pradesh

1725. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects undergoing/proposed to be started soon in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether some of these projects have been delayed and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the length of new railway lines announced in the last two Railway Budgets for Himachal Pradesh;

(d) the details of projects on which work has been started and the quantum of work having been completed; and

(e) the steps being taken to expedite the work on new railway line projects undergoing/proposed to be started in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) The details of ongoing major projects falling fully/partly in Himachal Pradesh including their status are as under:—

| Sl. No | Project Name | Latest cost (₹ in crores) | Expenditure upto 31.03.15 (₹ in crores) | Total outlay 2015-16 (₹ in crores) | Status |
|--------|--|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 1. | Nangal Dam-Talwara (83.74 km.) new Broad Gauge line and taking over siding of Mukerian-Talwara (29.16 km.) | 2100 | 431 | 100 | Nangaldam-Amb Andaura section (44 km) commissioned. Earthwork, bridgework in Amb Andaura-Daulatpur Chowk (16 km.) taken up. Land Acquisition in balance portion taken up. |
| 2. | Chandigarh-Baddi (33 km.) new line. | 1672 | 2 | 95 | Staking of alignment on ground completed and land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Governments. |
| 3. | Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63 km.) new line. | 5000 | 58 | 160 | Staking of alignment and detailed geotechnical investigation taken up. Part Detailed Estimate for Bhanupalli-Dharot (20 Km.) amounting to 350 crore sanctioned. |

No new lines have been announced for Himachal Pradesh in 2015-16 and 2016-17 Railway Budgets.

Completion of projects depends on a number of factors such as acquisition of land, forestry clearances, shifting of various services, construction of Road Over Bridges/

Road Under Bridges by road maintenance departments, apart from availability of adequate funds. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of the Ministry of Railways, therefore, it is not feasible to give time lines for completion of all the projects. However, it is Railways' endeavour to complete all the sanctioned projects including those in Himachal Pradesh expeditiously. Towards this end, an increased outlay of 450 crores has been proposed in the Railway Budget 2016-17 for the above mentioned projects falling in Himachal Pradesh as compared to an outlay of 355 crores in 2015-16.

Setting up wagon factory at Kazipet

1726. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Minister in 2008-09 Budget Speech announced that a wagon factory would be set up in Kazipet on PPP mode;

(b) whether there was another announcement in 2010-11 for setting up of wagon factory at Kazipet and land was identified at Ayodhyapuram and in principle, agreed to start the work with a Patna-based company; and

(c) if so, the reasons that Railways have now decided to suspend its idea of setting up of the wagon factory at Kazipet when the Government of Telangana has written a letter to transfer 54 acres of land to Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Setting up of a wagon manufacturing factory was first announced in 2010-11 at Secunderabad. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh committed to provide 40 acres of land free of cost at Kazipet. The wagon factory was sanctioned subsequently in 2011-12 at Kazipet. There was no proposal to start the work with a Patna-based company.

(c) Railways have not commenced this work because existing wagon manufacturing capacity in private and public sector units is adequate to meet the current demand for new wagons.

Proposal for Bullet train in Eastern States

1727. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce Bullet train in the railway route of Eastern States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No high speed rail project has been sanctioned in the Eastern States of the country. Ministry of Railways has initiated feasibility study for Delhi-Kolkata high speed rail corridor.

Connecting Himachal Pradesh with Leh

1728. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from Government of Himachal Pradesh to connect Himachal Pradesh with Leh through a railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereon along with the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Requests for providing rail connectivity to Leh have been received from public representatives.

(c) A Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic (RET) survey for Bilaspur-Kullu-Manali-Leh (498 km.) new line has been completed. The cost of the project was assessed at approx. 32,739 crores (at 2013 price level). The project has been identified as a strategic line by Ministry of Defence. As this strategic line is proposed in Himalayan region, to have a reasonably accurate cost estimate, Final Location Survey has to be carried out along with detailed Geological and Geotechnical studies, etc. Ministry of Railways has requested Ministry of Defence to deposit 157.72 crores for carrying out the survey. The time of completion and cost cannot be ascertained till completion of the Final Local Survey and detailed geo-technical studies. To assess the feasibility and viability of another rail connectivity in Ladakh region, a survey of Srinagar-Kargil-Leh (430 km.) new line has been taken up.

High-speed trains for North-Eastern States

1729. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: whether Railways have ignored North-Eastern States by not providing high-speed trains connected with the National Capital and other parts of the country as its priority in the initial phase, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Rajdhani trains connect Delhi with the North-East, besides other fast trains that connect North-East with other parts of the country. Due to high cost of the high speed rail projects, at this stage, only Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project has been approved for implementation.

Train to connect Patiala and Chandigarh

1730. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received requests from public for starting a train to connect Patiala and Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) the time-line to connect Patiala and Chandigarh *via* train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Requests/representations for introduction of new trains including trains from Patiala to Chandigarh are received at various levels of Railways administration *viz.* Stations, Divisional level, Zonal level and Railway Board's level, a compendium of which is not maintained.

(b) and (c) At present, 14887/14888 Barmer-Kalka Express (daily) is providing a direct connection between Patiala and Chandigarh. Ambala and Patiala are connected by 10 pairs of train services including 9 pairs daily services. Passengers of Patiala desirous of travelling to Chandigarh may avail change over facility at Ambala which is adequately connected by train services to Chandigarh. Introduction of new train from Patiala to Chandigarh is not feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints. However, introduction of train is an ongoing process over Indian Railways and is done keeping in view the traffic demand, operational feasibility, availability of resources etc.

Fast track implementation of projects scheme

1731. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have prioritized certain projects under its Fast track implementation of projects scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to reduce the gap between project conceptualization and commissioning in order to decongest choked networks and to enhance speed and punctuality of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Prioritization of projects is a continuous exercise carried out on the basis of traffic and safety considerations and availability of funds. In addition to ongoing projects, 77 doubling/tripling/quadrupling projects having an aggregate length of 9,040 Km. and total estimated cost of ₹ 90,304 crore were included in the Railway Budget for 2015-16 to decongest existing saturated section and create additional carrying capacity.

Zone-wise break up of fast track implementation of projects is as under:— Central Railway 6, East Coast Railway 8, East Central Railway 11, Eastern Railway 1, North Central Railway 4, North East Railway 4, Northeast Frontier Railway 2, Northern Railway 4, North Western Railway 2, South Central Railway 8, South East Central Railway 5, South Eastern Railway 5, Southern Railway 4, South Western Railway 3, West Central Railway 6 and Western Railway 4.

(c) Steps taken to reduce gap between project conceptualization and commissioning include review of procedures for Detailed Project Report (DPR)/detailed estimate examination/sanction, delegation of powers, adequate funding for prioritized projects and regular monitoring of progress.

Railway development fund

1732. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank and Railways have decided to work together to create a Railway Development Fund, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the proposed fund will partly finance the US \$ 142 billion investment plan for the core infrastructure sector announced by Government, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The World Bank has been approached to explore the possibility of setting up of a Railway infrastructure development fund. The World Bank has taken up a detailed scoping and options study for creating such a fund.

Railway connectivity of rural areas of Haryana

1733. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rural areas of Haryana are still not on railway map, while there has been a persistent demand for that; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that these areas have been found to be commercially viable, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As on 31.03.2015, the State of Haryana has an extensive railway network having 6.43 route km. per lakh of population and 3.69 route km. per 100 sq km. against national averages of 5.46 and 2.01 respectively. In addition 6 projects falling fully/partly in the State of Haryana for construction of 550 km. of New Lines and 5 projects for Doubling of 214 km. of existing single lines have been taken up at a cost of ₹ 7420 and ₹ 1745 crores respectively. In addition, 3 new surveys have also been taken up in Railway Budget 2016-17.

Shortage of coaches in Southern Railway

1734. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Southern Railway zone, especially related to Kerala, is facing acute shortage of coaches and the projected demand of coaches is hardly met;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor and the remedial action being taken in the matter;

(c) whether Railways have received any proposal(s) for implementation of various schemes/projects in Kerala during the last two years and the current year, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Railways in this regard, including the details of projects sanctioned along with status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no shortage of coaches for running the scheduled services on Southern Railway which includes the State of Kerala.

(c) and (d) Requests for new lines, gauge conversion, doubling, etc. both formal as well as informal, are received by Railways at various levels *i.e.* Railway Board, Zonal Railways and Divisional Headquarters, etc. As receipt of such requests/suggestions is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not

maintained. However, such demands from State Governments, public representatives, etc. form an important basis for sanction of surveys and new projects.

The status of the projects in Kerala is as under:—

- (i) Civil Engineering: As on 01.04.2015, there are 12 major projects, comprising 2 new line, 2 gauge conversion and 8 doubling projects, falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala, having a total length of 986 km. costing ₹ 6142 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 2591 crore has been incurred up to March, 2015, with an outlay of ₹ 1033 crore for the year 2015-16. An outlay of ₹ 1016 crore has been proposed in the Railway Budget 2016-17.
- (ii) Mechanical Engineering: Proposals received from Southern Railway in the last two years and the current year as under:

| Year | Project |
|---------|--|
| 2013-14 | Palghat Jn-Creation of minimum and essential facilities for inspection of 8 car MEMU rakes. Alleppey – Acquisition of land with provision of Rail connectivity, Boundary wall and allied works for setting up of wagon manufacturing factory. |
| 2014-15 | Tiruvananthapuram Central – Augmentation of AC coach maintenance facilities. Palghat Jn – Creation of minimum and essential facilities for inspection of 8 car MEMU rakes including one washing line and one stabling line. |
| 2015-16 | Palghat Jn – Creation of minimum and essential facilities for inspection of 8 car MEMU rakes including one washing line and one stabling line. |

The above proposals were examined in the annual works programmes for approval on the basis of techno economic justification and out of these, the work of “Palghat Jn – Creation of minimum and essential facilities for inspection of 8 car MEMU rakes” has been proposed in Railway Budget 2016-17.

Doubling and electrification of Konkan railway

1735. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take up doubling and electrification of the Konkan railway route, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any blue print has been drawn in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of implementation of these projects and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the first phase, patch doubling of ROHA - VEER (46.89 Km.) at a cost of about ₹ 296 crore has been sanctioned. Electrification of Konkan Railway route from Roha to Thokur (740 Km.) at a cost of about ₹ 709 crore has also been sanctioned.

(b) and (c) The tender for doubling work between Roha – Veer has been invited. The preparatory tendering work for Electrification project is on hand.

**Survey for railway line from Manwal to Bhadarwah
in Jammu and Kashmir**

1736. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is conducting survey for expansion of railway line from Manwal to Bhadarwah in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K); and

(b) if so, when would the work on this project is going to start and what will be the duration of time for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Manwal is an existing station on Jammu-Udhampur-Katra railway line. A survey for Udhampur-Doda-Premnagar-Badharwah and Doda-Kishtwar (224 km.) new line was completed in 2011-12. As per the report, the project was assessed at a cost of 12,040 crore (2012 price level) with a negative rate of return of 5.34%. The project could not be taken up due to a huge throwforward of ongoing projects and its unremunerative nature and limited availability of funds for new lines.

(b) Does not arise.

**Expansion of railway line from Udhampur to Banihal
in Jammu and Kashmir**

1737. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to expand the railway line from Udhampur to Banihal in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K); and

(b) if so, the completion period of expansion of this railway line and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Udhampur-Banihal new line is a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-

Baramulla New Line (272 km.) project which has been taken up at an anticipated cost of 19,565 crores. Banihal-Baramulla (136 km.) and Udhampur-Katra (25 km.) sections have already been commissioned and construction of Katra-Banihal (111 km.) section has been taken up. The project alignment passes through very difficult terrain of young Himalayas involving geological uncertainties. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix time lines for this project.

Redevelopment of railway stations under East Coast Railway

1738. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to redevelop around 400 railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating those stations that are proposed to be redeveloped under the East Coast Railway; and

(c) the time-frame within which the above stations under the East Coast Railway would be redeveloped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Indian Railway has advertised its plan to redevelop 'A-1' and 'A' category stations (about 400 in number) on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting proposals from interested parties with their designs and business ideas. These include Visakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Puri, Bhadrak, Brahmapur, Cuttack, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Khurda Road, Palasa, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Srikakulam Road and Vizianagaram stations on East Coast Railway.

The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. The facilities proposed in a redeveloped station include congestion free non-conflicting entry/exit to the station premises, segregation of arrival/departure of passengers, adequate concourse without overcrowding, integration of both sides of the city wherever feasible, integration with other modes of transport systems *e.g.* Bus, Metro, etc., user friendly international signage, well illuminated circulating area and sufficient provision for drop off, pick up and parking etc.

Station redevelopment projects are complex in nature and require detailed techno-economic feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local bodies. Therefore, no time-frame can be indicated, at this stage.

Muslim/Sufi circuit for tourism

1739. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1940 given in Rajya Sabha on 25 July, 2014 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in introducing Muslim/Sufi circuit for railway tourism;

(b) by when it will become functional; and

(c) the places proposed to be included in the circuit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) IRCTC had announced trains on 2 different Muslim/Sufi circuits, one from Madurai on 19.10.2015 covering Penukonda, Gulbarga, Ajmer, New Delhi and Agra and another one from Jabalpur on 21.01.2016 covering Lucknow, Agra, Delhi and Ajmer. Both the trains were cancelled later due to lack of demand. However, places of interest of Muslim/Sufi are already part of the itinerary of several tourist trains.

Letter from Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh

†1740. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of issues raised by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in his letter addressed to the Minister of Railways on 24 January, 2015 and the action taken so far on each of those issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Latest status on the issues related to surveys/ongoing projects raised by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in his letter dated 24.01.2015 addressed to the Minister of Railways are as under:

| Sl. No. | Name of project | Status |
|---------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Indore-Jabalpur | Indore-Jabalpur (342 km.) new line has been included in Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite Government approvals. |
| 2. | Bhopal-Saugor-Chhatarpur-Khajuraho | Survey for Bhopal-Saugor-Chhatarpur-Khajuraho (320 km.) new line has been completed in 2013-14. As per survey report, cost of the project is assessed as ₹ 1668.87 crore with negative Rate of Return of 6.7%. In view of its unremunerative nature and large throwforward of ongoing projects, the project could not be taken forward. |

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

| Sl. No. | Name of project | Status |
|---------|--|--|
| 3. | Jabalpur-Udaipura-Saugor | Survey for Jabalpur-Udaipura-Saugor (218.60 km.) new line has been completed in 2013-14. As per survey report, cost of the project is assessed as ₹ 2059.07 crore with negative Rate of Return of 91.71%. In view of its unremunerative nature and large throwforward of ongoing projects, the project could not be taken forward. |
| 4. | Bhind-Lahar-Konch | Survey for new BG line between Bhind-Lahar-Konch has been taken up. |
| 5. | Orai-Mahoba | Survey for Urai-Mahoba as a part of survey for Bhind-Urai-Mahoba (217 km.) has been completed. As per survey report, this project has a negative Rate of Return of 12.93%. In view of unremunerative nature and large throwforward of ongoing projects, this project could not be taken forward. However, both the 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. |
| 6. | Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Singrauli and Mahoba-Khajuraho (541 km.) (New Line) | <p>Mahoba-Khajuraho (65 km.) and Lalitpur-Chhatarpur-Khajuraho (164 km.) completed.</p> <p>(i) Khajuraho-Panna (70.55 km.): Passes through Panna National Park and Gangoi Wild Life Sanctuary. Modified alignment has been approved. Final Location Survey has been taken up.</p> <p>(ii) Panna-Satna (72.60 km.): Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition has been taken up.</p> <p>(iii) Rewa-Sidhi-Singrauli (192 km.): Section-wise position is as under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewa-Govindgarh (20 km.): Earthwork, bridges and RUBs works have been taken up. • Govindgarh-Sidhi (82 km.): Land acquisition has been taken up. • Sidhi-Singrauli (90 km.): Detailed estimate has been prepared. |

| Sl. No. | Name of project | Status |
|---------|--|--|
| 7. | Dahod-Indore <i>via</i> Sardarpur, Jhabua and Dhar (201 km.) (New Line) | Indore-Rau (15 km.): section has been completed. Rau-Tihi (6 km.): 5.5 km track linking has been completed out of 6 km. Earthwork, bridge work, etc. have been taken up on Dahod-Katwara and Sagor-Indore section (50 km.). |
| 8. | Fatehabad-Chintaman (Gauge Conversion) | This section is not sanctioned for gauge conversion. |
| 9. | Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola (473 km.) (Gauge Conversion) | Ratlam-Fatehabad-Laxmibainagar (116 km.): completed. (i) Laxmibainagar-Indore (4 km.) and Rao-Mhow (6 km.): Track linking completed. (ii) Indore-Rau (15 km.) and Akola-Akot (43.5 km.): Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up. |
| 10. | Jabalpur-Balaghat-Gondia and Balaghat-Katangi (Gauge Conversion) and Katangi-Tirodi (New Line) | On this project, Gondia-Balaghat including MOIL Limited siding (43 km.) and Balaghat-Katangi (47 km.) sections have been completed and commissioned. On Balaghat-Nainpur-Jabalpur (188 km.) section, earthwork, bridges and ROBs/RUBs have been taken up. Work in Balaghat-Nainpur has been suffering for want of forestry/wild life clearance. Katangi-Tirodi (15 km.) (New Line): Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition has been taken up. |

Bomb disposal and detection squad for Delhi Unit of RPF

1741. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for six years now, the Delhi Unit of Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been waiting to get its own bomb disposal and detection squad;

(b) whether RPF could not get it because of some procedural delays; and

(c) whether Government is going to clear the procedural delays and ensure that RPF Delhi Unit gets its own bomb disposal squad as early as possible, the factual report thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of law and

order over Railways is the statutory responsibility of States which is being discharged by them through the Government Railways Police (GRP). Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplement efforts of GRP to ensure security of passengers and passenger area. To supplement efforts of Delhi Railway Police for detection of explosive substance and suspicious objects, 06 sniffer dogs have been deployed by the RPF in Delhi Division of Northern Railway. In addition, equipment like bomb basket, bomb suit, drilling machine, thermal cutter, RSP tool kit, gas cutter, telescopic prodger, non linear junction detector, etc. have also been procured for handling of explosive substance, to avert any mishap.

Strengthening and upgradation of security infrastructure is an ongoing process. To strengthen surveillance mechanism at sensitive stations, including Delhi area stations of Northern Railway, an Integrated Security System has been envisaged and bomb detection and disposal system form part of this System. Issues concerning availability of eligible vendors, specification, inspection of equipment, etc. were raised by some of the Zonal Railways. These issues have since been addressed and Zonal Railways have been advised accordingly.

Vacant RPF posts in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh

1742. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and number of Railway Protection Force (RPF) posts vacant in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the incidents of crime in trains have increased substantially and there is no proper monitoring of the same; and

(c) if so, the what steps Railways are taking to fill up the these posts immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Number of posts vacant in Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are 417 and 265 respectively.

(b) There is an increase in crimes committed on trains during the last three years. The details of crimes registered in trains during the years 2013, 2014 and 2015 are as under:—

| Year | No. of cases committed in trains, registered |
|------|--|
| 2013 | 10822 |
| 2014 | 13813 |
| 2015 | 17726 |

Policing on Railways is a State subject. Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the GRP. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and for access control duties at important and sensitive railway stations.

The following steps are taken by the Railways to improve safety and security of passengers, including women as under:-

- (1) On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2300 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
- (2) An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through Closed Circuit Television Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks, etc. have been sanctioned to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive Railway stations.
- (3) An All India Security Helpline 182 has been made operational to enable passengers to seek security related assistance round the clock.
- (4) The ladies special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF constables.
- (5) The ladies compartments in sub-urban trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak/non-peak hours. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning in such trains to ensure proper security to the lady passengers.
- (6) RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

(c) Recruitment for filling up the vacancies including Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh is under process. Recruitment process for filling up of 763 vacancies of ancillary staff is in advance stage. Physical Efficiency Test (PET)/Physical Measurement Test (PMT) of written qualified candidates has been completed and Trade Test is going to be conducted. Thereafter final result shall be published. Notification for filling up vacancies of 2030 Female Constables has been issued. Further process for issuing notification for Male Constable, Sub-Inspectors and Constable Band is under process.

Damage to railway property in Haryana

†1743. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in Haryana which were damaged in arson by people demanding reservation and the details of different kinds of damage caused to the Railways in Haryana;

(b) whether it is a fact that laxity in timely prevention of loss to railway property by the Railway Protection Force and the State administration in Haryana has come to light; and

(c) the factual position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) 15 Railway stations (Dighal, Budhakhara, Julana, Pilukhera, Kinana, Machhrauli, Jajaiwanti, Damtan Sahib, Uchana, Jhajjar, Basai Dhankot, Charkhi Dadri, Manheru, Jharli and Bamla) in Haryana were damaged in arson by people demanding reservation. During the agitation, two Loco engines and 04 goods containers between Rajlugarhi and Gannaur Railway stations, 02 loco engines and one crane at Uchana station and 02 Track Machines and 02 camp coaches at Pilukhera railway station, were also set on fire by agitators. Damages were also reported at Gannaur railway station, 01 Level Crossing gate between Hansi-Satroad railway stations and at one gate near Loharu Station.

(b) and (c) Since 'Policing' on Railways is a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains is the statutory responsibility of State Governments which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying its staff in access control and escorting of important trains in affected sections. There was no laxity reported on the part of RPF towards prevention of loss to railway properties during the agitation in Haryana. 07 additional companies of Railway Protection Special Force were deployed in affected sections in Haryana. GRP/RPF has registered the cases against the offenders under relevant legal provisions.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Mechanized railway level crossings

1744. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unmanned railway level crossings in the country as a whole, as on date;

(b) the details of accidents on railway level crossings, State-wise, during the last two years, indicating the lives lost and persons injured;

(c) the number of manned railway level crossings mechanized during these years; and

(d) the reasons for slow pace of work carried out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) There are 10,440 unmanned level crossings in the country as on 01.04.2015.

(b) State-wise details of accidents at level crossings are not maintained. However, Zone-wise details of number of accidents occurred at level crossings and persons died/injured during last two years (2013-2015) and current year (upto January, 2016) are as under:

| Zone | 2013-14 | | | 2014-15 | | | 2015-16 (up to January 2016) | | |
|------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | No. of Accident | No. of person Died | No. of person injured | No. of Accident | No. of person Died | No. of person injured | No. of Accident | No. of person Died | No. of person injured |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| CR | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ER | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| ECR | 5 | 13 | 14 | 7 | 37 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| ECoR | 3 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NR | 7 | 9 | 8 | 11 | 28 | 20 | 10 | 27 | 27 |
| NCR | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| NER | 5 | 18 | 9 | 6 | 28 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 5 |
| NFR | 3 | 5 | 53 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| NWR | 12 | 22 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 9 | 4 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| SR | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SCR | 1 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 20 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SER | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| SECR | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SWR | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| WR | 2 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| WCR | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 51 | 104 | 118 | 56 | 161 | 106 | 32 | 65 | 48 |

(c) and (d) As on 01.04.2015, 12,560 manned level crossings out of total 19,047 manned level crossings all over Indian Railways, qualify for mechanisation (interlocking). Out of these 12,560 manned level crossings, 10,301 manned level crossings are mechanised (interlocked).

In last two years (2013-15) and the current year (upto January, 2016) 871 level crossings have been mechanised (interlocked).

Funds for Road Safety Works (ROB/RUB/Level Crossing) come from Central Road Fund (CRF) as a percentage of cess collected on Petrol and Diesel by Ministry of Finance. Due to limited availability of resources and huge throwforward (₹ 31,700 crore) for already sanctioned work, progress and completion of the works depends upon the overall availability of funds for these works.

E-tendering portal

1745. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have launched e-tendering portal to bring transparency in the execution of work contracts and make it cost-effective for the bidders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have launched e-tendering portal, 'Indian Railways e-procurement system (IREPS)' for works contracts on 1st February, 2016. Directives have also been issued by the Ministry that with effect from April, 2016 all works tenders are dealt through e-tendering module.

Losses in passenger segment

1746. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the estimated losses in passenger segment of Railways have ballooned from ₹6159 crore in 2004-05 to provisional estimate of over ₹30,000 crore in 2015-16;

(b) whether this is primarily due to sharp increase in input costs and no proportionate increase in fares over the same period; and

(c) whether Railways had increased Tatkal ticket booking charges by up to 33 per cent for travel in all classes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The tatkal charges have been revised for journeys starting from 25.12.2015 onwards, as follows:—

| Class of Travel | Minimum Tatkal Charges (in ₹) | | Maximum Tatkal Charges (in ₹) | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| | Earlier | Revised | Earlier | Revised |
| Reserved Second Sitting (2S) | 10 | 10 | 15 | 15 |
| Sleeper | 90 | 100 | 175 | 200 |
| AC Chair Car | 100 | 125 | 200 | 225 |
| AC-3 tier | 250 | 300 | 350 | 400 |
| AC-2 tier | 300 | 400 | 400 | 500 |
| Executive | 300 | 400 | 400 | 500 |

Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet train

1747. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet train has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project has been sanctioned in December 2015 and estimated completion period of project is approximately 7 years from commencement of work.

Abandoned buildings and unserviceable materials available with railways

1748. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any account of abandoned buildings and unserviceable materials is maintained in Railways, if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise;

(b) the procedure followed in dismantling the abandoned buildings and the time required to dismantle all the abandoned buildings; and

(c) the total value of unserviceable materials available with Railways and the details of their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The account of abandoned buildings and unserviceable materials is maintained in the registers kept with designated railway officials. Zone-wise details are not maintained.

(b) When the condition of a building is deteriorated beyond economic repairs it is identified as abandoned one. Abandoned buildings are generally disposed off by auction on 'as is where is' basis. The time required to dismantle the abandoned structure depends upon various factors such as its type, size, condition, location etc.

(c) Collection and disposal of scrap is a continuous process. Unserviceable material (scrap) costing approx. ₹ 2310 cr. has been disposed off during current financial year up to Feb., 16 and scrap costing approx. ₹ 363 cr. is available.

Insurance facility for passengers and railway's assets

†1749. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have suffered heavy losses due to various rail accidents in the last three years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have any insurance facility for the railway passengers and assets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the amount paid by the insurance companies during the last three years to Railways while settling the claims?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Details of loss of Railway property due to rail accidents during the last three years, *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and in the current year up to 31st January, 2016 are as under:

| Year | Loss suffered in terms of property by Indian Railways (Approx. ₹ In crore) |
|--------------------------|--|
| 2012-13 | 54.23 |
| 2013-14 | 38.01 |
| 2014-15 | 72.07 |
| 2015-16 | 35.19* |
| up to 31st January, 2016 | |

*Provisional figures.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Textile parks in Telangana

1750. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has approved three Integrated Textile Parks in Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy and Medak districts of Telangana under PPP mode;

(b) if so, the progress of those Textile Parks; and

(c) by when they are likely to start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes sir, the Ministry has approved a total of three Textile Parks in Telangana, that is Pochampally Textile Park in Nalgonda, Whitegold Integrated Textile Park in Ranga Reddy District and Avantika Textile Park in Medak District of Telangana under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) which is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Scheme. While Pochampally Textile Park has already started production, Whitegold Integrated Textile Park is in construction stage. SPV of the Avantika Textile Park has not shown interest in the proposal since the grant of in-principle approval to the Park in September, 2014 and Project Management Consultant (PMC) of the project has recommended cancellation of the Park.

Measures to propel India's share in global apparel trade

1751. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether China's success in Textile sector and grab of 40 per cent of world textile market is primarily due to India's cotton yarn and fibre supplies to it:

(b) whether one kg. yarn, if processed and sold as finished garments, generates four to five times more revenue;

(c) whether India is indirectly facilitating China to earn US\$ 24 billions a year through its garment exports; and

(d) whether the Ministry contemplates building cost-effective large scale fabric mills and unleash labour reforms to propel a 10 per cent share in global apparel trade, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) China's cotton yarn import from India is only US\$ 1671 mn. constituting, 26.4% of total import of China's cotton yarn. Moreover, China's import of cotton yarn from India is also showing a decline of 20% in 2014 compared to previous year. Therefore it cannot be said that China's success in textile sector (40 per cent world market) is primarily due to India cotton yarn and fiber supplies to China. The details are given below:—

China's yarn import from world and India

| Product label | China's imports from world, In USD Mn. | | | % Change 2014/13 | China's imports from India, In USD Mn. | | | % Change 2014/13 | India's Share in % | | |
|---------------|--|---------|---------|------------------|--|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------|------|------|
| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| Total Yarn | 10212.7 | 12175.2 | 11095.9 | -8.9 | 1061.7 | 2108.2 | 1696.2 | -19.5 | 10.4 | 17.3 | 15.3 |
| Cotton Yarn | 5063.7 | 7023.6 | 6326.0 | -9.9 | 1042.2 | 2087.7 | 1671.0 | -20.0 | 20.6 | 29.7 | 26.4 |

Source: UN Comtrade, 2016

(b) The Table below depicts the cost of raw material *vis-à-vis* a finished garment (sample case)

| Cotton Yarn | Price per Kg | Utilization for T-Shirt | FOB of basic T-Shirt |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 100% cotton, spun yarn (30-40 count) | ₹ 240 | 200 gm (including wastage) | US\$ 2.5 ~ ₹ 168 |

For a basic cotton T-shirt the revenue generated is approximately 3 times the price of yarn consumed. As value addition on the T-shirt increases, the revenue generated is above 4 to 5 times.

(c) and (d) The Amended TUFS Scheme of the Government facilitates up-gradation of looms and technology leading to large scale production of quality fabric. The Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) has also been implemented to address the infrastructural constraints of the textile sector on cluster basis. These schemes are being implemented to set up industry with facilities of international standard so that they can cope-up with the competition in export market.

Besides, the Government is contemplating to amend the provisions contained in Section 66 of the Factories Act, 1948, related to women for working in night shifts by substituting following:—

“66. The provisions of this Chapter shall, in their application to women in factories be supplemented by the following further restrictions, namely:—

- (i) no exemption from the provisions of section 54 may be granted in respect of any women;
- (ii) there shall be no change of shifts except after a weekly holiday or any other holiday; and
- (iii) no woman shall be required or allowed to work in any factory except between the hours of 6 A.M. and 7. P.M:

Protection of domestic sericulture industry

1752. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to cut in customs duty on silk imports, Chinese silk has swamped the South Indian Sericulture industry, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to protect the domestic Sericulture industry and push it to compete with the Chinese silk; and

(c) the efforts made to produce bivoltaine silk in the country instead of multivoltaine silk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir. The imports of raw silk have not shown increasing trend after the reduction of customs duty from 15% to 10% during April, 2015 instead it has generally decreased compared to the same period during the previous

year which can be seen from the following table:—

| Month | 2014-15 | | 2015-16 | | % change | |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-------|
| | Quantity (MT) | Value (Cr. ₹) | Quantity (MT) | Value (Cr. ₹) | Quantity | Value |
| April | 262 | 73.78 | 293 | 80.36 | 11.8 | 8.9 |
| May | 333 | 90.83 | 265 | 73.79 | -20.4 | -18.8 |
| June | 256 | 70.22 | 278 | 80.72 | 8.6 | 15.0 |
| July | 317 | 89.16 | 304 | 88.92 | -4.1 | -0.3 |
| August | 336 | 95.82 | 303 | 88.68 | -9.8 | -7.5 |
| September | 321 | 89.43 | 261 | 74.55 | -18.7 | -16.6 |
| October | 255 | 70.81 | 261 | 82.60 | 2.4 | 16.7 |
| November | 324 | 88.42 | 280 | 78.74 | -13.6 | -10.9 |

(b) To protect the domestic sericulture industry and to compete with the Chinese silk, the Government of India and State Governments have been taking following measures:—

- Basic Customs Duty of 10% is levied by the Government of India on imports of silk items such as raw silk, silk yarn and silk fabrics in order to discourage imports of silk goods.
- To safeguard the interest of the domestic silk industry against the cheap imports from China, the Director General of Antidumping and Allied Duties (DGAD), New Delhi has imposed a definitive antidumping duty in the form of fixed duty of US\$ 1.85 per kg on the landed cost of imported Chinese raw silk of 3A Grade and below. Similarly, an antidumping duty on fabric imported from China P R is also on force till December 2016.

(c) The Government has made different efforts for the production of import substitute, superior quality Bivoltaine silk in the country such as, developed improved mulberry varieties viz. V1, G4, G2 to promote Bivoltaine sericulture; strengthened Cold Storage facilities and Bivoltaine grainages to produce quality Bivoltaine silkworm seed; developed bivoltaine hybrids like CSR2 x CSR4, CSR16 x CSR17, FC1xFC2 & FC3xFC4 for production of better quality BV silk in Southern region throughout the year; organized 172 Clusters under Cluster Promotion Programme (CPP) during XII Plan to augment the production of bivoltaine silk production; set up Automatic reeling units for production of 3A-4A grade raw silk from bivoltaine hybrid cocoons and implementing one Intensive Bivoltaine Sericulture project at a total cost of ₹ 236.78 Cr. in eight North Eastern States from 2015-16 exclusively to

promote Bivoltaine silk. In addition, State Sericulture Departments in certain States like Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are providing price incentives for Bivoltaine cocoon growers and Bivoltaine silk reelers.

Revival of Parvathy Mills under NTC

1753. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any steps to revive the Parvathy Mills under National Textile Corporation situated in Kollam, Kerala;

(b) if so, the present position of the revival package of Parvathy Mills; and

(c) by when the mill will restart its functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Parvathy Mill under National Textile Corporation (NTC), situated in Kollam, Kerala is one of the 11 mills under NTC which are slated for revival under Joint Venture route as per Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) approved scheme. However, the Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU), signed with the Joint Venture (JV) partner, was terminated as the JV partner failed to enter into definitive agreement with NTC within specified time. The JV partner has challenged the termination of MOU in the High Court of Delhi and the matter is sub-judice, at present.

Financial support to textiles and ready-made garments sector

1754. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has plans to provide financial support for new technologies in Textiles and Ready-made garments sector across the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide financial support for the Textile and Ready-made garments industries in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether Government has taken initiatives to induce weavers community to take up job continuously and to update the technology to suit the present situation, particularly the weavers community living in villages and small towns, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing a number of policy initiatives and schemes for development and modernization of Textiles Industries

including Ready-made garments sector across the country 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 etc.

The Government of India has notified the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS) on 13.01.2016 for technology Upgradation of the textiles sectors. Under the A-TUFS, Garmenting and Technical Textiles segments are eligible for a subsidy of 15% on the capital investment subject to a cap of ₹ 30 crores per entity. For other segments the subsidy is 10% of the capital investment.

These schemes are aimed at promoting textile industry all over the country including the Tamil Nadu. Scheme wise funds allocated/utilized for the last three financial years and current year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to cater to the growing demand for the skilled labour including weavers, the Ministry of Textiles is implementing the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS). The scheme is designed to provide training to 15 lakh additional skilled workers to the textile sector in the Twelfth Plan period. Minimum 70% placement has been made mandatory under the scheme.

In the Handloom sector, the weavers community of the country, including those living in villages and small towns, are being benefitted by waiver of their overdue loans, getting loans at concessional rates, participation in exhibitions/fair/craft melas for marketing their handloom products, upgradation of their looms, training etc. to improve their earnings through various interventions under the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP).

Statement

*Scheme-wise details of Funds Spent/Utilized by various sectors of
Textile Industry from 2012-13 upto 2015-16*

| Sl. No. | Sector/Scheme | Annual Plan 2012-13 | Annual Plan 2013-14 | Annual Plan 2014-15 | Annual Plan 2015-16 * |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Handloom | 737.96 | 550.94 | 404.25 | 507.08 |
| 2. | Wool and Woollens | 13.51 | 16.00 | 21.00 | 26.76 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 3. | Sericulture/Silk | 258.00 | 375.21 | 297.58 | 178.10 |
| 4. | Powerloom | 12.57 | 13.53 | 51.52 | 71.34 |
| 5. | Megacluster | 23.38 | 38.75 | 61.79 | 116.10 |
| 6. | Industry Schemes (including Technology Upgradation Scheme (TUFSS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), and North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) | 2419.73 | 2029 | 2435.22 | 1774.24 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 3465.15 | 3023.43 | 3271.36 | 2673.62 |

* Actuals as on 4.3.2016.

Supply of cotton to textile sector

1755. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken measures to ensure adequate supply of cotton to the Textile sector, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total increase registered in the export of cotton textiles during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the details of the target fixed and achievements made for the export of readymade garments during the said period; and

(d) the reasons for non-achievement of targets, if any, and the steps being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government has set up a mechanism namely Cotton

Advisory Board (CAB) which advises the Government generally on matters pertaining to Production, Consumption and marketing of Cotton. The cotton balance sheet drawn by CAB for the cotton year 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 is given below:—

(in Lakh bales of 170 Kg. each)

| Particulars | 2013-14 | 2014-15 (P)* | 2015-16 (P)* |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| SUPPLY | | | |
| Opening Stock | 40.00 | 33.00 | 52.00 |
| Crop | 398.00 | 380.00 | 352.00 |
| Import | 11.51 | 14.39 | 11.00 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 449.51 | 427.39 | 415.00 |
| DEMAND | | | |
| Mill Consumption | 268.03 | 278.55 | 275.00 |
| S.S.I Consumption | 25.20 | 26.28 | 25.00 |
| Non Textile Consumption | 6.32 | 12.84 | 10.00 |
| Export | 116.96 | 57.72 | 70.00 |
| TOTAL DEMAND | 416.51 | 375.39 | 380.00 |
| Closing Stock | 33.00 | 52.00 | 35.00 |

P—Provisional.

*—As estimated by CAB in its last meeting held on 02.02.2016.

It could be seen from the above cotton balance sheet that sufficient supply of cotton is available to meet the requirement of domestic textile industry.

(b) The export of cotton textiles from India during last three years *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 and the current year 2015-16 (from April to October, 2015) is as under:—

| ITEMS | Quantity | (Value in MN US\$) | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|
| | | 2012-2013 | | 2013-2014 | | 2014-2015 | | 2014-2015 | | April-October | |
| | | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value |
| Cotton Yarn (including sewing thread) | Tonne | 11,09,550 | 3,548 | 13,12,703 | 4,584 | 12,56,031 | 3,961 | 6,47,636 | 2,181 | 7,64,034 | 2,250 |
| Woven fabrics of cotton | Thousand Sq Mtr | 9,94,172 | 1,632 | 12,02,487 | 1,721 | 13,69,794 | 1,861 | 7,80,371 | 1,092 | 8,00,054 | 1,061 |
| COTTON-RMG | N.A. | N.A. | 7,991 | N.A. | 8,521 | N.A. | 8,745 | N.A. | 4,937 | N.A. | 4,855 |
| COTTON-Made Ups | N.A. | N.A. | 2,795 | N.A. | 2,920 | N.A. | 3,045 | N.A. | 1,798 | N.A. | 1,908 |

Source : Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India. DGCIS, Kolkata.

N.A.: Not Available.

(c) The details of export target and achievements for RMG sector during the last three financial years are given below:—

India's RMG Exports Target and Achievement

| | RMG Export Target Fixed by MOT | RMG Export Achieved |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FY 2012-13 | USD 18 Bn. | USD 13 Bn. |
| FY 2013-14 | USD 17 Bn. | USD 15 Bn. |
| FY 2014-15 | USD 17.24 Bn. | USD 16.83 Bn. |
| FY 2015-16 | USD 18.73 Bn. | USD 12.47 Bn. |
| | | (April, 2015–Dec., 2015) |

(d) Due to non-conclusion of FTA's with EU, Apparel export segment is suffering a differential tariff barrier of 12% *vis-à-vis* our competitors like Bangladesh and Pakistan, who get zero duty access on account of LDC status & GSP+ factors. Government has introduced 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 (SITP), 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.

Steps for welfare of weavers

1756. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the details of the relief and facilities given to weavers during 2014 and 2015, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The Government of India has been implementing various schemes during the Twelfth Plan to give relief and facilities to handloom weavers, development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers throughout the country namely (i) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), (ii) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS), (iii) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS) and (iv) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS).

Through 28 Weavers Service Centres, Government of India is 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, printing are provided in the centres concerned. Under the National Handloom Development Programme, financial assistance is being provided for skill up-gradation for the cluster in a Block for imparting training in technical and managerial areas. Training is provided to the handloom weavers for upgrading their skills in weaving, dyeing/printing and design development area so as to enable them to produce a diversified range of products in keeping with the latest market trends.

The State-wise detail of funds released during the last three years and the current financial year is in Statement.

Statement

*The State-wise detail of funds released during the last three years
(2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15) and the current year
i.e. 2015-16 (As on 01.03.2016)*

| Sl. No. | Name of State(s) | (₹ in crore) | | | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 (As on 1.03.2016) |
| | | Fund released | Fund released | Fund released | Fund released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 9.81 | 5.55 | 1.51 | 1.97 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1.25 | 1.32 | 0.35 | 0.98 |
| 3. | Assam | 15.31 | 20.07 | 4.96 | 6.70 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.43 | 0.04 | 0.24 | 0.41 |
| 5. | Chhattishgarh | 2.25 | 1.78 | 0.51 | 3.79 |
| 6. | Delhi | 0.26 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.04 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 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 | 0.52 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1.44 | 0.56 | 1.53 | 0.08 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 0.05 | 0.82 | 2.52 | - |
| 13. | Karnataka | 1.77 | 2.69 | 1.66 | 0.09 |
| 14. | Kerala | 2.34 | 1.64 | 0.19 | 2.61 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 4.75 | 0.85 | 0.83 | 0.24 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 2.65 | 2.20 | 1.68 | 0.39 |
| 17. | Manipur | 5.09 | 10.80 | 2.41 | 2.96 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 0.92 | 1.16 | 0.37 | 1.81 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 0.72 | 0.30 | 0.28 | 4.47 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 6.40 | 3.89 | 2.65 | 3.22 |
| 21. | Odisha | 7.51 | 2.94 | 0.66 | 3.73 |
| 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 | 1.90 |
| 26. | Tamil Nadu | 32.86 | 32.64 | 10.17 | 47.09 |
| 27. | Telangana | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.84 | 1.53 |
| 28. | Tripura | 4.89 | 2.63 | 3.47 | 2.44 |
| 29. | Uttar Pradesh | 18.73 | 13.50 | 28.16 | 0.13 |
| 30. | Uttarakhand | 0.90 | 0.57 | 0.71 | 1.22 |
| 31. | West Bengal | 4.68 | 4.68 | 5.77 | 0.29 |

This includes schemes only where funds released to States or to various agencies through States.

Schemes of National Handloom Development programme

1757. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes of the National Handloom Development Programme which have been implemented in the country;

- (b) the number of them that have been implemented in Odisha; and
- (c) the manner in which the handloom weavers of Odisha have been benefited from such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) is implemented in the country, including Odisha. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) has several components like Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package, Institutional/concessional Credit, Handloom Marketing Assistance, Cluster Development Programme etc. Guidelines of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) were amended in June 2015 to include Block level cluster as one of their components. In a Block, more than one cluster can be taken up depending upon its need and number of handlooms. A cluster in a block is eligible for ₹ 2.00 crore for implementing various interventions in a period of three years.

(b) and (c) All the components of NHDP have been implemented in the State of Odisha. The benefits to the weavers vary from component to component. The weavers have been benefited by waiver of their overdue loan, getting the loan at concessional rates, participation in exhibitions/fair/craft melas for marketing their handloom products, upgradation of their looms, training etc. to improve their earnings.

Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

1758. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount proposed to be allocated by Government to the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for Textile sector, with details for apparel, garment etc.;
- (b) the details of total investments expected in the next two years; and
- (c) the details of the job opportunities expected to be generated in the next two years as compared to the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government has approved the introduction of “Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS)” for technology Upgradation of the textiles industry with one time capital subsidy for eligible machinery with a budget provision of ₹ 17,822 crore for seven years from 13.01.2016 to 31.03.2022 to meet the committed liabilities of ₹ 12, 671 crore and ₹ 5151 crore for new cases under

ATUFS. The details thereof are given below:—

| Sl. No. | Segment | Rate of Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS) | CIS per individual entity |
|---------|---|--|---------------------------|
| | Garmenting, Technical Textiles | 15% on eligible Machines | ₹ 30 crore* |
| 2. | Weaving for brand new Shuttle-less Looms (including weaving preparatory and knitting), Processing, Jute, Silk and Handloom. | 10% on eligible Machines | ₹ 20 crore* |
| 3(a) | Composite unit/Multiple Segments - If the eligible capital investment in respect of Garmenting and Technical Textiles category is more than 50% of the eligible project cost. | 15% on eligible Machines | ₹ 30 crore* |
| 3(b) | Composite unit/Multiple Segments - If the eligible capital investment in respect of Garmenting and Technical Textiles category is less than 50%, | 10% on eligible Machines | ₹ 20 crore* |

*In case the applicant had availed subsidy earlier under RRTUFS, he will be eligible for only the balance amount within the overall ceiling fixed for an individual entity. The maximum subsidy for overall investment by an individual entity under ATUFS will be restricted as indicated above for respective segments.

(b) An investment of ₹ 24414 crore is expected during 2016-17 and 2017-18 under the scheme.

(c) Employment generated during 2011-12 to 2014-15 is approximately 5,48,000. It is estimated that employment generation during 2016-17 and 2017-18 would be 8,73,600.

Textile clusters

1759. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Textile clusters presently operational in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the total number of Textile clusters proposed to be set up or re-operationalised in 2016, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) At present, 45 Powerloom clusters are operational in the country and the State-wise list of these clusters is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). Further, there are 169 block level handloom clusters, the State-wise details of which are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). In addition there are 1487 handicrafts clusters under the Ambedkar Hasthshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) in the country, the details of which are also given in the above Statement-II.

(b) Five Powerloom Mega Clusters and one silk cluster have been sanctioned upto 2015-16 out of which two are in Maharashtra, one in Tamil Nadu, one in Rajasthan, one in Gujarat and one silk cluster in Karnataka. 122 block level handloom clusters and 90 handicraft clusters under AHVY have been sanctioned during the financial year 2015-16 and the State-wise list of these handloom and handicraft clusters is given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

Main Powerloom Clusters in the country

| State | Cluster |
|------------------|----------------|
| Punjab | 1. Amritsar |
| | 2. Ludhiana |
| Himachal Pradesh | 3. Baddi |
| Uttar Pradesh | 4. Mau |
| | 5. Bhadohi |
| | 6. Kanpur |
| | 7. Gorakhpur |
| | 8. Meerut |
| Bihar | 9. Tanda |
| | 10. Gaya |
| | 11. Bhagalpur |
| Gujarat | 12. Ahmedabad |
| | 13. Surat |
| | 14. Umargam |
| Rajasthan | 15. Kishangarh |
| | 16. Bhilwara |
| Haryana | 17. Panipat |

| State | Cluster |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 18. Hindupur |
| | 19. Nagari |
| | 19. Nagari |
| | 20. Sircilla |
| | 21. Hyderabad |
| | 22. Nalgonda |
| West Bengal | 23. Nadia |
| | 24. Hooghly |
| | 25. Burdwan, 24 Paraganas |
| | 26. Howrah |
| | 27. Medinipur |
| Maharashtra | 28. Bhiwandi |
| | 29. Ichalkaranji |
| | 30. Madhavnagar |
| | 31. Malegaon |
| | 32. Tarapur |
| | 33. Solapur |
| Tamil Nadu | 34. Erode |
| | 35. Salem |
| | 36. Kumarapalayam |
| | 37. Trichengode |
| | 38. Karur |
| | 39. Somanur/Palladum |
| Karnataka | 40. Bangalore |
| | 41. Doddaballapur |
| | 42. Belgaum |
| Madhya Pradesh | 43. Indore |
| | 44. Dewas |
| | 45. Burhanpur |

Statement-II*State-wise details of Handicrafts and Handloom Clusters in the country*

| State | Number of Handicrafts Clusters under the AHVY | Number of Block level Handloom Clusters operational |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 59 | 11 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 19 | - |
| Assam | 34 | 44 |
| Bihar | 51 | 15 |
| Chhattisgarh | 24 | 5 |
| Delhi | 16 | 1 |
| Goa | 05 | - |
| Gujarat | 118 | - |
| Haryana | 44 | 1 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 35 | 1 |
| Jharkhand | 40 | - |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 94 | 3 |
| Karnataka | 45 | 17 |
| Kerala | 38 | 8 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 86 | - |
| Maharashtra | 41 | 2 |
| Manipur | 57 | - |
| Meghalaya | 14 | - |
| Mizoram | 11 | - |
| Nagaland | 33 | - |
| Odisha | 64 | 35 |
| Punjab | 27 | - |
| Rajasthan | 46 | 5 |
| Sikkim | | - |
| Tamil Nadu | 49 | 3 |
| Puducherry | | |
| Tripura | 44 | 8 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------------|------|-----|
| Telangana | 29 | 4 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 233 | 4 |
| Uttarakhand | 51 | - |
| West Bengal | 79 | 2 |
| Daman and Diu | 01 | |
| TOTAL | 1487 | 169 |

Statement-III

*State-wise details of Handicrafts and Handloom
Clusters sanctioned in 2015-16*

| State | Number of Handicrafts Clusters sanctioned in 2015-16 under AHVY | Number of Block level Handloom Clusters sanctioned in 2015-16 |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2 | 34 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | - | 2 |
| Assam | 19 | 8 |
| Bihar | - | - |
| Chhattisgarh | - | 6 |
| Delhi | - | - |
| Goa | - | - |
| Gujarat | 11 | - |
| Haryana | - | - |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1 | 3 |
| Jharkhand | 1 | - |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 3 | - |
| Karnataka | - | - |
| Kerala | - | 4 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 11 | - |
| Maharashtra | 2 | - |
| Manipur | 7 | 6 |
| Meghalaya | 1 | 3 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------------|----|-----|
| Mizoram | - | 7 |
| Nagaland | 2 | 3 |
| Odisha | 2 | 7 |
| Punjab | 1 | - |
| Rajasthan | 1 | - |
| Sikkim | - | 1 |
| Tamil Nadu | - | 32 |
| Tripura | 1 | 3 |
| Telangana | 1 | 2 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 16 | 2 |
| Uttarakhand | - | - |
| West Bengal | 8 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 90 | 122 |

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

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

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-two minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2015-16

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 2015-16.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Private Members' Legislative Business.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, we just want to lay the Special Mentions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mention is done after 5 p.m. Why, now?

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, we just want to lay. We have to go by the flight at 4.30.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You only want to lay?

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Yes, Sir.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees and there is no objection, then it is okay. See, you should say, 'the Special Mention in my name is laid on the Table'.

Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy; not present. Shrimati Bimla Kashyap Sood; not present. Shrimati Sasikala Pushpa.

Demand to take steps for immediate release of Tamil fishermen arrested by Sri Lankan Navy

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA (Tamil Nadu): I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the unending woes of fishermen from Tamil Nadu who are regularly arrested by Sri Lankan Navy. Only on 3rd March, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister seeking his personal intervention for the release of 35 Indian fishermen and 73 fishing boats in Sri Lankan custody and also urged to find a permanent solution to the recurring detentions. But shockingly, 31 fishermen from Tuticorin and Rameswaram were arrested on 6th March with their country boats and mechanised vessel. On 7th March, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has urged the hon. Prime Minister again to take steps for securing the immediate release of all the fishermen so far arrested and 77 boats in Sri Lankan custody. These continued instances of apprehension and abduction of our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy are causing considerable unrest and resentment among the Tamil Nadu fishermen. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has taken several steps for safeguarding the interest of our fishermen, including encouraging deep sea fishing activities amongst the Palk Bay fishing communities by providing subsidy for purchasing deep sea tuna long liners. The reiterated position of Tamil Nadu is that a permanent solution to this issue is possible only by restoring Indian's sovereignty over Katchatheevu.

I appeal to the Centre to secure the immediate release of all the 64 Tamil Nadu fishermen and 77 boats in Sri Lankan custody.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth.

**Demand for complete utilization of collected cess for welfare of
Beedi workers in Tamil Nadu**

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, there are five lakh *beedi* workers in our State, Tamil Nadu. Of these five lakh workers, 80 per cent reside in my district, Tirunelveli. The scholarships for *beedi* workers' wards' have not been released for the academic years 2013-14 and 2014-15. There is a backlog of ₹ nine crores to be given away as scholarships to the poor *beedi* workers' children and the full amount of ₹ 14 crores have not yet been released for the year 2014-15.

I urge the Government to immediately release these funds. The housing scheme for *beedi* workers' has become an utter failure in the last ten years. Lack of proper implementation of housing schemes has resulted in untold sufferings for them, as many got ₹ 20,000 as the first installment but could not complete their houses since the second and final installment of ₹ 20,000/- was not received at all. Now, the Government have announced an increased housing subsidy of ₹ 1.5 lakhs for the *beedi* workers. But orders have not yet been issued. There are 250 such pending cases of disbursal of housing subsidy that have been reported from Tirunelveli district. There should not be any exemption of Excise duty for the *beedi* manufacturers who produce less than two lakh *beedis*. All the amount collected through cess should be fully utilized for the welfare of the *beedi* workers. Eighty per cent of the cess amount is now utilized for infrastructure development, staff salary, maintenance and administration while 20 per cent alone is being spent on the welfare of these people.

I urge the Government to fully utilize the cess amount for the welfare of the *beedi* workers. Additionally, funds may be allocated from social security schemes for maintenance, staff salary, administration, etc. I request the Finance Ministry to allocate funds out of the Social Security Scheme and not impose this burden on the *beedi* workers, who mainly come from the unorganized sector.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Anubhav Mohanty; not present. Shri Basawaraj Patil.

**Demand to clarify the policy of the Government on the revival of CAPART,
the promoter of rural development in the country**

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक): कापार्ट विगत 30 वर्षों से ग्रामीण विकास में स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के माध्यम से ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में कार्य कर रहा है। कापार्ट का मूल उद्देश्य ग्रामीण प्रौद्योगिकी को प्रोत्साहन देना तथा इसके माध्यम से ग्रामीण जीवन स्तर का विकास करना रहा है।

डिजिटल इंडिया और स्टार्ट-अप जैसे महत्वाकांक्षी कार्यक्रमों के युग में, ग्रामीण क्षेत्र की प्रतिभाओं को आगे आने का अवसर मिले और वे भी इस प्रकार के कार्यक्रमों से जुड़ सकें, इस हेतु क्या कापार्ट की भूमिका पर कोई विचार किया गया है या किए जाने की संभावना है?

उल्लेखनीय है कि कापार्ट ग्रामीण प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में कार्य करने वाली देश की एकमात्र विशिष्ट संस्था है, तो क्यों सरकार कापार्ट के पुनर्गठन में विलम्ब कर रही है?

यदि सरकार की मंशा कापार्ट को प्रारम्भ करने की है, तो अगले वित्त वर्ष में मात्र 20 करोड़ के ही बजट का प्रावधान क्यों किया गया है, जो कि ग्रामीण विकास के कुल बजट का मात्र 0.000000002 प्रतिशत ही है? क्या इस प्रकार का बजट आवंटन तार्किक कहा जा सकता है?

अतः सरकार कापार्ट को प्रारम्भ करने या न करने को लेकर अपनी स्पष्ट नीति बताए क्योंकि 2009 से ही कापार्ट को किसी प्रकार का परियोजना कार्य करने से विलग रखा गया है, जिससे वहां कार्यरत युवा प्रतिभाओं का भी हनन हो रहा है। साथ ही ग्रामीण क्षेत्र को एक विशिष्ट सहयोग प्रदान करने वाली संस्था अनुपयोगी पड़ी हुई है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Rajani Patil; not present. Chaudhary Munvvar Saleem; not present. Shri K.C. Tyagi.

SHRI K. C. TYAGI (Bihar): Sir, later.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sanjay Singh; not present. Shri Santiuse Kujur; not present. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury; not present. Shri K. N. Balagopal.

Demand to take urgent measures to protect the employment of lakhs of workers and the economic viability of Cashew Industry

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, the cashew industry in the country is facing a serious crisis due to the attitude of the Government towards it. It is an industry that employs more than three lakh women in Kerala alone.

The importance of this industry is due to:—

- (i) The large number of women employed,
- (ii) The huge export earnings from it, and
- (iii) The import of raw cashew nuts from abroad and after value adding process, exporting the same to the developed markets.

As a traditional industry, as a labour-intensive processing industry, it provides employment to masses and earns foreign exchange to the country.

Now, the cashew sectors are facing serious threat from the price gambling by greedy traders and also from lack of intervention by Government. The commission agents and traders, who deal with arms deals and other commission business, are

[Shri K. N. Balagopal]

purchasing and stocking raw cashew and selling it to Indian factories at a huge profit. The huge price hampers the economic viability of processing and exporting. This middle men and huge profiteering should be avoided.

Secondly, the recently introduced customs duty on import of raw cashew nuts, which in effect comes to around 9.35%, will affect the Industry further. It is urged that the Government should adopt urgent measures to protect the employment of lakhs of workers and the economic viability of cashew industry.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri P.L. Punia; not present. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya; not present. Shri Avinash Pande; not present.

Those who could not lay now, we will take it up again before the adjournment of the House.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

The National Authority for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Persons Living Around Railway Tracks Bill, 2016

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA (Gujarat): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for setting up of an authority for rehabilitation and welfare of persons living around railway tracks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) *in the Chair.*]

The Teaching of Sanskrit as a Compulsory Language in Schools Bill, 2016

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA (Gujarat): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the teaching of Sanskrit as a compulsory language in schools.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 72)

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA (Gujarat): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Youth (Development and Welfare) Bill, 2016

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive policy for the overall development of the youths in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Vexatious Litigation (Prevention) Bill, 2016

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent the institution or continuance of vexatious proceedings, in civil and criminal matters in the High Courts and Courts subordinate thereto and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory
Education (Amendment) Bill, 2016**

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2016
(Amendment of Section 14)**

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri Tiruchi Siva): Shri B.K. Hariprasad to move for leave to introduce the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of the Eighth Schedule), he is not here. Shri Husain Dalwai.

**The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2016
(Omission of Section 309)**

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda to introduce the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (amendment of articles 15 and 16), not present. Now, Dr. Bhalchandra Munekar.

**The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Caste-Based
Discrimination in Educational Institutions) Bill, 2016**

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to effectively prevent the caste-based discrimination in educational institutions and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Shri K. K. Ragesh to move a motion for consideration of the Self-financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015

**The Self-Financing Professional Educational Institutions
(Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015**

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I move:

“That the Bill to provide for proper planning and co-ordinated development of self-financing professional educational institutions throughout the country by regulating the admission of students and prescribing fee structure in such self-financing institutions including prevention of commercialization of professional education and prohibition of capitation fees and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, this Bill to regulate fees and admissions in private self-financing institutions was introduced in this august House on 18th December, 2015. And, I had a starred question on 25th of February, wherein I had asked about the total number of professional seats, especially engineering seats, available in the engineering colleges of our country. I had also asked how many seats were lying vacant in these institutions.

It was a Starred Question. But I could not get an opportunity to put this question on the floor of the House because of the time constraint. But the answer given to me is extremely shocking because out of the 18,07,071 total available seats only 9,91,003 are filled up. It means, 8,63,079 seats are lying vacant. What does it mean? Only 51 per cent of the available seats are filled up and 49 per cent seats are lying vacant. And, that made me to bring this issue to the notice of the House through this Bill. These vacant seats are not in Government engineering colleges. If we look at the seats in the Government engineering colleges, almost 100 per cent seats are filled up. So, where does it happen? It happens in private self-financing engineering colleges. It means that most of the private self-financing engineering colleges could admit only about 50 per cent students. In other words, around 50 per cent seats in the private self-financing engineering colleges are lying vacant. It is a shocking thing that needs to be considered by this august House.

A data from the AICTE was reported in a national daily. It again brought to light an alarming state of affairs that exists in the private self-financing engineering colleges. The Report says that in major 8 States, 90 per cent of the educational institutions have, at least, one duplicate teacher. Again, in many institutions 50 per cent of the faculty is duplicate. It means, their names are enrolled in more than one college. This also is very alarming.

In a recent NASCOM survey, it was revealed that only 17.5 per cent of our engineering graduates are employable. It is really shocking. We all know that during the last one decade or so, we have been witnessing the mushrooming of engineering colleges in our country. The Government has not set up any new engineering colleges. This mushrooming of the engineering colleges is because the private self-financing institutions are mainly 'capitation fee' colleges. In these institutions, — even if one is needy — needy, meritorious students are denied of admission. That means, merit is replaced with money power in these institutions. You can't get admission in these institutions with merit alone. You have to pay the exorbitant fee being charged by these institutions. What does that mean? That means, these institutions, because of the higher fee being charged, cannot attract meritorious students. This is one point.

Again, needy students are denied of education and the poor-quality faculty is there in those institutions. It has resulted in deterioration of the quality of education in these institutions. Sir, I am talking about the engineering colleges in our country. Why does it happen? It happens because it is an upshot/outcome of the neo-liberal policy which was being implemented during the last one decade-and-odd. In the year 2000, our Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry came up with a document – I don't know whether I can call it as* Ambani-Birla Committee Report or not ...*(Interruptions)*...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): You can use the word 'famous'!

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Yes, I can use the word..... Sir, 'Famous' is something positive; I don't find it has something positive. So, the Ambani-Birla Committee Report means two industrialists were assigned by the Prime Minister's Council for Trade and Industry the task of studying about the business possibilities or trade possibilities of education. Accordingly, that particular Committee has come up with a Report which is called the Ambani-Birla Committee Report which, in fact, suggested the Central Government to change the policy orientation. That Report was on a policy framework for reforms in education. What was the reform that was suggested in that particular Report? In that Report, there was a suggestion to change the education on the basis of 'User-Pay Principle'. User-Pay Principle! So, that is the basic orientation which was given in this Report. And, in fact, whatever policies were being implemented in the field of education were, in fact, on the basis of that particular Ambani-Birla Committee Report. Again, it is the TMA Pai case judgement which has aggravated the on-going commercialisation of education in our country. The TMA Pai case judgement was given by an eleven-member constitution bench. It gave the verdict that private management has got every autonomy to admit students according to their own whims and fancies. Hundred percentage of the seats are being given to the private managements to admit. If you look at the state of affairs regarding a lot many judicial verdicts during this period, you will find that in 1992, we witnessed a very important judgement which is called the Mohini Jain case judgement. It is a very, very significant judgement. In that judgement, the Supreme Court held that Right to Education is a fundamental right. In fact, in that particular judgement, the court was invoking Article 21 of our Constitution, which talks about the Right to Live. Every citizen of our country has a fundamental right to live. It has given a particular definition saying 'Right to Live' means what. Sir, 'Right to Live' includes right to live decently, and decent living means living with education. Education is one of the important parameters for ensuring decent living, and hence, the Court held that under Article 21 of our Constitution Right to Education is a fundamental right. But, again, after four years, in 1996, in the Unnikrishnan case, the same judgement was modified. I am saying 'not overruled', but 'modified'. The judgement in Unnikrishnan case had said that 'for admitting students in private institutions, merit should be the criteria and students must be admitted on the basis of a common entrance test conducted by a competent authority'. And a particular scheme was proposed by this particular judgement which is popularly known as 'Unnikrishnan Scheme'. It provided for 50 per cent 'free seats' and 50 per cent 'payment seats'. 'Free seats' means students were admitted in those institutions on the basis of the rank list prepared by the State Government and the fee chargeable in those seats

was similar to the fees chargeable in the Government colleges for the equivalent course. The concept of 'payment seats' was based on the cross subsidy concept. 'Payment seat' was being given on the basis of the cross subsidy concept. Norm of reservation was also introduced in that particular judgement. But one very important question came before the court during that time. The question was whether imparting education, setting up of educational institutions and administering education institution can be considered as a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(g) of our Constitution which talks about freedom to profess, practise or to carry on any occupation, trade or business, etc. At that time, the court firmly stated that 'we are not going for a conclusive opinion but we are very much sure that education was never a trade, occupation or business in our country.' But, unfortunately, Sir, after that, in 2002, an 11-Member Bench — the judgement that I was referring to in the beginning — in TMA Pai case, in fact, took an astonishing u-turn and overruled all the concept made by the Supreme Court in its previous judgements, be it in the Unnikrishnan case or in the Mohini Jain case. Unnikrishnan Scheme was made as unconstitutional and private institutions are allowed to charge a fee which amounts to 'reasonable surplus'. That particular term 'reasonable' is not defined. We don't know what the 'reasonable surplus' is. But it said, 'reasonable surplus.' Further, in 1991, the court again held that imparting education, establishing an educational institution is the right of a private individual. It is being considered as a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(g) of our Constitution. Sir, it, in fact, overruled the concept of Mohini Jain judgement. Yes, in Mohini Jain judgement, it never considered it while considering this particular aspect. Mohini Jain judgement was trying to invoke Article 21 of our Constitution and the particular Bench was thinking of the newly needy students who are deprived of admissions in these private institutions because of their inability to pay. That is why the court held that it is a fundamental right. But, here in this particular judgement, our Supreme Court, 11-Member Bench of the Supreme Court, was so eager about the right of the private players, education traders who are eager to collect more and more capitation fee from the students, and the court held that it is their fundamental right under Article 19(1)(g). It is their fundamental right to set up an education institution. It is their right to collect fee according to their own whims and fancies. It is their right to admit students according to their own definition of merit, etc. Sir, this is what happened in that particular judgment. Also, the Unnikrishnan case was overruled in that particular judgment and the Court held that the Government cannot intervene. No Government is allowed to intervene. Why? It is because the Court held that the intervention of the Government in the case of admission, in prescribing a fee structure, cannot be considered as a reasonable restriction under article 19(2) of our Constitution. And again, in that particular

[Shri K. K. Ragesh]

judgment, the concept of autonomy was misinterpreted. It was the Radhakrishnan Commission Report which had suggested ensuring autonomy for higher educational institutions, particularly universities of our country. The Commission was of the opinion that our universities are the dwelling places of ideas and idealism. Higher universities are the centres where knowledge creation take place. And, the Government is aiding those institutions by providing budgetary allocations. Yes, the Government is providing all the financial assistance to the universities, but that does not give Government the right to intervene in the academic matters of those institutions or universities and hence, the academic autonomy of our universities must be ensured. That was the actual recommendation made in the Radhakrishnan Commission Report. But, unfortunately, the same academic autonomy was misinterpreted in this particular judgment. The Court said that autonomy means private institutions have the right to admit students according to their own definition of merit. How can the Government intervene? And that is why, the Government should not be allowed to intervene. That would affect the autonomy of the private institutions. Even that particular autonomy was misinterpreted in this particular judgment.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): How much more time do you want?

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I would take two-three more minutes.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, there should be no time-limit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): But the Minister has to reply.
...(Interruptions)...

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, it is a very important issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): I know, I know. That is why I am asking how much time he wants.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, in fact, the Court was of the opinion that — I would quote a particular sentence from the judgment — "It is well established all over the world that those who seek professional education must pay for it." What does that mean? Those who cannot pay should be denied education! That is the main aspect. Again, the Court held, "The idea that an academic degree, as a private good, benefits the individual rather than a public good for the society is now widely accepted." What does it mean? It is the same Brettenwood Institute's argument that is being echoed in the higher Judiciary of our country, Sir. It is the same argument of user-pay principle which is being echoed in the higher Judiciary of our country.

3.00 P.M.

And, that is the reason why in private institutions the needy students are denied education. These institutions are charging an exorbitant fee. Capitation fee has been banned, but they are asked to admit students according to their own definition of merit. They decide the fee and charge a higher fee. They are charging more than the prescribed fee and no receipt is given. Education mafia is working in this field. And, Sir, we are not concerned about this! This is a very important issue. A lot of students are seeking admission. Students are there; they need admission in those institutions. But they are not admitted. Why? Because they are not in a position to pay the exorbitant fees, the higher fees or the capitation fees which was asked for by these institutions. Sir, what is the role of the Government at this particular juncture? It is not the spectator's role that the Government has to play at this particular time. The Government must intervene and ensure that our universities and higher education institutions should not be made as mere teaching shops; they are the dwelling places of ideas and idealism. If this particular situation persists or continues, even our intellectual self-reliance is going to be affected because these higher education institutions are the centres of knowledge creation. If it continues, we have to depend upon foreign countries and developed world for newer areas of knowledge. We have to strengthen all these institutions. It can be strengthened only by regulating these institutions and such regulation can only be possible by bringing about a stringent regulation or a stringent law that should empower the Central Government and the State Government to regulate fees and admission in these private institutions. The T.M.A. Pai judgment opened the Pandora's box of litigation; a lot many litigations poured in. I am not talking about all those things because of the time constraint. Islamic Academy case came up before a 5-Member Constitution Bench. Again, there was another 7-Member Constitution Bench in P.A. Inamdar case. Eleven-Member Constitution Bench's judgment was interpreted by these two Benches. Many States like Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh came up with certain steps for regulating these institutions. In fact, the Kerala Government, at that time, came up with a legislation which provided reservation for the backward sections, needy and poor students, and also provided for a fair and transparent admission procedure, etc. But it was questioned in the Court. The High Court annulled it and made it unconstitutional. There were some very important, vital provisions and clauses in that particular legislation. Hence, what has happened throughout the country? What is the outcome? Students are denied admissions because of the higher fees. Around more than 49 per cent of the total seats in private engineering colleges are lying vacant. Why can't we make a provision for these poor students to get admitted in these institutions with meagre fees? Why can't we make it? Since seats are lying vacant, why can't we make it?

[Shri K. K. Ragesh]

Again, fortunately, in 2006, they had made Ninety-Third Constitutional Amendment which empowered the States and said, "Nothing in this Article 19(1)(g) shall prevent the States from making any special provision by law for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in so far as such special provisions relate to their admission to education institutions including private education institutions whether aided or unaided by the State, other than the minority education institutions referred to in clause (1) of Article 30." It means that the Government has every power to bring about a legislation. It is empowered. The Constitution mandate is already there and the Constitution has already empowered the State Government. *...(Time-bell rings)...* Sorry, I will take two more minutes. I am concluding.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You can reply later. You can add some more points when you reply. You will get a chance to reply. Just move the motion. Let other Members speak.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, I will talk about major points of this Bill. This particular Bill seeks to address five vital issues. One, merit should be the criteria for admission. That is one important thing. Then, there is a provision for free seats. Sixty per cent of the total seats in these institutions are made as free seats and these free seats should be made available to the needy students, including socially and educationally backward sections of our society. Admission process should be fair and transparent. A provision for that purpose is also made in this particular legislation. Then, there is a total ban on collection of capitation fee. These are the vital points that have been made in this particular Bill. I am requesting all the hon. Members to support this particular Bill, and I again request this august House to adopt this particular Bill for the future of our country and for the future of the students of our country. Thank you, Sir.

The question was proposed.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I fully support the Self-Financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015, moved by Shri K.K. Ragesh.

Sir, first of all, I would like to know as to who is present from the Government side. There is no Minister from the HRD Ministry! Then, what is the use of our discussing this Bill? Who is going to reply?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Prof. Katheria is here. He is the Minister of State.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Okay, Sir. We all know that education is an important thing today. The Government cannot afford to give education to the entire country. Therefore, in India, in every State, there are private colleges for engineering, medical sciences and other graduate courses. So, what the Bill says is very important. Even though various engineering, medical and other colleges are being controlled by various mechanisms adopted by the Government of India and the State Governments, it is necessary to have a comprehensive regulatory system for this. That is the main concept of this Bill.

I must say that education is an important means, and opportunities for our young boys and girls to get education should be there, including higher and technical education. This has to be provided both by the Central and State Governments and the community in general. There is a need to bring, as I said just now, comprehensive legislation to control and regulate professional and educational institutions. Though there are many regulations for the universities and the higher education sector, there is no comprehensive legislation to control and regulate the self-financing professional and educational institutions like engineering colleges, medical colleges, architecture, fashion designing, etc. Education is still in the Concurrent List and, therefore, both the Centre and the States can make laws with regard to education, including higher education. However, the Central Government can determine standards for the higher educational institutions while the State Governments can take it as a model and implement them.

Now, I would like to mention about UGC, AICTE, Medical Council of India, which are the authorities regulating and controlling the higher education institutions. There is the University Grants Commission which regulates universities and colleges teaching general subjects. It has the power to determine and maintain standards and disburse the grants. However, the technical education is regulated by the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE). According to the available data of 2010, there are 336 universities, 130 deemed universities and 33 institutions of national importance, like IITs, NITs, which can also award degrees, but, unfortunately, though we have 336 universities and 130 deemed universities, we are not there in top 100 universities of the world. It means that still we are much below in respect of the quality of education.

Sir, the institutions offering medical, dental, nursing, pharmacy, legal or teacher education are regulated by the Medical Council of India, the Dental Council of India, the Bar Council of India, etc., etc. Sir, the quality of education in the universities and professional institutions needs to be improved. As I said just now, no Indian university finds a place in the top 100 universities. The Review Committee set up by

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]

the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2009 found 88 out of 130 deemed universities to be of poor quality and suffering from problems such as control of management boards by nominees of the sponsoring trust or government functionaries.

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

Sir, here, I am highlighting the fact that the quality is very important and it is the duty of the Government of India, the Ministry of Human Resource Development to focus on improving the quality in all self-financing institutions. I would like to know the response as well as the future plans of the Government.

Sir, the National Knowledge Commission and the Yashpal Committee have made certain recommendations for improving the quality of education and making higher education available at affordable cost to all citizens. The National Knowledge Commission submitted a series of reports in 2006 to 2009 and the Yashpal Committee submitted its report in 2009, and, here, I would like to mention a few of their recommendations. It recommended establishing a National Commission of Higher Education and Research through Constitutional amendment, to replace UGC, AICTE, NCTE and DEC. Professional bodies such as MCI and BCI should conduct qualifying examinations. They should create norms for accreditation and certify accrediting agencies, independent of the Government. There was also a suggestion to constitute a National Education Tribunal to adjudicate the disputes. Education should be made affordable to all aspiring students either through scholarships or loans. The best colleges should be upgraded to university status. Governance structure should preserve the autonomy and accountability of universities. It also recommended that Vice-chancellors should be appointed through a search process and on merit alone.

So, these are the important recommendations of the Yashpal Committee. Sir, I would like to tell the Government that they must bear these in mind, and, I would also like to have a response from the Government. What are your future plans? When are you going to attain this quality, and when are we going to see India on the world map and when will India get into the top 100 universities?

Sir, the Bill provides for sixty per cent of the total seats as free seats and 40 per cent seats to be payment seats. It is a wonderful idea of giving 60 per cent seats as free seats. As our friend said, now, fifty per cent seats are actually vacant. Why should we not give these as free seats? The colleges are simply keeping quiet. I want to know the response of the Government on this issue. What is the action that they are going to take in the future? The Bill provides, and, I agree with him that free seats should be filled up on the basis of the rankings obtained.

Sir, the fee structure for admission to engineering and medical colleges needs to be regularized so that poor students are not exploited by the management. Fee structure for getting payment seat is really a complicated process because when you give sixty per cent free seats and forty per cent payment seats, then, the finance has to come from the candidates availing the payment seats. However, in the name of management quota, there are complaints that the management is extracting lakhs of rupees from the candidates by merely exploiting the situation. That is not proper and it should be regulated by the Government.

This Bill provides for constituting an Expert Committee to recommend fee structure in the minority self-financing institutions. It is very important. The fee actually has not been uniform in this country. Each District, each State and different parts of the country have got different fee structures. So, there should be a uniform fee structure all over the country. It is a good point mentioned in the Bill and I strongly support this. India's Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education is very low, 13 per cent. It is high time that high education should be made available to all youth of India, whoever is interested, because India's Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education is about 13 per cent, whereas in USA, it is 81 per cent; in UK, it is 54 per cent; in Japan, it is 49 per cent and in Malaysia, it is 27 per cent.

After the bifurcation of the State, under the AP State Reorganization Act, many educational institutions are to be set up in Andhra, but not much progress has been made. They are saying that we have already laid the foundation stone, we have given ₹ 3 crores, ₹ 4 crores. The Government has provided to Andhra Pradesh ₹ 12 crore for Indian Institute of Technology. The Government says that they have provided ₹ 226 crores for institutes of technology, but nothing has come. They have provided ₹ 3 crores to Indian Institute of Information and Technology, Kurnool. They say they have started the project. What is ₹3 crores? For Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, they have given only ₹18 crores. For Indian Institute of Management at Visakhapatnam, they have hardly given ₹13 crore. For Central University also, they have given a very small amount.

[THE VICE-CHARIMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY) *in the Chair*]

So, in other words, for namesake, they claim that we have started all committed institutions. But they are absolutely at a very initial stage. At this rate, it will take another 5-6 years or 10 years. Nobody knows when they will come. So, they must have a comprehensive plan that is for all these technical institutions. When are they going to complete? What is the total amount which is required? How are they providing it? In this Budget, they have provided nothing. Therefore, it is also very important to us. So, keeping in view the low ratio of students in higher education,

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]

the Government should facilitate and create infrastructure for opening more higher educational institutions in the country. If you take Andhra Pradesh, as I told you just now, after the bifurcation of the State, under the AP State Reorganization Act, many educational institutions are to be set up but nothing has happened. For namesake, they are saying that they have started. I do not accept that they have started. I call upon the Government that they must bring a comprehensive plan. The Government should focus its attention on expansion, inclusiveness and quality education to all aspiring young boys and girls in the country. I am raising all these points to focus attention on the expansion, inclusiveness and quality education to all aspiring citizens of the country.

To sum up, I agree with hon. Member Mr. Ragesh that there is an urgent need to control and regulate educational institutions. So, in conclusion, I would like to say that Mr. Ragesh has brought a wonderful Bill. What we need is the commitment of the Government. How can we have the quality? How will you attain the quality in the country? We have got 300 universities and thousands of colleges but compared to international level, the quality is very low. So, what efforts is the Ministry taking to build up the quality? This is number one.

Secondly, what regulation are they going to have for providing uniformity in fees for the medical colleges and also for engineering institutes? Thirdly, how are they going to control the colleges which are taking undue advantage and doing malpractices by collecting money from the students? For this also, you must have a mechanism.

Lastly, they must have an overall mechanism, a regulatory system, as yesterday we have passed the Bill for a Regulation Commission for the real estate. Like that, for the entire nation, there should be a centralised regulation commission with full powers who will control and focus on attaining the quality, controlling the fees and controlling the colleges' managements so that they do not take any undue advantage and get a good image. We must try that India must also be included in the World's 100 universities. Thank you all.

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आदरणीय श्री के. के. रागेश जी ने बहुत परिश्रम करके शिक्षा से संबंधित एक बिल इस हाउस में प्रस्तुत किया है। मैं उनके परिश्रम का स्वागत करता हूँ, परन्तु शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में आजकल जो चल रहा है, उसी पर अध्ययन करके बड़े परिश्रम से वे एक बिल लाए हैं। मैं जहां तक सोचता हूँ, इस बिल के अंदर जितनी परिपूर्णता होनी चाहिए थी, उसका बहुत बड़ा अभाव दिखाई देता है।

देश में कई दिनों से न्यू एजुकेशन पॉलिसी की चर्चा चल रही है। मैं सोचता हूँ कि सरकार की नई शिक्षा नीति निश्चित ही एक अर्थपूर्ण शिक्षा नीति होगी, जिसमें सरकार आपकी समस्याओं

का भी समाधान लेकर आएगी। इन बातों को रखते हुए मैं यहां पर अपने विचारों को प्रस्तुत करने की कोशिश करता हूँ, जैसे कि शिक्षा ज्ञान के लिए होती है। अभी इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज के लिए बड़ा स्ट्रेस दिया गया और कहा गया कि उनमें काफी सीट्स खाली हैं, वे क्यों नहीं भरी जाती हैं। अगर मैं सच कहूँ तो भारत के अंदर आज 55 लाख इंजीनियर्स जॉबलेस हैं और वे 5,000 रुपये महीने की तनख्वाह पर भी नौकरी करने के लिए तैयार हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में, वहां कोई भी पढ़ने के लिए जाने वाला नहीं है। इस प्रकार, इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में खाली पड़ी सीटों को भरने का मतलब विद्यार्थियों के भविष्य को और बरबाद करना है, जबकि प्रोफेशनल वृत्ति ही प्रोफेशन कही जाती है। वैसे तो शिक्षा ज्ञान के लिए होनी चाहिए, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से हमारे देश के अंदर अभी तक शिक्षा केवल डिग्री, पढ़ाई और नौकरी के नाम पर हुई है। आज अगर थोड़ी-बहुत चर्चा चल रही है तो वह स्किल के नाम पर चल रही है। अगर मैं सच कहूँ तो शिक्षा ज्ञान के लिए होनी चाहिए, नौकरी के लिए नहीं होनी चाहिए। सरकार की मूलभूत नीति में यह परिवर्तन आना और देश के सभी लोगों की सोच में, ऐटिट्यूड में बदलाव आना देश के लिए अत्यंत आवश्यक है। जब तक यह ऐटिट्यूड चेंज नहीं होगा, भारत कभी भी दुनिया का पहला देश नहीं बन सकता है।

इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए मैं आज कई चीजों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने अभी हायर एजुकेशन और कॉलेजेज के बारे में कहा है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे कणार्टक के अंदर टीचर्स ट्रेनिंग कॉलेजेज हैं, लेकिन आज साढ़े पांच लाख लोग जॉबलेस हैं। सरकार के पास कोई निश्चित नीति नहीं है। अगर किसी चीज या क्षेत्र के पढ़ाई की मार्केट में डिमांड है, तो उसका 20 प्रतिशत ज्यादा हो, यह ठीक है, लेकिन आज प्रोडक्शंस मनमाने तरीके से बढ़ाए जा रहे हैं, लोग अंदर से कॉलेज खोलते जा रहे हैं और फिर बाद में ऐसी स्थिति हो रही है कि न तो टीचर्स ट्रेनिंग कॉलेज में विद्यार्थी हैं और न ही इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में विद्यार्थी हैं। यह एक दयनीय स्थिति है।

दूसरा, लोग किसान के बेटे के नाम पर एग्रीकल्चर कॉलेज में पढ़ने के लिए जाते हैं, लेकिन अगर मैं सच कहूँ तो हर 100 में से एक आदमी भी खेती करने के लिए वहां से वापस नहीं आता है, जो एक प्रकार से धरती माता के अपमान की बात है। आखिर क्या कारण है कि ऐसा हो रहा है? ऐसा इसलिए हो रहा है कि हजारों सालों तक अलग-अलग लोगों के हाथों में काम करते-करते हमारी ऐसी दयनीय मानिसकता बन गई है कि हम सोचते हैं कि एकमात्र नौकरी ही सर्वश्रेष्ठ है। इस देश को इस attitudinal chain से निकलना होगा। मैं कई बार विद्यालयों में बच्चों से पूछता हूँ कि बड़े होकर आप देना पसंद करते हैं या मांगना पसंद करते हैं, तो बच्चे कहते हैं कि हम देना पसंद करते हैं। फिर जब मैं उनसे पूछता हूँ कि देने वाले का हाथ ऊपर रहता है या लेने वाले का हाथ ऊपर रहता है, तो वे कहते हैं कि देने वाले का हाथ ऊपर रहता है। फिर जब मैं उनसे पूछता हूँ कि देने वाला मालिक होता है या मांगने वाला मालिक होता है? इस पर बच्चे कहते हैं कि देने वाला मालिक होता है। लेकिन, आज हमारे देश के सारे घरों में मां-बाप अपने बच्चों को सरकारी या प्राइवेट कंपनी के अंदर नौकर बनाना चाहते हैं। जबकि उन्हें यह भी मालमू है कि साक्षात् सृष्टिकर्ता, भगवान भी आकर देश के सभी लोगों को नौकरी नहीं दे सकते हैं। आज हमारे देश में जो आंकड़े सच्चे स्वरूप में सामने हैं, उन आंकड़ों के अनुसार, जनसंख्या के आधार पर — चाहे किसी की भी सरकार आए, राज्य और राष्ट्र की सरकार, प्राइवेट कम्पनी, इंडस्ट्री — सबको मिलाकर हर सौ आदमियों के पीछे आठ से ज्यादा लोगों को नौकरी नहीं दी जा सकती है, लेकिन आज हर सौ आदमियों के अनुपात में नौकरी के लिए

[श्री बसावाराज पाटिल]

60 लोग पागल हैं, जबकि यह निश्चित है कि उनमें से 52 लोगों को नौकरी नहीं मिलने वाली है, फिर भी वे नौकरी पाने का नशा रखते हैं और निराश होकर घर वापस जा रहे हैं। महोदय, पढ़ाई इसलिए होती है कि विद्यार्थी जैसे-जैसे ज्यादा पढ़ता है, वैसे-वैसे उसका मनोबल बढ़ता जाना चाहिए, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से आज क्या हो रहा है? मुझसे आईएएस की तैयारी करने वाले विद्यार्थी रोज़ मिलने के लिए आते हैं। जब आईएएस के रिज़ल्ट में वे पास नहीं होते हैं तो उनका मुंह छोटा हो जाता है। अभी मैंने लगभग 2,000 विद्यार्थियों से बात की। जब मैंने उनसे कहा कि आप 2,000 विद्यार्थी यहां बैठे हैं, अगर बहुत हुआ तो आप में से 5 लोग पास होंगे। उस समय बच्चों को गुस्सा आता है कि हमें encourage नहीं किया। मैंने कहा कि आप बताओ, आप आकाश के पंछी बनना चाहते हो या पिंजरे के पंछी बनना चाहते हो। अगर आप आईएएस पास करेंगे तो एक आफिस में बैठकर, 15 साल तक डीसी बनकर एक जिले में काम कर सकते हैं। पढ़ाई जब ज्ञान के लिए होती है, अगर वह परीक्षा में पास भी नहीं होता है, तब भी उस ज्ञान का वह सारी दुनिया में उपयोग कर सकता है। इस पर बच्चों ने कहा कि हम आकाश के पंछी बनना चाहते हैं। हमारे बच्चों को आकाश का पंछी बनाने के लिए पढ़ाना होगा, विशाल दुनिया के अंदर अपना वर्चस्व स्थापित करने के लिए खड़ा करना होगा। आज केवल नौकरी पाने के नाते से वे पढ़ाई करते हैं। फिर जिसको नौकरी नहीं मिलती है, उसका चेहरा मुरझा जाता है, वह निराशा में रहता है, कई लोग तो 40-45 साल तक दर-दर भटकते रहते हैं, खेत बेचते हैं, ज़मीन बेचते हैं। एक तरफ धरती माता की सेवा करने के लिए कोई नहीं है और दूसरी तरफ नौकरी पाने के लिए वे पागलों के समान पीछे लगे हुए हैं। हमारे देश के इस attitude को चेंज करना होगा। हमारे देश में इस नौकरी के नाम पर पिछले 50-60 साल में, जो traditional professions थे, हज़ारों सालों से जो घरेलू उद्योग थे, उनका हमने नाश कर दिया है। अब हम नए सिरे से सोच रहे हैं कि skill development करो, traditional skill को भी degree दो, traditional skill को भी certificate दो। एक तरफ 50-60 साल में हमने उनकी हत्या की और अब फिर उनको पुनर्जन्म देने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। कितना बड़ा अपराध हमने अपनी पीढ़ियों के साथ किया! आज करोड़ों विद्यार्थियों और जवानों के लिए हमने अपने देश में रोड पर खड़े होने की स्थिति तैयार की है। इस पर हमें बहुत seriously सोचना होगा। मैं माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री जी से यह आग्रह करूंगा कि नयी शिक्षा नीति जो होगी, मैं विश्वास करता हूं कि वह शिक्षा नीति ज्ञान के लिए होनी चाहिए, वह शिक्षा नीति आकाश के पंछी बनाने के लिए होनी चाहिए, जो मस्ती और स्वतंत्रता के साथ अपने जीवन का भविष्य निर्मित करें। अभी मैंने एक विद्यालय में 12वीं कक्षा के एक विद्यार्थी से सवाल पूछा तो उसने मुझे कहा कि पाटिल जी, मैं आगे क्या करूं, मुझे यह समझ में नहीं आता है। सच है कि कोई भी बच्चे के मन की बात सुनने के लिए तैयार नहीं होता है। बच्चा जैसे ही घर में जन्म लेता है तो उसकी मां उस बच्चे को कुछ बनाना चाहती है। बाजू वाले घर में, पड़ोस में अगर किसी बच्चे ने मेडिकल किया हुआ है तो मेरे बेटे को भी मेडिकल करना चाहिए। उसका बाप कहता है कि बेटा, इतना पैसा नहीं है, तुम इंजीनियरिंग करो। घर में दादा-दादी कहते हैं, नहीं बेटा, तुम घर में ही रहना, तुम टीचर बनो, lecturer बनो। जब वह स्कूल, कॉलेज में पढ़ने के लिए जाता है और किसी विषय में ज्यादा नम्बर लेकर आता है तो टीचर बोलता है कि तुम mathematics में एमएससी करो, लेकिन उस बच्चे के मन में क्या है, उसे कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है। इसलिए जब तक उसके अंदर की भावना को समझे बिना हम जबर्दस्ती बच्चे पर थोपते रहेंगे, उसके परिणाम विपरीत ही निकलेंगे। इन सब चीज़ों का शिक्षा की नीति में, आज के आपके बिल में अभाव दिखाई देता है।

महोदय, मैं एक आश्चर्यजनक उदाहरण देता हूँ। एक रमेश बलीद नाम का लड़का था, जो 16 साल तक भैंसें चराते हुए इधर-उधर घूमता-फिरता रहता था, जिसने कभी स्कूल का दरवाजा नहीं देखा था, उसके पास बेंगलुरु के एक एनजीओ वाले आए। उसके गांव में 110 मकान हैं। उस लड़के को कहा कि तुमको हम अंग्रेजी पढ़ाने ले जाते हैं। वह 16 साल का लड़का, जो एक दिन भी स्कूल नहीं गया, वह अपने कंधे पर लाठी रखकर भैंस चराता रहा। जब वह अपनी मां को छोड़कर जाने के लिए हिचकिचा रहा था, तब उसके छोटे भाई ने कहा — बड़े भाई, हम भी पढ़े नहीं हैं, तुम भी पढ़े नहीं हो, तुम पढ़ने जाओ, मैं मां की देखभाल करूंगा। आप आश्चर्य करेंगे कि वह बालक 16 साल की उम्र में पढ़ाई करने के लिए गया और केवल चार महीने वह इंग्लिश पढ़ा। आज कर्णाटक प्रदेश के अंदर, he is number one popular speaker in Karnataka in the colleges, institutions and everywhere. He is a well-known name Ramesh Ballid. उसे अंबानी परिवार वालों ने 50 हजार रुपये में नौकरी देने को कहा, लेकिन उस बालक ने कहा कि मेरी मां ने कहा है कि मुझे मेरे गांव में रहकर जनता की सेवा करनी है। इसलिए मैं आपकी नौकरी करने के लिए नहीं आऊंगा। मैं अपने गांव में बच्चों के साथ रहूंगा, मैं अपने गांव को नहीं छोड़ूंगा। इस प्रकार के मौलिक विचारों को बच्चों के मन में भरना चाहिए। उस आदमी को चार महीने में ज्ञान कैसे आया, उसके दिमाग के अंदर मां ने कुछ नहीं लिखा था, बाप ने कुछ नहीं लिखा था, दादा-दादी ने कुछ नहीं लिखा था, क्योंकि बच्चा एक क्लीन स्लेट होता है। हम लोग ही अपने बच्चों का भविष्य बरबाद कर रहे हैं। इसीलिए बच्चे के मन में क्या है? हम थोड़ा भी, उसके बारे में नहीं सोचेंगे, तो हम अपने ऊपर ही नहीं, बल्कि इस देश के साथ भी अन्याय करेंगे। मैं कहता हूँ कि अपने ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम जी की जो सोच है, उनकी जो शिक्षा की नीति है, जिस "लीड इंडिया" नाम की संस्था से वे पढ़ाई को प्रोत्साहित करते हैं, वे कहते हैं कि पहले बच्चों से interact करो, उनके मन की भावना को समझो। बच्चे 30 प्रकार की अलग-अलग स्किल्स में होशियार होते हैं, तो उनको बोलो कि तुम इस फील्ड के लीडर हो, तुम विज्ञान के लीडर हो, तुम साहित्य के लीडर हो, तुम भाषण के लीडर हो, तुम खेल के लीडर हो, तुम प्रबंध करने के लीडर हो, इस प्रकार उसको लीडर बनाओ और फिर बोलना कि तुम्हारी इस लीडरशिप को इस देश की और दुनिया की ऊंचाइयों तक ले जाना है। इसीलिए तुमको कम से कम डिग्री तक पढ़ना होगा, तभी वह अपनी आशा के लिए अन्य विषयों को भी पढ़ेगा। इसके बाद ही कोई अर्थपूर्ण नतीजा निकलेगा।

हम कहते हैं कि 2020 में भारत दुनिया के अंदर सबसे ज्यादा नौजवानों वाला देश हो जाएगा, लेकिन ये केवल नाम से नौजवान हैं। अगर उसमें सच्चा पुरुषार्थ होता, तो पढ़ा-लिखा नौजवान गांव में खेती करने के लिए जाता। आज गांव बरबाद और सूने पड़े हैं। आगे आने वाला चित्र इतना भयानक लग रहा है कि अगले 14 साल के बाद गांवों की आबादी 30 प्रतिशत होगी और शहरों की आबादी 70 प्रतिशत होगी। अगर हमें खाने के लिए अन्न नहीं मिलेगा, तो हम क्या खाकर जिंदा रहेंगे, देश के सामने यह एक भयानक संकट है।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से विनती करता हूँ कि आने वाली शिक्षा नीति के अंदर गांव, कृषि और गांव से जुड़े हुए जितने भी धंधे हैं — गांव का उत्पादन गांव में हो, गांव के उत्पादन की बिक्री गांव में हो, गांव वाला कपड़ा सिलाने, तरकारी लेने, दूध लेने, दही लेने गांव के बाहर न जाए। वह अपनी रोजमर्रा की 80 प्रतिशत छोटी-मोटी आवश्यकता की पूर्ति गांव में ही करे। अगर मैं सच कहूँ, तो आज़ादी से पहले गांव भारत में स्वतंत्र थे, अब ये बात उलटी हो गई है। अब

[श्री बसावाराज पाटिल]

गांव उजड़ गए हैं, गुलाम हो गए हैं, शहर जो गांव के सुख के लिए बने थे, आज शहर गांव का खून चूसने वाले बन गए हैं। हमारे attitude में, हमारी सोच में परिवर्तन लाने की अत्यंत आवश्यकता है। इसीलिए मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूं कि आज जो शिक्षा नीति चल रही है, उस पर आपने बड़ी मेहनत की है। जो हुनर है, उसको पढ़ने के लिए अवकाश मिलना चाहिए। उसके लिए आपने अलग-अलग प्रावधान किए हैं, लेकिन मूलतः हमारी शिक्षा की सोच ही आज तक गलत रास्ते पर चलती रही है। अभी भी, इस सरकार में हम skill पर आकर रुके हैं। फिर वापस जब तक हम ज्ञान के लिए शिक्षा प्राप्त नहीं करेंगे, तब तक भारत देश दुनिया का पहला देश नहीं बन सकता है। दुनिया में सबसे ज्यादा पूजा उसकी होती है, जिसके यहां ज्ञान होता है। एक जमाना था, जब हमारा देश 600-800 साल तक research में आगे था। अगर दुनिया के अंदर 100 संशोधन होते थे, तो उनमें से 97 संशोधन भारत के अंदर होते थे। आज बाहर देखने के लिए काफी सुविधाएं आई हैं, तरक्की हुई है, सम्पत्ति आई है, कार आई है, विमान आया है, लेकिन विश्व के संशोधन करने की हमारी क्षमता 97 से लेकर 03 पर आकर उतरी है। यह कितनी शर्मनाक बात है, हम कितने पीछे चले गए हैं। बाहरी दिखावा ज्यादा हो गया है और अंदर के ठोस गुण समाप्त हो गए हैं।

दूसरे, आज की राजनीति में अन्य-अन्य व्यवस्था के कारण देश का सबसे बड़ा मालिक किसान होता है। मैं तो अपने जीवन में यह मानता हूं कि सृष्टिकर्ता भगवान के बाद सबसे बड़ा देवता अगर दूसरा इस धरती पर कोई है तो वह किसान है। वह पशु, पक्षी, कृमि, कीट, नाना प्रकार के सभी जीवों को अन्न देकर खुद भी खाता है और दुनिया को भी अन्न देता है। यदि कोई बड़ा भगवान इस दुनिया में कोई है, तो वह किसान है, लेकिन उसको हमारी रोज की राजनीति ने भिखमंगा बनाकर खड़ा कर दिया है। हम रोज उनकी भलाई की बात करते हैं, वास्तव में हम उनकी कोई भलाई नहीं करते हैं। हमारी सोच में परिवर्तन की अत्यंत आवश्यकता है। आज भी हाथ से काम करने वाली हमारे देश की कला में असीम शक्ति है। जितनी महिला कामगार हैं, गांव में अलग-अलग प्रकार के होनहार होते हैं, इन सब चीजों के बारे में हमें सोचना होगा। आज भी दुनिया का जो एक्सपोर्ट होता है, वह 40 per cent घरेलू उद्योग से होता है, बड़े-बड़े कारखानों से नहीं होता है। हमारी सरकार की शिक्षा नीति ऐसी होनी चाहिए, जिसमें लोग मालिक बनें, सब नौकरी के लिए हाथ पसारने वाले न बनें। धन्या छोटा हो सकता है, धन्या बड़ा हो सकता है, लेकिन अपनी जगह पर वह मालिक ऐसा महसूस करेगा, वह आनन्द बड़ा होगा, वह संतोष बड़ा होगा और उसके द्वारा देश की छवि दुनिया में सबसे श्रेष्ठ हो सकती है। ऐसी कुछ महत्वपूर्ण बात आज इस सभा के अंदर रखते हुए, मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूं कि इतनी पढ़ाई के बाद आज चारों ओर शिक्षा की नीति में क्या हो रहा है? यदि मैं कहूंगा तो आपको और आश्चर्य होगा। सौ लोग 11A पास करते हैं, उनमें से 92 per cent लोग मल्टीनेशनल कम्पनी की सेवा करने जाते हैं। इस प्रकार से वे फिर हमारा सिर मुंडाने का काम करते हैं। क्या हमारे देश को लूटने के लिए उन सबसे बड़े विद्वान 11A के लोगों को तैयार किया? धीरे-धीरे हमारे देश की जो आज की सबसे बड़ी व्यवस्था है, आज का जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन चलता है, इसके ऊपर भी सवाल खड़े हो रहे हैं।

श्री जयराम रमेश: कुछ लोग पार्लियामेंट में भी आते हैं।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल: हां, वे कहीं भी आ जाते हैं। ऐसे ही सारे व्यवस्था चलाने वाले मेरे कई

मित्र रिटायर्ड IAS अधिकारी हैं। एक IAS व्यक्ति के प्रति पच्चीस साल, तीस साल से जो छवि थी, आज छवि समाप्त हो गई है। यही IAS अधिकारी दिल्ली की सरकार को अलग से सलाह देते हैं, यही IAS अधिकारी भारत सरकार को अलग से सलाह देते हैं और हम आपस में झगड़ते हैं। क्या उनके लिए कोई नियम नहीं है, उनके लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है? मैं नहीं कहता, एक IAS अधिकारी ने कहा कि अगर हर साल IAS अधिकारी रिटायर होते हैं, जिनकी 100 में से 85 लोगों की छवि खराब है। अगर मेरे देश के अंदर IIT और IAS के लोग दूध के समान स्वच्छ हैं, अगर इनकी नीयत ही खराब हो जाएगी, तो हम इस देश के भविष्य को कैसे बना सकते हैं? इसीलिए मैं अपने आदरणीय मित्र से विनती करता हूँ कि आप परिश्रम से बिल लाए हैं, मैं आपको सौ-सौ बार धन्यवाद देता हूँ, लेकिन शिक्षा के द्वारा जो श्रेष्ठ परिवर्तन आना चाहिए, इस भारत देश को कल फिर एक बार विश्व का गुरु बनाना चाहिए, उस दिशा में जो मौलिक विचार होना चाहिए, वह आपके बिल में नहीं है। अभी तक सरकार ने जितने भी काम किए हैं, वे पूर्णता की तरफ जा रहे हैं। उस ज्ञान की शिक्षा से हम अभी दूर हैं, इसीलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से विनती करता हूँ कि कल जो नई शिक्षा नीति आएगी, वह ज्ञान की शिक्षा नीति होगी। कल जो नई शिक्षा नीति आएगी, वह नौकरी वालों को सम्मान देनी वाली नहीं, हर तरह के लोगों को धोबी, दर्जी, चमार और कुम्हार, हर वृत्ति वाले को गौरव से देखने की होनी चाहिए। क्या बिना जूते पहने हम जिंदा रह सकते हैं? क्या हम बिना बाल कटाए जिंदा रह सकते हैं? क्यों नहीं उनको गौरव मिलना चाहिए? आज फ्रांस और जर्मनी जैसे देशों में इन व्यक्तियों को जो गौरव प्राप्त है, भारत के अंदर भी इनको वही गौरव मिलना चाहिए। हमारी शिक्षा नीति के अंदर इस प्रकार की टोटल थिंकिंग होने की जरूरत है। इन सभी तथ्यों के आधार पर मैं माननीय सदस्य से विनती करता हूँ कि आप जो बिल लाए हैं, उसके लिए मैं आपके परिश्रम को सौ बार प्रणाम करता हूँ, लेकिन यह जो चलती हुई गाड़ी के लिए आप बिल लाए हैं, यह गाड़ी ही गलत रास्ते पर जा रही है। नई शिक्षा नीति आने वाली है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी, माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी से विनती करते हुए कहता हूँ कि अपने देश की शिक्षा के बारे में एक ठोस सोच बने। इस देश का एक नया उज्ज्वल भविष्य हो, जहां दुनिया में सबसे ज्यादा रिसर्च स्कॉलर भारत से निकलें, दुनिया के मालिक बनने वाले व्यक्ति इस देश से निकलें। दुनिया में अपने दिमाग को बेचकर गुलामों जैसा काम करने वाले नौकरों के लिए यह देश नहीं है। यदि दुनिया का मालिक और दिशा-निर्देश बनकर काम करने वाला भारत बनाने की शिक्षा नीति आएगी तो वह इस देश के लिए सबसे आनन्ददायक शिक्षा नीति होगी। यदि हमारी सरकार इस प्रकार की शिक्षा नीति के लिए काम करेगी, तो निश्चित तौर पर इस देश के अंदर मोदी सरकार के लिए गौरव की छवि आएगी। इस छवि के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी काम करें, ऐसी विनती माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष के द्वारा करते हुए मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहूंगा कि अगर आप मेरी बात से सहमत हैं तो इन श्रेष्ठ विचारों के बैकग्राउंड में अपना बिल वापस लेकर सरकार द्वारा इन तथ्यों के आधार पर एक नया बिल लाने के लिए अपनी सारी ताकत लगाएं। मैं ऐसी विनती करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ और सबको प्रणाम करता हूँ।

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I support the Self-Financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015, mooted by my friend, Shri K.K. Ragesh. But, I hope, as suggested by the previous speaker, Shri Patil, the Government would bring in a Bill as early as possible.

[Shri Bhupinder Singh]

Sir, the very first Special Mention, after I took oath in this House, was on Universal Education Policy. Imperative Education for every Indian child of this country is the toppest priority and, then, equally comes agriculture. Sir, my friend is from the State of Kerala, and all of us know that Kerala is a 100 per cent literacy State in the country. And on public awareness also, it is No.1; no other State is even near its position. As Minister of Information and Public Relations in the State, I was going through the figures till 1981. As for newspaper readers in the country, there is no match to Kerala. All other States are very much far behind Kerala. That is why he has rightly thought about this. But the point is, on the question of Universal Education Policy, the Minister also said, the other day, that we are in the process. We would like to know from the hon. Minister — though she is not here and her junior colleague is here — how much time they will take to bring this new Education Policy. This regulation is very, very essential for all professional educational institutions because these are mushrooming in numbers. And, as you know, Sir, outside small single rooms, there is a board, "University". May I know, specifically, from the Government as to how many Deemed Universities are there in this country today? Sir, it is not that I am against private institutions or against Deemed Universities. But I would like to bring to the attention of the Chair, and through him, to the entire House and the entire nation that the Apex Court of the country, the Supreme Court, has given a verdict that when there is an interview, the selection criterion is the career marking scheme. In Deemed Universities, they will prepare their own syllabuses; they will make their own questions; and they will give their own marks and grades. They are not controlled by the local, State universities which is established for years. They are the premier institutions of all State universities. They are the students. They will not get that percentage. They can never compete with these deemed-to-be-universities. Already there is a control over Government of India. AICTE is there and there is a Medical Council of India, but let us ask ourselves how many colleges are AICTE-approved, how many medical colleges are Medical Council of India approved and how many MBA, MCA colleges have full faculty. When this new Government came, when was the last time the Education Ministers' Conference was held and has this point been raised or not? If it has been raised, what are the proposals mooted by the different Ministers, who represent in the Ministers' Conference here in New Delhi? I would like to know when was the last time this Government convened the Ministers' Conference. Regarding...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY): Bhupinderji, although your time is over, you may speak for a few minutes more.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Thank you very much, Sir. You also know, Sir, that

within the State there is regional imbalance. Again, if you look at an engineering college or a medical college in each State of the country, then, a particular area of the capital city, of the States, all the colleges are confined. There are big areas, there are zones where there is not a single engineering college or a medical college of this type. Even, Sir, our IITs have no faculty. Have you ever thought about this? What has been the agenda of this Government when they called for Education Ministers' Conference of the States? Does this agenda have a priority? We don't have teachers at the school level, at the high school level, Sir, you know that to teach maths or science we have mushroom growth at the junior level. We have mushroom growth of art colleges, but for science colleges it has become a dream. For science faculties, even in the States also, it is not possible for them. I would like to know, through you, Sir, specifically from the Government, before the NDA Government in 2000, what was the GDP expenditure on education by the Government of India in the Education Department? How much did UPA-I increase? How much did UPA-II increase? Is it a fact that, this time, the HRD Ministry has reduced the amount from UPA-I? The amount has been reduced. Is it not a fact that the educational institutions and the allied people of this country are harping on, everyone of us is harping on that if anything is to be taken care of, then, it should be education. That is why globalisation was thought of. You go back to 1992. It is only because we can spend more money on our education, we can spend more money on health education, on medical colleges and medical treatment. It is because of this idea that we thought about globalisation. But, what has happened? Education is no more a priority. Education is not at all a priority of this Government. Sir, I would like to specifically know from the Government what is it that I have asked and how much money you are giving and providing for that. Not only, our friend said that, even Hon'ble President of India also regretted. As a Chancellor when he goes to different universities, we are not in 360 universities of the world. India has no place within 360 or 400 universities of the world. But, it is better late than never. It will be too late, Sir. I appeal to the Minister and the Government that they should rise to this occasion. They should not take more time. Sir, time saved is money saved. Once time is gone, it will never come back. No science, no technology can bring it back. Sir, '11th March, 3.50 pm' can never come back, let what may come. So, without losing any moment, the first priority of all of us, both the Houses of Parliament and the Government, is to see that we should have some restriction on fake colleges and fake faculty. They are there only on paper. It is a shame for us. There is university having branch outside the country as 'shore universities', 'international universities', 'world-class universities.' What are they? What is the concept of a 'world-class university?' I have asked this to many people. Today, I ask the hon. Minister and the Government to please define as to what 'world-class university' is.

[Shri Bhupinder Singh]

We are opening Central Universities. But, there is also no faculty in Central Universities. You have started a Central University in Koraput in KBK region in my State of Odisha. But, we have no full-fledged faculty in this University.

So, Sir, now, as my friend mentioned, we need more medical colleges. But, colleges should be distributed equally. There should not be regional imbalance. We should see that regional imbalance is removed. The previous Government has committed five medical colleges with 50 per cent support by the Government of India to my State of Odisha. You have agreed, but you have not given your share of money. Our Chief Minister, hon. Navin Patnaik, has started all colleges, building work has started, but you are not supporting those States which have already started the work. So, that money should be released, because it is all relating to this Bill.

I hope that the Government will come out and help. The hon. Minister must reply to the point raised. If he cannot reply today, he must make a commitment that the reply will be made available to all of us, to all Members, and we will get a concrete reply that the Government will bring regulation. But, at the same time, the Government should call immediately a meeting of all State Education Ministers and the Secretaries, have dialogue with them during the intersession of this Budget Session and make regulations so that there will be some control at the national level on all private institutions so that they can run as professional institutions. Thank you.

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री [प्रो. (डा.) राम शंकर कथेरिया]: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज माननीय सदस्य श्री के.के. रागेश जी के द्वारा जो विषय प्रस्तुत किया गया, उस विषय पर उन्होंने अपना मत प्रकट किया और इनके साथ ही हमारे अन्य माननीय सदस्यों, जैसे आदरणीय रेड्डी साहब, माननीय पाटिल साहब और माननीय भूपिंदर सिंह जी ने भी अपने-अपने विचार यहां प्रस्तुत किए।

महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। विशेष रूप से श्री के.के. रागेश जी के द्वारा इस विषय पर चिन्ता व्यक्त की गई है, लेकिन हम समझते हैं कि शिक्षा के संदर्भ में आज सभी लोग चिन्तित हैं। हमारे साथ-साथ शिक्षा के क्षेत्र से जुड़े हुए देश के बहुत सारे बुद्धिजीवी भी यही महसूस करते हैं कि हमारे देश में शिक्षा का जो स्वरूप है, उसमें परिवर्तन की आवश्यकता है। उन्होंने अपनी चर्चा में यह जो विषय रखा है, तो मैं मानता हूँ कि हमारे देश में बहुत से प्राइवेट संस्थान खुले हुए हैं। उन्होंने यह चिन्ता व्यक्त की कि गवर्नमेंट के हमारे जितने संस्थान हैं, उनमें कोई सीट खाली नहीं है, लेकिन जितने प्राइवेट संस्थान हैं, वहां बड़ी संख्या में, लाखों की संख्या में, सीट्स खाली हैं। उन्होंने यह भी चिन्ता व्यक्त की है, तो निश्चित रूप से मैं उनकी इस बात से सहमत हूँ। उन्होंने जिस तरह के आंकड़े भी दिए हैं, तो मैं मानता हूँ कि अभी भी जो 49 परसेंट सीट्स प्राइवेट संस्थानों में खाली हैं, यह निश्चित रूप से चिन्ता की बात है।

उन्होंने इसी के साथ-साथ यह बात भी रखी है कि प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में जितने संस्थान हैं, वहां की फीस के बारे में जिस ढंग से उन्होंने चिन्ता व्यक्त की है कि वहां रसीद भी नहीं दी जाती

है और वे अपने ढंग से वसूली करते हैं। उन्होंने विशेष रूप से गरीब छात्रों के बारे में, और गरीब छात्रों में भी प्रतिभावान छात्र के बारे में, चिन्ता व्यक्त की है। निश्चित रूप से फीस के आधार पर हमारे बहुत से प्रतिभावान छात्र इन संस्थानों में शिक्षा पाने से वंचित रह जाते हैं। इस बात की उन्होंने जो चिन्ता की है, तो मैं मानता हूँ कि उन्होंने यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय यहां पर रखा है और मैं इस बात से सहमत भी हूँ।

इसी के साथ-साथ, उन्होंने जो अन्य विषयों पर चिन्ता व्यक्त की है कि सरकार की तरफ से इस दिशा में किस तरह की पहल होनी चाहिए और सरकार की तरफ से इन सारे विषयों में क्या पहल हो रही है, तो उस संदर्भ में भी मैं आपको बताना चाहूँगा। लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ, जो अन्य सदस्यों ने अपने-अपने सुझाव दिए हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि वे भी बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव हैं। उन महत्वपूर्ण सुझावों पर इस संदर्भ में आने वाले समय में निश्चित रूप से हम सब को चिन्ता करने की आवश्यकता है।

इस सरकार से जो अपेक्षा की गई है, मैं यही कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे यहां प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में ये जितने सारे संस्थान हैं, उनकी ठीक से रैंकिंग हो, इसके लिए पहली बार हमारी सरकार ने एक नया रैंकिंग सिस्टम डेवलप किया है। हमने सभी संस्थानों से यह अपील भी की है और एक बड़ी संख्या में ऐसे संस्थानों ने अपनी सहमति भी दी है। हमने कुछ मानक तय किए हैं। उनके आधार पर हमारे प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में जितने संस्थान हैं, उन सभी संस्थानों का ठीक तरह से मूल्यांकन होगा। इसी के साथ-साथ, एआईसीटीई की जो हमारी व्यवस्था है, उसके अंतर्गत फीस के बारे में और प्रवेश के बारे में जो हमारे अधिकार हैं, उन अधिकारों के आधार पर, हमें समय-समय पर जब कहीं से किसी तरह की शिकायत मिलती है, तो निश्चित रूप से हम लोग उसको गम्भीरता से लेते हुए उस पर कार्रवाई करने का भी काम करते हैं और हमने काम किए हैं।

इसी के साथ-साथ, इस पर बहुत सारे महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव आये हैं कि हम करने क्या जा रहे हैं। सब लोगों ने इस बात पर भी बहुत चिन्ता व्यक्त की है कि जब दुनिया भर के 200 विश्वविद्यालयों की बात आती है, तो उनमें हिन्दुस्तान के किसी विश्वविद्यालय का नाम नहीं आता है। सामान्यतः हम सब यह बात सुनते हैं और सब जगह चर्चा में भी यह विषय आता है, लेकिन मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहूँगा कि यह चिन्ता की बात है। हमारी सरकार ने, विशेष रूप से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस संदर्भ में शुरुआत में ही, हमारे संस्थान कैसे अच्छे हो सकें और दुनिया में बराबरी कर सकें, इसके लिए हमने ग्लोबल एजुकेशन की दृष्टि से ज्ञान के माध्यम से इस साल एक शुरुआत की है कि दुनिया की जो बड़ी-बड़ी यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, वहां से हमने 500 प्रोफेसर्स को और...

डा. टी. सुब्बारामी रेड्डी: एक मिनट। यह प्वाइंट मैंने रेज किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... इसमें आपने मेरा नाम नहीं बोला। जो प्वाइंट मैंने रेज किया है, उस पर आप मेरा नाम ले कर कहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. (डा.) राम शंकर कथेरिया: ठीक है। ...(व्यवधान)... आपने उसकी चिन्ता व्यक्त की है। यह एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बात आपने उठायी थी और रागेश जी ने भी उठायी थी। मैं निश्चित रूप से मानता हूँ कि यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है और हम सबके लिए चिन्ता का विषय है। यह चिन्ता का विषय इसीलिए है, क्योंकि 200 यूनिवर्सिटीज में हमारी एक भी यूनिवर्सिटी का नाम नहीं है। हम सबको यह जानकारी है कि जो रैंकिंग का सिस्टम है, इसके लिए दो संस्थाएं हैं, वे दोनों यूएसए based हैं। इनमें रैंकिंग के लिए जो 60-70 हजार लोग involve होते हैं, उनमें

[प्रो. (डा.) राम शंकर कथेरिया]

4.00 P.M.

हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों की संख्या बहुत कम है। सामान्यतः यह हमारे स्वभाव में आ गया है कि हम लोग बोलते हैं कि हमारे देश की युनिवर्सिटीज़ विश्व की टॉप 200 युनिवर्सिटीज़ में नहीं हैं। अभी चर्चा में यह विषय भी आया कि 300 युनिवर्सिटीज़ में भी हिन्दुस्तान की कोई यूनिवर्सिटी नहीं है। हमें चिंता है कि आज़ादी के इतने दिनों के बाद हमारे देश की युनिवर्सिटीज़ का नाम विश्व की 50 या 10 युनिवर्सिटीज़ में आता, लेकिन आज ऐसा नहीं है। यह हम सबके लिए चिंता का विषय है।

आपको और हम सबको यह जानकर प्रसन्नता होगी कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बजट में कहा है कि देश में वर्ल्ड लेवल की 10 युनिवर्सिटीज़ प्राइवेट सेक्टर में और वर्ल्ड लेवल की 10 युनिवर्सिटीज़ गवर्नमेंट सेक्टर में स्थापित हैं, ताकि शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में सामान्यतः जो प्रश्न हमारे सामने आते हैं, उनका हम उत्तर दे सकें और भारत केवल अपने लिए ही नहीं बल्कि पूरी दुनिया के लिए शिक्षा का केंद्र बने, उस दिशा में हम तेजी के साथ आगे बढ़ सकें।

इसी के साथ-साथ यह प्रश्न भी सामने आया कि इस क्षेत्र में हमारी सरकार क्या करने जा रही है? आपने यह भी पूछा था कि देश के सारे सचिवों की जो मीटिंग बुलाई गई थी, उसमें क्या-क्या प्रस्ताव थे? यह सही है कि हमने देश के सभी शिक्षा सचिवों और शिक्षा मंत्रियों को बुलाया और उनके साथ नई शिक्षा नीति के बारे में चर्चा की। केवल यही नहीं, हमारी माननीय मंत्री जी यहां बैठी हैं, वे खुद देश के छः अलग-अलग क्षेत्रों गईं और वहां पर उन्होंने शिक्षा से जुड़े हुए अधिकारी, शिक्षा मंत्री और समाज में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले जो लोग हैं, उनके साथ दिन-दिन भर बैठ कर शिक्षा के संबंध में डिस्कशन किया। उन्होंने जो सुझाव दिए, उनको हमने, नई शिक्षा नीति के लिए जो कमेटी बनी है, उसको सौंपा है। मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि आने वाले समय में जो नई शिक्षा नीति आएगी, उससे यहां पर जिन सारी समस्याओं को उठाया गया है, उनका निश्चित रूप से समाधान होगा।

माननीय के. के. रागेश जी ने जो चिंता व्यक्त की है, हम उन सारे विषयों पर निश्चित रूप से विचार करेंगे। नई शिक्षा नीति के संबंध में ब्लॉक एवं गांव स्तर से तथा ऑनलाइन भी लगभग 30 हजार लोगों ने सुझाव दिए हैं, जिनमें वे सारे प्रश्न हैं, जिनका आप सबने जिक्र किया है। हम उन सब पर विचार करके नई शिक्षा नीति की दिशा में बढ़ रहे हैं। हमने 30 विषयों को निश्चित किया है, जिनमें प्राइमरी के 13 विषय हैं और बाकी हायर एजुकेशन के हैं। इन सारे विषयों पर चर्चा करने के बाद देश के सामने जो नई शिक्षा नीति आएगी, उससे इन सब विषयों का समाधान होगा। इस पर जिन-जिन सदस्यों ने अपने-अपने सुझाव दिए हैं, उनके प्रति मैं धन्यवाद व्यक्त करता हूँ और विशेष रूप से के. के. रागेश जी से कहूंगा कि आपके सारे विषयों पर हम विचार करेंगे और चर्चा करेंगे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह: सर, मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं मिला है।

प्रो. (डा.) राम शंकर कथेरिया: आपने यह भी कहा था कि इसका उत्तर आप लिखित में दे दीजिएगा, इसीलिए हम आपके प्रश्नों का उत्तर लिखित में देंगे। आपको उत्तर जरूर मिलेगा।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY

AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Mr. Ragesh, hon. Minister has already assured that he will look into all your suggestions. ...(Interruptions)... He has assured you...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY): No, no. ...(Interruptions)... Listen to the Minister. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह: सर, वर्ल्ड क्लास की definition क्या है and what is that which is missing? ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY): No, no. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri K. K. Ragesh. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. Reddy. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: In the world among 100 universities, we have nowhere a chance. ...(Interruptions)... So, what is the Government's role in future? ...(Interruptions)... Of course, he has given some ideas, but your ideas...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY): I have called Shri K.K. Ragesh. ...(Interruptions)... Shri K. K. Ragesh. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Thank you, hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I am extremely happy and grateful to the hon. Members who are concerned about this vital issue and at the very outset, I would like to extend my gratitude to those Members who have supported this Bill. In fact, it is quite unfortunate that most of the issues raised, through this Bill, are not being properly addressed by the hon. Minister.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Yes, we must have different political affiliations, but I don't think that any of the Members in this august House can oppose the propositions made in this particular Bill. The question is that 49 per cent of the total seats in engineering colleges are lying vacant. Be it engineering colleges or medical colleges, all these institutions are charging exorbitant fee. Merit is being replaced with money power. That is the basic question. Students are not getting admitted in these institutions. I appeal, through you, Sir, to the hon. Minister that 49 per cent of the total seats are lying vacant. But, at the same time, we are not in a position to ensure reservation for the socially and educationally backward sections of our society in those institutions. They are not getting admitted because they are poor and they are not in a position to pay exorbitant fee being charged in these institutions. That is one side of the whole story. On the other side, 49 per cent of the total seats are lying vacant, Sir. Why can't we bring in a legislation to ensure that these seats are filled up with poor students? At present, these seats are lying vacant. So, why can't we bring in

[Shri K. K. Ragesh]

a legislation for ensuring reservation for the socially and educationally backward sections of our society in these institutions? That is the basic question. They are denied education, Sir. So, it is our responsibility, it is the responsibility of this august House to come up with such kind of a legislation. Various State Governments, be it Kerala Government, be it Karnataka Government, be Maharashtra Government or be it Andhra Pradesh Government, have made a lot of efforts to regulate these institutions. But, all of a sudden, our higher judiciary is coming in the scene, and unfortunately, such efforts are being stopped. I don't think any Member of the House is opposing all these propositions made in this particular legislation. That is why I am requesting, through you, Sir, the hon. Minister to assure this august House, at least, that the Government will come up with a legislation which would empower both the Central and the State Governments because education is in the Concurrent List to regulate fees and admissions in the private self-financing institutions. So, I am requesting the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to respond to this question.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, the Minister has already replied.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already replied, but she wants to say something. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, firstly, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the hon. Members who have expressed their concerns on various issues which are brought to the notice of the hon. Members and to the Government at large with regard to the condition of our professional courses institutions. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Minister of State, Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria for suitably answering all the concerns that have been highlighted. However, certain Members yet want certain clarifications on issues.

Firstly, there is the issue with regard to exorbitant fees being charged by institutions which are technical in nature and management institutions. I would like to say that the regulatory power for technical and management institutions, Sir, rests with the All India Council for Technical Education. And under the Act, there is a provision already existent which penalizes and has a definite action to be taken against those institutions that charge higher fees than permitted. I would also like to bring to the attention of the hon. Members that a committee, namely, the National Fee Committee, was constituted under the chairmanship of Justice Srikrishna. The recommendations of the Committee have already been approved by the AICTE. Additionally, if students face challenges with regard to these guidelines being, in any way, breached by an institution, the AICTE has a very, very responsive grievance redressal mechanism

through which the AICTE addresses the concerns of the students. Similarly, the same template is used even by the UGC. If a student finds, once they take admission, that the elements with regard to the institution, which are highlighted in the prospectus, are not there, then, the UGC also, through its portal addresses those grievances. I would like to highlight here that to initiate a collective response from both the regulators, the UGC and the AICTE have started an engagement, called 'know your college'. And, under the 'know your college' platform, which is also a mobile app, we have given details of every academic institution that is registered with the regulator, viz., the AICTE or the UGC. We have ensured that even details of academicians and professionals, engaged by those institutions, are in the public domain. Additionally what we have done is that if any institution is lying or misleading the public with regard to the information that they have registered with the regulator, then, the concerned citizen or student or parent can bring it to the notice of the regulator and the regulator takes appropriate action. I would also like to state here that our learned colleague, who has moved this particular Private Member Bill, is extremely concerned about the exorbitant fees and exorbitant moneys that the students have to dole out to seek education. Unfortunately, many in this House and across the nation will accept that education has become more or less a pursuit of certification and less about pursuit of excellence. And, it is our endeavour that education once again, under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister, becomes a pursuit of excellence because our nation, our civilization, as a whole, was claimed and acclaimed and applauded as *Jagat Guru* because of the kind of intellectuals, the kind of thinkers we had in our country. That is only possible if we give enough impetus not only to Science and Technology, but also to social sciences and pure sciences.

With regard to the hon. Member's concern that how education can be stopped from becoming exorbitant for students, especially who are from disadvantaged communities, I must here declare before the august House that in the Ministry we are in the process of starting a massive open online course platform, called, *Swayam*. The features of *Swayam* will be like this. We recognize that there is a huge number of dropouts after the eighth standard. And not many then gravitate from the eighth standard to tenth, twelfth, or for that matter, opt for higher education. To recognize this particular challenge, we also additionally applied ourselves to a solution though the MOOC platform and, currently, we have close to 500 courses. We also have an engagement with the National Institute Open Schooling (NIOS) for tenth and twelfth standard certification courses. These will also be available on the MOOC platform. These will also be on the mobile app., looking that the penetration of mobiles, which is higher in our country as compared to computers. We will ensure that all the courses that run on this particular platform, as engaged by the Government of

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

India and as designed by the Government of India, will be available to every Indian citizen free of cost, whether these be diploma courses or certificate courses or tenth standard course or twelfth standard course. We are hoping, through everybody's engagement and support, we can popularize it once it comes into the public domain. Currently, what the Ministry is working at is not merely designing the course through institutions, like, the Central Universities, IITs, IIMs, NITs but even some from the private sector, who want to contribute to the growth of education in the country, have been involved. What we are also doing, Sir, is that in conjunction with the UGC and the AICTE, we are ensuring that courses on this platform get adequate credit. I am sure my learned colleague knows the challenges that when you do an online course and you don't have a complimentary credit, it does not give you movement all across the country. The UGC and the AICTE are currently in the process of designating credits for each course, so that once any citizen who avails himself or herself of this free opportunity and who has to give a minimalistic fee to sit and give the exam and get the certification, that citizen gets ample credit, thereby giving them educational movement across the country, which means a citizen who engages on this platform, Sir, will, then, because of a Certificate/Diploma course done on this platform, get entrance into a physical college and university which is registered with the regulator. But the concern that many colleagues have expressed is also this. What about fly-by-night operators? What about those who fall outside the ambit of the regulator? Sir, I would like to here highlight that the UGC last year, actually, identified 21 fake universities in this country, and we, subsequently, put up a public notice warning citizens that these institutions are operating, they are not registered with a regulator; they are fleecing citizens and we also wrote to the concerned Chief Secretaries and Education Secretaries in the States stating that law and order is within the ambit of the State; these are the fake universities in your State; kindly take penal action so that no citizen is in any way inconvenienced. Similarly, if the AICTE which is in the technical field gets a similar complaint, the AICTE also takes appropriate penal action against those individuals and institutions. I would like to say that many Members here have expressed their concerns that what we are doing about having a world-class university in India. I would like to give a longer context to this particular answer, Sir. Firstly, the international agencies rank institutions across the world. Whatever be the parameters under which they rank institutions, one of the parameters is how many foreign students does that institution cater to? How many foreign faculty members does that institution employ? Whether the research done is a research done in English, that is given prominence. And, only journals which are identified by these ranking agencies are deemed fit for citation of publications. Thereby, from the Indian context, Sir, the challenge that rises is this. Firstly, most

of the Indian educational institutions are not catering to foreign students. They are, in fact, inclusively catering to only the Indian population. Hence, on that benchmark, many of our institutions do not meet the mark, because even the inclusive nature of our institutions is not recognised internationally.

Secondly, many of our academicians do research not in English but in regional Indian languages, and that research in Indian languages is also not recognised internationally. Even institutions like the Central Institute of Classical Tamil are not recognised internationally because for them, there is no research output in a journal of their liking, but for us, that institution is of national importance. Hence, my request is that to ensure that we support adequately through infrastructure, administratively through policy, 10 public institutions and 10 private institutions, as has been declared in the Budget, will be supported, so that institutions themselves set the benchmark in academics and infrastructure, including lab facilities, as to how that benchmark once met means that that institution now is of international quality. But my appeal is that there are many institutions in our country which are doing a breakthrough work in research and technology and social sciences. Let us encourage them indigenously as we are trying to do amongst ourselves in the national ranking framework. I am happy to report to this august House, Sir, this ranking framework was designed by the National Board of Accreditation in conjunction with the AICTE and the NAAC, the Accreditation body in our country under the Regulator, UGC. We opened up and we gave various parameters, including the research output of the institution, including the inclusive nature of the institution. And we also added how students, parents, academicians and citizens perceive that institution to be. We said that, for the first time, in the history of our country, let us rank our institutions that, in some way, serve our aspirations as a country.

I am happy to report, Sir, that the largest-ever exercise in the world in the Indian ranking framework was done. The agency that does the data analytics of international-ranking agencies is the one that is also helping us. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, one clarification, please.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, there is no time. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am sorry. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, it is only two hours. It is going to be over. ...(*Interruptions*)... No time. ...(*Interruptions*)... No time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I will say that over 5,000 institutions have added their research to this ranking framework; 3,600 institutions' data is getting analyzed. So, while we have, on the one hand, a policy intervention through the Budget so that institutions get internationalized, we also have, under GIAN, foreign faculty, at the cost of Government of India, coming and teaching in Government colleges at

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

no charge to any student, including students from disadvantaged communities, even in institutions like IITs, Sir, under this Government.

My colleague has, many a time, raised issues with regard to those citizens who are differently-abled. We have completely waived off fees for students who are differently-abled in IITs, for the first time, in the history of our country. So, I am only appealing to the hon. Member that there are many effective measures that we are taking, including, prescribing guidelines for charging tuition fees for professional courses as has been ordained by Justice Srikrishna, and AICTE has approved it. We have sent it to all the States so that the States which are empowered to take penal action — because law and order is under their jurisdiction — can take penal action. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Ragesh, you are privileged that you got reply from two Ministers, the Cabinet Minister and the MoS, and you heard a long reply. So, now you can withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: But, Sir, ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, your reply is over.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: But, unfortunately, the main issue that I had raised here is not being addressed. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is that? ...(*Interruptions*)... About vacant seats?

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, please.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, you have no right to reply again.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, this is not a reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is a query.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have only two hours for it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Presently, Sir, fee is being decided by the consortium of the private managements.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: She explained it.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: She had explained that it can be regulated by the AICTE. ...(*Interruptions*)... The hon. Minister had explained that it has been regulated by the AICTE. Be it AICTE or the Medical Council of India, fee is as per the Supreme Court Judgement of 11-Member Bench. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, she has replied to that point. *...(Interruptions)...*
The only point you have is, ... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Please. Two minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, there cannot be one more reply. *...(Interruptions)...*
There were two replies. There cannot be one more. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Two minutes, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Consortium of the private management is deciding the fee structure there. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is correct. She has explained it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: AICTE has no say over that Supreme Court Judgement. *...(Interruptions)...* 49 per cent of the seats are lying vacant. *...(Interruptions)...* What has the hon. Minister done to fill those seats? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I will come to that. You see, the point is, 49 per cent of the seats are vacant because the meritorious and poor people cannot pay their fees. There, can you do something? That is the thing.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I will only say this, Sir, that the the MOOC platform that I spoke about also has engineering courses and diploma certificates. That is why I said that IITs are also designing courses for this MOOC platform which will begin from the next academic year. But the thing that 49 per cent seats are vacant ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In the self-financing colleges.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Yes, in the self-financing colleges. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: They are vacant. One of the reasons is because there is no comparative between industry practices right now and the course that is taught within those institutions, and, many students are saying that if the curriculum does not complement the industry they seek to join, then why they should join that particular institution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Exorbitant fees also. *...(Interruptions)...* Exorbitant fees is the main reason, Madam. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, we have very carefully not only approved the Supreme Court directions and the Srikrishna Committee directions, but we have also sent it to the States, as my answer has exhaustively explained, that irrespective of our giving strict guidelines, if there is any violation and if it is brought to our notice, the Regulator and the State concerned do take action against that particular ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is a machinery for that.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: There is a measure which is already in place. But, in so far as the hon. Member's desire that technical education not be made more exorbitant is concerned, I am saying again that the Swayam platform will address that issue. IIT is providing their diploma and certificate courses on this particular platform.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, now, Mr. Ragesh, in the light of the reply and the assurance of the hon. Minister, would you like to withdraw your Bill?

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I would like to withdraw the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much. Now, Shri K. K. Ragesh wants to withdraw the Bill. Has he the leave of the House to withdraw the Bill?

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I take up the next Bill. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao, to move that the Bill further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, be taken into consideration. Dr. Ramachandra Rao, you may move the Bill and if you want to speak on that, you may do so.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) *in the Chair*.]

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, 2015

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Bill reads, "Be it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Act, 2015.
- (2) It shall come into force at once.
2. In the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, after section 100, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

100A. Notwithstanding anything contained contrary in this Act, the following shall be special provisions for the State of Andhra Pradesh, namely:-

 - (a) Andhra Pradesh-Telangana Council shall be set up by Central Government on the lines of North-Eastern Council comprising of the Chief Ministers of the two states with the Prime Minister or the Union Home Minister as its Chairperson to address issues of concern;

- (b) Special status shall be granted by Central Government for the State of Andhra Pradesh for ten years;
- (c) Revenue deficit of Andhra Pradesh shall be borne by Central Government till the State becomes financially viable;
- (d) A special package shall be given by Central Government to achieve a turnaround in the financial health of the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) Central assistance package shall be provided for developing backward areas of Andhra Pradesh particularly in the four districts of Rayalaseema and three districts of north coastal Andhra Pradesh at par with Bundelkhand and Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi package;

Sir, none of the Ministers concerned with this subject of the Bill are present in the House. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, it is really objectionable. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the Home Minister, the Finance Minister.....(Interruptions)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, none of the Ministers who are concerned with the Bill are here. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): The Minister of State for Home Affairs is here. ...(Interruptions)... MoS, Home, is here. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, we want the Finance Minister here. It is mainly about finance. ...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, actually, this issue relates to the Home Ministry and the hon. Minister of State, Home, is here. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home may be here, but we want the Finance Minister to be here. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, it is mainly about finances. ...(Interruptions)... We request the hon. Finance Minister to be present here. ...(Interruptions)... It is very important. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, the Home Minister cannot fulfill all the promises. ...(Interruptions)... The Minister of State, Home, may be here, but the Finance Minister must be here too. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Dr. Ramachandra Rao, you may speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... All right. You have registered your concern. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, it is your prerogative. I will abide by whatever you say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please speak.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: (f) Central assistance shall be provided for the development of the capital of Andhra Pradesh;

- (g) The allocation on Polavaram Project shall be increased by Central Government for its completion in the stipulated time frame as a national project as declared;
- (h) The Apex Council and the River Management Boards for Godavary and Krishna shall be operationalised;
- (i) Resolution or division of assets relating to boards, corporations, bank accounts, etc., shall be expedited by the Central Government;
- (j) Existing quotas in all government, private, aided or unaided institutions of higher technical and medical education shall be ensured for a period of ten years;
- (k) Establishment of institutions of national importance like IIT, IIM and AIIMS in Andhra Pradesh besides a tribal university each in both States shall be expedited by Central Government;
- (l) A separate High Court shall be established for the state of Andhra Pradesh;
- (m) Development of social, physical and industrial infrastructure and clearly identified projects like new major port at Duggirajupatnam, integrated steel plant at YSR District, crude oil refinery and petrochemical complex, Vizag-Chennai industrial corridor, railway zone with Vizag as Headquarters, metro rail facility for Vizag, Vijayawada-Guntur-Tenali, three international airports at Vizag, Vijayawada and Thirupathi, improving rail and road connectivity to the new capital of Andhra Pradesh shall be developed by the Central Government.

Sir, I need not read the Statement of Objects and Reasons. There is a historical background for me to move this Bill in this august House. Sir, you were also present in this House on 20th February, 2014 when the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was discussed and approved by this august House. On that day, on the floor of the House, the then hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, announced that — this is on page No.462; this is on record — "The Bill already provides for a special development package for the backward regions of the successor state of Andhra

Pradesh, in particular for the districts of Rayalaseema and North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. This development package will be on the lines of the KBK (Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi) Special Plan in Odisha and the Bundelkhand special package in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh." Sir, in the same speech, he explained that "The resource gap that may arise in the successor state of Andhra Pradesh in the very first year, especially during the period between the appointed day and the acceptance of the 14th Finance Commission recommendations by the Government of India, will be compensated in the regular Union Budget for 2014-15."

The reasons, which were in the background, for the then hon. Prime Minister for making that statement were the remarks made by the present Parliamentary Affairs Minister, who was in opposition at that time, on the floor of the House. He had stated, "Seemandhra region constitutes 60 per cent of the population of Andhra Pradesh, but revenue is going to be only 40 per cent; 40 per cent revenue and 60 per cent population. Then, Sir, about liabilities, about salaries, about interest payments, there will be a problem from the day one. That is why we are suggesting that the Government of India takes care to see that adequate money is given from the Consolidated Fund to the Seemandhra people so that they have, at least, that much satisfaction that their concerns are met." Sir, in the same speech, he had mentioned, "As per the latest figures, there is going to be a deficit of ₹ 15,000 crores for Seemandhra region. That is the agony of the people. That is the worry of the people that you will not have money to pay salaries." Sir, on the same occasion, from the floor of the House, he had also suggested in his own words, "My suggestion to the Government is that not only words but deeds also are required. For that, you need to provide allocation. You provide and then divide. That should have been the approach, but, unfortunately, the Government of India is only offering lip sympathies." Then, he continued and said, "Then, coming to Rayalseema and Uttarandhra, which are both backward regions, and the Seemandhra region, we want the Government of India to give tax incentives like income-tax exemption, Central Excise exemption and also other tax exemptions so that Rayalseema and Uttarandhra can also flourish."

Sir, on the same occasion, he had also said, "Seemandhra region has to be given Special Category Status so that the people are assured that something is happening to them." Further, he was very considerate and he had stated, "It is time for your political extinction. Soon, we will be coming to power in two or three months. We will be in power." He continued in saying, "Sir, we are going to come to power. We want to take up all these challenges. Whatever I am asking and demanding will be our responsibility also. That is why, I am asking them. Please see to it that the genuine concerns are addressed. Mere words would not suffice." Sir, he wanted a categorical assurance about these things.

[Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao]

Sir, on the same day, the then Leader of the Opposition and now the present Leader of the House, hon. Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley, had stated many things. I don't think I have the right to read everything except a few important points. This is Shri Arun Jaitley's statement on the same day, "Sir, my final point is what my friend and my senior colleague, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, has urged today. We need to show complete and full justice to the region of Seemandhra." "Seemandhra will suffer in terms of revenue because a very large part of revenue comes from Hyderabad. Hyderabad will go to Telangana, and, therefore, the revenue of Seemandhra have to be protected." Sir, this was the statement by the present Leader of the House and our hon. Finance Minister.

Again, after the then hon. Prime Minister's reply, continuing the debate before passing of the Bill, Bill 463, on 20th February, 2014, on the floor of the House, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu said, "The special category status, we want it for ten years and the Prime Minister is saying, five years. Five year period will not be sufficient at all. They have to set up industries and then start manufacturing. So, you have to make it ten years. Secondly, Sir, about the assistance for the Capital city, no mention has been made about that. The Prime Minister has not said anything about that." This was the statement. While participating in the debate, Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, the then Home Minister, said, "The special category status for Seemandhra is for five years, as the Prime Minister has announced." To that, the present Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, said, "That should be for ten years. That is the demand of the people. In five years, industries cannot be developed."

Sir, this special-category status should be for ten years was the demand by the present ruling party, which was in Opposition at that time. The two most important people in the present Government, the present Parliamentary Affairs Minister and the present Leader of the House made these demands, and, the then Government considered many of them. Sir, on the same day, in the discussion, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, said, "Sir, the issue is till the Union Budget is presented, there will a revenue gap for the State of Seemandhra. The Government told us that they will take care of that revenue gap. It is said that it will be taken care of in the next Budget. In between, what will happen to the State? What about money for salaries, for pensions and also interest payments. That is a very important issue. Sir, that is why, I am insisting on this. Sir, in clause 46, page 11, line 18, see the words, "Areas of the State - It shall be the responsibility of the Central Government to form an independent Expert Committee to assess the revenue deficit of the successor State of Andhra Pradesh and recommend non-Plan revenue grants including but not limited to the revenue deficit grant, which shall be charged from the Consolidated Fund of

India as provided in Section 67 A of this Act for a period of, at least, ten years. Till such time, in the first year, the Consolidated Fund should give an amount of ₹ 10,000 crores. For that, I would like to hear the response of the Government." Then, there are Interruptions. Sir, one more thing is there. I request you to permit me to present two or three more points. On the same day, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs had stated that:

"Sir, the Government has given certain assurances. They said, 'They will take steps.' I suggested that the Government should commit itself and say, 'shall be completed within a particular time.' ...(*Interruptions*)... These are the amendments. You are giving an assurance. Tomorrow, after two months, you may not be there. Some other person will come. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, we will be coming. ...(*Interruptions*)... We will be coming." He repeated again.

"My Government is going to be there. ...(*Interruptions*)... My Government is going to be there." That also he repeated.

Sir, later, there was a Gazette of India, which was published with Regn.No. DL-(N)04/0007/2003-14 Extraordinary Part II, Section 1 published by the Authority. Sir, in this, only one point I want to bring the notice of this august House. I am sorry for taking more time, but I am forced. In this Gazette of India Extraordinary, Number 90 is regarding the Polavaram Irrigation Project.

90.(1) says 'The Polavaram Irrigation Project is hereby declared to be a national project.'

90.(2) says 'It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the regulation and development of the Polavaram Irrigation Project for the purposes of irrigation.'

90.(3) says 'The consent for Polavaram Irrigation Project shall be deemed to have been given by the successor State of Telangana.'

90.(4) says 'The Central Government shall execute the project and obtain all requisite clearances including environmental, forests, and rehabilitation and resettlement norms.'

Sir, it is my humble submission, through you, to the Government. All these assurances were given by you. All these were the promises you made on the floor of the House. You have ridiculed the then hon. Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh in a way. You said that you are going to come to power. You repeatedly said that you are coming to power. You have repeatedly promised the House that you are going to honour and complete all the commitments. Sir, in this regard, I want to

[Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao]

remind them that it was already passed on 20th February, more than two years back, and, as they said, they came back to power with absolute majority within two-three months as Venkaiah Naiduji said that day. Now, they are in power. So, I urge upon you, Sir, to see that the Government takes all necessary steps to implement all the provisions in the Act and promises made on the day of 20th February. I also urge upon the Government, through you, Sir, to see that this Polavaram Authority is set up by the Central Government and the Project would be executed by the Central Government without further delay as promised to be completed by 2018. Sir, the people of Andhra Pradesh are very much in a loss. They are in anguish. To develop a new capital — whoever may be in power — they really do not know how to mobilise funds. They are not able to get projects that have been promised in the A.P. Reorganisation Act.

So, I urge upon the Government, through you, to take serious note of all these things; and honour only those promises and those assurances given in the A.P. Reorganisation Act.

The question was proposed.

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू (तेलंगाना): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी चंद क्षण पहले हुई बारिश के कारण माटी की खुशबू यहां तक महसूस हो रही थी। जैसे अकस्मात् हुई बारिश की वजह से धरती पर पानी गिरने के कारण यहां खुशबू निकलकर आ रही थी, वैसे ही आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना में भी इस क्षण अकस्मात् सहज गरमी बढ़ रही है। पार्लियामेंट की इस बड़ी सभा, राज्य सभा में यह क्या हो रहा है, यह सोचकर वहां गरमी बढ़ रही है; मगर वह गरमी ज्यादा बढ़ने वाली नहीं है। अभी विभाजित आंध्र प्रदेश में जो सोच चल रही है, उसके बारे में आंध्र की धरती के पुत्र, वहां की पैदाइश डा. के. वी. पी. रामचंद्र राव जी ने अपनी बात कही है। इनका गांव गोदावरी और कृष्णा के बीच में पड़ता है। ये वहां के पुत्र हैं। रामचंद्र राव जी वहां पैदा हुए, थोड़ा बड़ा होने के बाद मेडिकल डॉक्टर बने और हैदराबाद में बस गए। आंध्र प्रदेश इनका राजनीतिक क्षेत्र था। इसके साथ ही साथ, रायलसीमा में इनके निकट के मित्र थे, जो इनको अपनी आत्मा मानते थे और राजनीति में कडप्पा जिले से हमारी पार्टी का प्रतिनिधित्व करते थे। इनकी मांग पर ज्यादा विवाद बढ़ाने की जरूरत नहीं है। इसमें जो जरूरी बातें हैं, उनको मैं आपके माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार के सामने रखना जरूरी समझता हूं।

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, hon. Congress President and UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, with motherly magnanimity not only respected the emotional sacrifices of younger generation and 60 long years of aspirations and awaiting, but also respected the sentiments, deepened division and failing participatory democracy in the then Andhra Pradesh State. Her concern and her magnanimity enabled the 29th State in the Indian Republic, that is, Telangana to come into existence. We from Telangana are just emotionally satisfied. We honour our brothers. We respect and love our brothers of Andhra Pradesh.

Incidentally, after bifurcation there was a draw of lots in the Upper House to decide the membership of the Telangana State and Andhra Pradesh State who got elected from the united Andhra Pradesh. The dichotomy is such that the *sons of Andhra* were allotted to Telangana. Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao is representing Telangana now, and the son of Telangana, who was born on the banks of the Pranahita of the Godavari in Adilabad district, Dr. Kanchala Keshava Rao, who is also a Member of this House, the tooth and nail activist and proponent of the Telangana movement, has got allotted to Andhra Pradesh. We respect each other. There is only one contention in Dr. Rao's proposal. Though this is private in nature, it has larger ramifications. Let us not hope for any type of a counsel to arbitrate between us. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are equally competent. चंद महीने पहले पंत प्रधान आंध्र प्रदेश की नयी राजधानी बनाने के लिए अमरावती की तरफ चले थे। आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री चंद्रबाबू नायडु जी स्वयं को बहुत dynamic मानते हैं। हमारे तेलंगाना के मुख्य मंत्री भी आंध्र प्रदेश के भाइयों और बहनों को सम्मान देने के लिए ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I am withdrawing my demand for the provision of(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: That is great! ...(Interruptions)... I have the same respect and love towards... ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I am humbly withdrawing that demand. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: The first point has been withdrawn even before consideration by the Union Government. This is the magnanimity and brotherhood between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. That is how we lived together. That is how we are living together. चंद महीने पहले वहां के मुख्य मंत्री के आहवान पर पंत प्रधान भी गए और हमारे तेलंगाना के मुख्य मंत्री भी गए थे। आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री की गोष्ठी में शंख स्थापना के अवसर पर पंत प्रधान की तरफ सबकी नज़र थी। हमारे पूर्वजों के समय में हम देखते थे, कहीं संत, योगी, मुनि, पुंगऊ कोई आए तो उनके साथ कमंडल आते थे, उनके साथ धरती की खुशबू जैसी विभूति भी आती थी। इसी तरह से पंत प्रधान ने अमरावती पहुंचकर क्या किया? वे एक कमंडल में यमुना का पानी, मैं समझता हूं, वह भी बहुत कलुषित है, उस यमुना के पानी को लेकर गए, उसके साथ-ही-साथ एक पत्नी में दिल्ली की माटी भी लेकर गए। उसे देखकर बहुत हैरानी हुई। उनका स्पेशल हवाई जहाज उड़ने से पहले ही आंध्र प्रदेश इलाके में कितनी गड़बड़ी शुरू हो गयी, वह हम बोल भी नहीं सकते। हम वादे बहुत करते हैं, लेकिन उन वादों को निभाते नहीं हैं। आप आंध्र प्रदेश की गिरमा, आंध्र प्रदेश के दुख को समझने की कोशिश कीजिए। आंध्र प्रदेश कुछ भी नहीं मांग रहा है, इसके लिए संविधान को बदलने की जरूरत नहीं है - और कुछ नहीं करना है, सिर्फ जो प्रावधान था, वह आपके अधिकार के अंदर ही है। उनकी जो मांग हो रही है, वह यह है। विभाजन के पहले जो आंध्र प्रदेश था, उसका जो रेवेन्यू सिस्टम है, जो साधन और सम्पत्ति उसको मिलते थे, वह दूसरी बात है। विभाजन के बाद आंध्र प्रदेश

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

5.00 P.M.

की हालत, उसकी आर्थिक स्थिति गंभीर हो गयी है, इसीलिए उसे Special Category Status देना चाहिए, ऐसा हम मानते हैं। इसीलिए हमारी माननीय सोनिया गांधी जी आज तक, स्वयं कई बार लिखित रूप में केंद्र सरकार को इस संबंध में जो विनती करनी चाहिए, वह करती रही हैं। उसके साथ-साथ उन्होंने पार्लियामेंट में इस संबंध में मांग भी की। उसके बाद हमारे कांग्रेस के उपाध्यक्ष ने भी वह मांग जारी रखी। इतनी मांग होने के बाद विभाजित आंध्र प्रदेश की मांग इतनी अधिक है, वह जनता के मन में इतनी गहरी है कि उसके बारे में सोचने के लिए आपको ज्यादा दिक्कत नहीं होनी चाहिए। वे लाखों करोड़ रुपए नहीं मांग रहे हैं, सिर्फ नयी राजधानी बनाने की मांग कर रहे हैं। वहां पर आर्थिक संकट की स्थिति को आप समझिए और जो-जो मुद्दे हैं, जो आंकड़े हैं, उन्हें लेकर जो कमियां दिखायी दे रही हैं, उनकी तरफ ध्यान देते हुए Special Category Status देने में अब देर मत लगाइए।

इसी विनती के साथ, तेलंगाना में बहुत सारे मुद्दे हैं। तेलंगाना बनने में सोनिया गांधी जी का योगदान है। उन्होंने इतना देने के बाद, तेलंगाना के द्वारा तेलंगाना की तरफ से आंध्र प्रदेश के साथ कितना भाईचारा रखना है, नदी जल के विषय में भी और साज-सम्पदा के विषय भी, तो तेलंगाना सावधान दृष्टि से ही चल रहा है। मगर आंध्र प्रदेश से इतना प्यार नहीं मिल रहा है, यह भी उसे हासिल करना चाहिए। हमें आपस में भाईचारा रखना चाहिए, आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। इसके लिए केंद्र सरकार की बहुत जिम्मेदारी है और उसके लिए तैयार होने का आपका मौका आ गया है। डॉ. राव साहब का जो प्रस्तावित अंश है, उसके ऊपर केंद्र सरकार को ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है, इस विनती के साथ, मैं उनकी मांग की तरफ भी ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। आंध्र प्रदेश की जो सोच है, जो दुख है, उस दुख को दूर करने के लिए, हम हमेशा उनके साथ रहेंगे, धन्यवाद।

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, thank you very much. I want the Home Minister also to know the irony of the entire case is, the man as he says the protagonist are one, जिनकी सांस हो, जिनकी ज़मीन हो, जिनका घर हो, जिनकी मां हो, जिनका बाप तेलंगाना हो, जब मैंने कांग्रेस से सीडब्ल्यूसी छोड़कर तेलंगाना के लिए फाइट किया, वह आंध्रा में है तो जो आदमी आंध्र प्रदेश में रोमन स्टेच्यु बनकर 10 दिन खड़ा रहा हो, वह आदमी तेलंगाना गया। Now, these kinds of incongruities had crept in into the system. The author of the Bill is here, Mr. Ramesh. He has spent a lot of time with us, we did our duties, we did our best.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, four minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) : We started four minutes late. So, it will be till 5.04 P.M.

DR. K. KESHA RAO : Sir, we had tried our best. Now, today, there are two States. I would not get into the dispute. All those who are opposing, including my great friends like Dr. T. Subbarami Reddyji, Ramachandra Raoji, Seelamji, anyhow could not get it, had been defeated, not because of the things but we got it because

it was justice that we wanted. It was after 50 years of fight that we could get it. We are just not bothered to say that we are all one because we never fought against them. हम लोग किसी आदमी के against नहीं थे। जो आदमियों को exploit करने आए, उनके against थे। यह सही बात है कि हमारी लड़ाई को 50 साल हो गए। अब हम 50 साल की परवाह नहीं करते और मैं उसमें नहीं जाता हूँ। जो बिल रामचंद्र राव ने पढ़कर सुनाया, वह तो हमारे पास था। उन्होंने बताया कि जिस दिन एक्ट पास हुआ था, जिस दिन बिल पास हुआ था, आप लोगों ने बहुत से promises किए। प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने promises किए, अपोजिशन में उस समय एम. वेंकैया नायडु जी थे, जयराम रमेश साहब मिनिस्टर थे, वे हमसे लगातार मिलते रहते थे, वे हर मिनट में दस मर्तबा बात करते थे, कमलनाथ जी बात करते थे, हमारे सभी इश्यूज को लेने के बाद उस बिल को पास किया। उस बिल को पास करते समय जो promises किए थे, not in the Act please, let me come to the Act later. Few promises that you made about the packages, about the deficit financing, surplus पांच हजार नहीं था, उसके लिए special category, ये सात चीजें थीं, जिनके लिए after the bill आपने promises किए थे, आज उनको पूरा करना जरूरी है, क्योंकि आज आंध्र प्रदेश थोड़ी तकलीफ में है। सरप्लस हमारे पास है, लेकिन यह नहीं कि हमारे पास एक्स्ट्रा है। कल की मैं बात बताता हूँ, सबसे बड़ी हिस्टोरिक चीज़ हुई है, नक्रवी साहब को जानना चाहिए, होम मिनिस्टर साहब को जानना चाहिए। हमने तीन मर्तबा आपके पास आकर पूछा कि आप कृष्णा-गोदावरी dispute का क्या करेंगे? हमें आपके पास से उतना सपोर्ट नहीं मिला। प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब सबको सपोर्ट करते आए हैं, वे जरूर सपोर्ट करेंगे, लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ। हमने सोचा, क्योंकि मैं अपनी पार्टी का जनरल सेक्रेटरी हूँ, हमारी पार्टी वहां पर रूलिंग पार्टी है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you Dr. Rao. The time for Private Members' Bill is over.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO : Then, you should have told me. This is not the correct way.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): No, no.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: You should have told me. I would have not given the speech. I would have sat down. This is what happened for 50 years with me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) : It should be over by 5'o clock.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: I know it Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. This is what exactly the disgrace that we are put to. You could have directly told me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Your speech will continue. You will have your speech next time. You can continue in the next Private Members' Bill day.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): See, the time allotted for Private Members' Bill cannot be extended. So, you can continue that in the next Private Members' Bill day.

SPECIAL MENTIONS — *Contd.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Special Mentions. Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy.

**Demand to declare the children affected by Polavaram Dam as
"Project-Affected-Persons" and give them compensation
at par with elders**

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Telangana): Sir, any rehabilitation and resettlement issue should be pursued with human touch and magnanimity has to be shown towards such people as they are leaving everything that belongs to them and going to a new place with empty hands. Even if one looks at the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of Government of India, it is very clear that affected people, whether they have any assets or not, are eligible as "Project-Affected-Persons" when they are displaced directly or indirectly due to any project. Government of India declared Polavaram as 'National Project' resulting in the largest ever displacement in the country by Polavaram dam. Thus far, nearly one lakh people have either been evicted from their villages or given notice of eviction or had their land acquired for Polavaram dam. Roughly, 20,000 children are thus Project-Affected-Persons. And, shockingly the Government of India has not identified them as PAPs and thus ...*(Interruptions)*... Only one minute Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You please continue.

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: It tantamounts to serious discrimination, violation of human rights and cruelty on children. It means, you are not treating children as humans, because you are not giving them R&R. A number of representations have been given to Government of India to undo this injustice to children. Children suffer the most by evictions and displacements. Therefore, Government should treat every child, who is above 5 years of age, as PAPs at Polavaram dam immediately, and compensation and other benefits be extended to them at par with elders.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shrimati Bimla Kashyap; not present. Shri Anubhav Mohanty; not present. Shrimati Rajani Patil; not present. Chaudhary Munvvar Saleem; not present. Shri K. C. Tyagi; not present. Dr. Sanjay Singh; not present. Shri Santiuse Kujur; not present. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury; not present. Shri Balagopal; not present. Shri P. L. Punia; not present. Shrimati Jharna Das; not present. Shri Avinash Pande; not present. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I apologize to you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, for having reacted harshly. I did not hear what you said, and I am sorry.

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

(I) The Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2016 and

(II) The High Court and the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2016

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

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that the following amendments made by the Rajya Sabha in the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 at its sitting held on 2nd March, 2016, were taken into consideration and agreed to by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 2016:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, *for* the word "Sixty-sixth", the word "Sixty-seventh" be *substituted*.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 2, *for* the figure, "2015", the figure "2016" be *substituted*.

(II)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that the following amendments made by the Rajya Sabha in the High Court and the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2015 at its sitting held on the 2nd March, 2016, were taken into

consideration and agreed to by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 2016:—

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, *for* the world "Sixty-sixth", the world "Sixty-seventh" be *substituted*.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 5, *for* the figure "2015", the figure "2016" be *substituted*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 14th March, 2016.

*The House then adjourned at nine minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 14th March, 2016.*

Private Members' Bills —

The National Authority for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Persons Living Around Railway Tracks Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 330)

The Teaching of Sanskrit as a Compulsory Language in Schools Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 330)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 72) — *Introduced* (page 330)

The Youth (Development and Welfare) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 331)

The Vexatious Litigation (Prevention) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 331)

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 331)

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Section 14) — *Introduced* (page 331)

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Omission of Section 309) (page 332)

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Caste-Based Discrimination in Educational Institutions) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 332)

The Self-Financing Professional Educational Institutions (Control and Regulation) Bill, 2015 — *Withdrawn* (pages 332-360)

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, 2015 — *Under Consideration* (pages 360-370)

Messages from Lok Sabha —

The Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2016 — *Reported* (pages 371-372)

The High Court and the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2016 — *Reported* (pages 371-372)

