

Vol. 239

No. 10



सत्यमेव जयते

Friday

6 May, 2016

16 Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Reference by Members—

Re. Train carrying water to Uttar Pradesh (pages 1-4 and 10-18)

Re. News item appearing in print media (pages 26-27 and 31)

Re. Demand for listing Short Duration Discussion (pages 28-31)

Re. Action taken by Government on the issues raised by Members  
(pages 312-314)

Re. Demand for authentication of papers (pages 335-337)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 4-7)

Report of the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the Enemy Property  
(Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016 – *Presented* (page 7)

Evidence Tendered before the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the  
Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016 – *Laid on the Table*  
(page 7)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport,  
Tourism and Culture – *Presented* (page 8)

[P.T.O.]

©

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy – *Laid on the Table* (page 8)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas – *Laid on the Table* (page 8)

Statements by Ministers—

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology – *Laid on the Table* (page 8)

Status of the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour – *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture and Farmers Welfare – *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

Statement regarding Government Business (pages 9-10)

Matters raised with permission —

Death of a *dalit* man due to hunger in Banda, U.P. (pages 18-21)

Situation due to deteriorating health of some JNU students participating in indefinite fast (pages 21-23)

Harmful effects on vegetation and increase in pollution due to burning of stubbles in fields (page 24)

Incidents of eve-teasing of students in Haryana (pages 24-26)

Declining allocation for MGNREGA in the budget (pages 27-28)

Website	:	<a href="http://rajyasabha.nic.in">http://rajyasabha.nic.in</a> <a href="http://parliamentofindia.nic.in">http://parliamentofindia.nic.in</a>
E-mail	:	<a href="mailto:rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in">rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in</a>

Message from Lok Sabha—

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 – *Laid on the Table* (page 28)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 31-54)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 55-82)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 82-312)

Discussion on the Working of the Ministry of Human Resource Development  
(pages 314-335)

Private Members' Resolutions—

Making stringent provisions of capital punishment for rape and commercial sexual  
exploitation of girls and women; amending social laws relating to inheritance  
of property, and making reservation for women in public employment –  
*Withdrawn* (pages 337-356)

Abolition of capital punishment in the country – *Under Consideration*  
(pages 357-377)

Special Mentions—

Need to increase allocation of foodgrains particularly rice to Odisha to counter the  
effects of severe drought (pages 377-378)

Need to provide potable water to every citizen of India (pages 378-380)

---

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

## RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, the 6th May, 2016/16th Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)*

*The House met at eleven of the clock,*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

### REFERENCE BY MEMBERS

#### Re. Train carrying water to Uttar Pradesh

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Wait for one second. I will allow you. Which day you are not having a point of order?

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Today my point of order is very important.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, you agree on other days it was not important.

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: It may be.

**श्री उपसभापति:** ठीक है। आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं?

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** माननीय उपसभापति जी, संविधान के अनुच्छेद 74 के अन्तर्गत मंत्रिपरिषद् का गठन होता है और संविधान के अनुच्छेद 245 के अन्तर्गत राज्य और केन्द्र सरकार की सीमाओं को बाँधा गया है। कल रेल मंत्री जी ने एक बयान दिया कि हमने उत्तर प्रदेश में एक पानी की ट्रेन भेजी है, जिसे उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने लेने से मना कर दिया। संविधान में बड़ा स्पष्ट है कि जब राज्य सरकार अलग से केन्द्र सरकार से कोई सहायता माँगेगी, तब केन्द्र सरकार राज्य को सहायता देगी। वह सीधे-सीधे सहायता नहीं दे सकती है। श्रीमन्, ट्रेन पानी से भरी हुई नहीं थी, वह खाली थी, वह सिर्फ राजनीति करने के लिए भेजी गई थी। बाँदा ऐसी जगह है, बुंदेलखंड, जो सूखे से तड़प रहा है, वहाँ राज्य ने सारी सुविधाएं दी हैं। राज्य ने तो केन्द्र से माँगा था कि बुंदेलखंड में पानी बहुत है, आप डैम का पैसा दे दीजिए। राज्य ने केन्द्र से माँगा था कि अगर आपको बुंदेलखंड में कुछ लगाना है, तो आप हैंडपंप के लिए पैसा दे दीजिए। राज्य ने पानी तो नहीं माँगा था, पानी की ट्रेन तो नहीं माँगी थी, उसने तो कहा था कि टैंकर्स दे दीजिए। राज्य सरकार ने जब वहाँ सारा प्रबन्ध कर दिया, तो क्या संविधान के तहत oath लेने वाला एक मंत्री मंत्रिपरिषद् में बैठ कर, राज्य और केन्द्र के सम्बन्धों की उपेक्षा करके इस तरीके की राजनीति कर सकता है और क्या वह इस तरह से राज्य सरकार को बदनाम कर सकता है? इसके लिए मंत्री को इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए। ऐसे मंत्री को मंत्रिपरिषद् में रहने का अधिकार नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नीरज शेखर** (उत्तर प्रदेश): मंत्री जी को माफी माँगनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सुरेश प्रभु जी आ गए हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... सुरेश प्रभु जी बता दें कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने क्या माँगा था? ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मंत्री ने उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को बदनाम करने का

काम किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्रीमन्, अगर सूखा, पीने के पानी या दैवी आपदा पर राजनीति की जाएगी ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं चाहूँगा कि सुरेश प्रभु जी बयान दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right you made your point. ...**(Interruptions)**... You made your point ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't show that ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't display it. ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't display it. ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't display it. I understood what Naresh Agrawalji has said.

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** निषाद जी वहीं, बुंदेलखंड से हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने जो कहा, मैं उसे समझ गया हूँ। अभी आप बैठिए, you made your point. आपको जो बोलना है, वह आप बोल चुके हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Minister wants to reply. ...**(Interruptions)**... Minister, please.

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** वह ट्रेन खाली थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह राजनीति की जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** आप मिनिस्टर को सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... के.सी. त्यागी जी, आप मिनिस्टर को सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी):** सर, माननीय नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने जो कहा है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... निश्चित तौर पर बुंदेलखंड और न केवल बुंदेलखंड, बल्कि उत्तर प्रदेश और देश के किसी भी हिस्से में अगर सूखे की स्थिति आती है, फसलों के बरबाद होने की स्थिति आती है, तो उसके प्रति हम सबको संवेदनशील रहना चाहिए, ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस पर राजनीति करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्र सरकार ने प्रदेश सरकार को पैसे भी दिए हुए हैं और बुंदेलखंड के लिए स्पेशल पैकेज भी दिया हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमें लगता है कि राज्य सरकार को उस पैकेज का इस्तेमाल proper तरीके से करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर प्रदेश सरकार और भी सहायता चाहेगी, तो ...**(व्यवधान)**... केन्द्र सरकार प्रदेश सरकार की मदद करने को तैयार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** फिर से वही बात की जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** शरद यादव जी, आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... बाकी लोग बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री शरद यादव (बिहार):** महोदय, नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने जो सवाल उठाया, तकलीफ यह है कि देश प्यासा है। बुंदेलखंड में बहुत विकट स्थिति है और दोनों सरकारों को मिल कर ही इसका रास्ता निकालना चाहिए। नरेश जी जो कह रहे हैं कि वहाँ खाली ट्रेन पहुँच गई, तो यह भी किस मकसद से पहुँची, यह बताना चाहिए। यह काम सरकार से बातचीत करके होना चाहिए। लोग प्यासे हैं, उन्हें घंटे-घंटे पानी चाहिए। अगर पानी पर भी हम लोग राजनीति करेंगे, तो अच्छी बात नहीं है। इसलिए मैं आपसे यह बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि रेल मंत्री जी यहाँ बैठे हैं, उन्हें बताना चाहिए कि इसका मकसद क्या था, इसका क्या कारण है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बुंदेलखंड की समस्या के लिए दोनों मिल

कर काम करिए, क्योंकि वहाँ बहुत विकट स्थिति है। यह मेरी आपसे विनती है कि चाहे आपकी सरकार हो, चाहे वह सरकार हो, पानी के मामले में राजनीति नहीं होनी चाहिए।

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** श्रीमन्, नीति आयोग की अभी बैठक हुई है, ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** सर, सुरेश प्रभु जी का नाम लिया गया है और वे अभी यहां पर हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... वे इसके बारे में बताएंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** सर, राज्य सरकार ने ट्रेन नहीं मांगी थी, टैंकर मांगे थे। ...(व्यवधान)... क्या इन्होंने टैंकर भिजवाए? ...(व्यवधान)...

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

I have only to make one comment that in the name of water and drought, nobody should play politics. That is all what I have to say. I would also request ...(Interruptions)... I would also request that this matter may be talked and settled. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Suresh Prabhu. ...(Interruptions)... He will explain.

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** सर, रेल मंत्री माफी मांगें। ...(व्यवधान)...

**रेल मंत्री (श्री सुरेश प्रभु):** सर, देश के कुछ हिस्सों में पानी की समस्या बहुत गंभीर है। जब लातूर की स्थिति हुई, तो हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यह चाहा कि वहां के लोग प्यासे तड़पने नहीं चाहिए, इसलिए हमने फौरन लातूर में पानी भेजने का प्रबंध किया। जब हमारे सामने इसी तरह की समस्या आई कि बुंदेलखंड में भी ऐसी समस्या है, वहां के लोगों ने भी हमसे कहा कि ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** कौन सी समस्या आई? ...(व्यवधान)... यह समस्या कौन लाया? ...(व्यवधान)...

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

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** पहले आप सुनिए तो सही। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सर ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him explain. ...(Interruptions)... इनको explain करने दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सुरेश प्रभु जी माफी मांगें। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर वे माफी नहीं मांगेंगे, तो हम सदन नहीं चलने देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश):** सर, संघीय व्यवस्था में केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा ...(व्यवधान)... इस तरह का काम करना गलत है। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان : سر، سنگھنے ویوسٹھا میں کیندر سرکار کے ذریعے  
--(مداخلت)-- اس طرح کا کام کرنا غلط ہے --(مداخلت)--

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him explain, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister can say what he wants to say ...*(Interruptions)*... आपको जो बोलना है, वह आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... कृपया आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Why are you doing this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### **Report and Accounts (2014-15) 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:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Performance Report of the above Academy, for the year 2014-15.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4553/16/16]

#### **Report and Accounts (2014-15) of NPSE Commission, authority and society and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Reports and Accounts of the Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (National Population Stabilisation Fund), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4867/16/16]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Commission.



- (c) Chronological Statement showing the sequence of events for laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4734/16/16]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), 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 Authority.

- (c) Chronological Statement showing the sequence of events for laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4733/16/16]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report of the Central Medical Services Society (CMSS), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Central Medical Services Society (CMSS), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

- (d) Chronological Statement showing the sequence of events for laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4732/16/16]

**I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

**II. Report (2014-15) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi and related paper.**

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) Notification No. 136, dated the 19th April, 2016, publishing the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University Academic Regulations - 2015, under sub-section (2) of Section 44 of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University Act, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4787/16/16]

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

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

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the, papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4636/16/16]

**Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the National Jute Board (NJB) Kolkata and related paper**

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

- (a) Fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Jute Board (NJB), Kolkata, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4719/16/16]

**Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune and related paper**

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4868/16/16]

**I. Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**

**II. Outcome Budget (2016-17) in respect of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals**

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) Notification No. S.O. 3439 (E), dated the 17th December, 2015, indicating the supplies of urea produced by domestic manufacturers to States and Union Territories during the Rabi season,

mentioned in the table therein, 2015-16, commencing from the date of publication of this notification to the 31st day of March, 2016, under subsection (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4113/16/16]

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4643/16/16]

#### **Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, under subsection (2) of Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) Notification No. S.O. 680 (E), dated the 7th March, 2016, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Second Amendment) Order, 2016.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4658/16/16]

#### **Outcome Budget (2016-17) in respect of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries**

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति): महोदय, मैं 2016-17 के वर्ष के लिए खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय के परिणामी बजट की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 4659/16/16]

---

#### **REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE RAJYA SABHA ON THE ENEMY PROPERTY (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL, 2016**

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I present the Report (in English and Hindi) of the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016.

---

#### **EVIDENCE TENDERED BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE RAJYA SABHA ON THE ENEMY PROPERTY (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL, 2016**

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy of the evidence tendered before the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016.

---

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE**

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I present the Two Hundred Thirty Fifth Report (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of Ministry of Shipping.

---

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY**

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विद्युत मंत्रालय से संबंधित 'जल विद्युत, एक सतत स्वच्छ और हरित विकल्प' विषय के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित ऊर्जा संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2015-16) के सत्रहवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

---

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय से संबंधित 'हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (बीजीएच) का कार्यकरण' विषय के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2015-16) के तीसवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

---

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology on "Business Development and Marketing Strategy in the Department of Posts" pertaining to the Department of Posts.

**Status of action taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour**

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): महोदय, मैं वस्त्र मंत्रालय के शहरी हाटों की समीक्षा के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित श्रम संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के नौवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट समुक्तियों/सिफारिशों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य देता हूँ।

**Status of implementation of recommendations/ observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

---

**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): महोदय, आपकी अनुमति से मैं यह सूचित करता हूँ कि सोमवार, 9 मई, 2016 से आरंभ होने वाले सप्ताह के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिए जाएंगे:

1. आज की कार्यसूची में शामिल निम्नलिखित से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार:-

(क) लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में भारतीय न्यास (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।

(ख) सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय के कार्यचालन पर चर्चा;

2. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में प्रतिकरात्मक वनरोपण निधि विधेयक, 2016 पर विचार और पारित करना।

3. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना:-

(i) विनियोग (संख्या 2) विधेयक, 2016; और

(ii) वित्त विधेयक, 2016

## (i और ii पर एक साथ चर्चा की जाए)

4. राजेन्द्र केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना;
5. बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध और विनियमन) संशोधन विधेयक, 2012 पर विचार और पारित करना;
6. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में क्षेत्रीय जैव-प्रौद्योगिकी केन्द्र विधेयक, 2016 पर विचार और पारित करना;
7. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में दिवाला और शोधन अक्षमता संहिता, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना;
8. उत्तराखंड विनियोग (लेखानुदान) विधेयक, 2016 पर विचार और लौटाना - लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात; और
9. उत्तराखंड राज्य के संबंध में संविधान के अनुच्छेद 356 के अंतर्गत 27 मार्च, 2016 को राष्ट्रपति द्वारा जारी की गई उद्घोषणा का अनुमोदन चाहने वाले संकल्प पर चर्चा।

---

**REFERENCE BY MEMBERS — Contd.**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Zero Hour Submissions. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot hear you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your own people are shouting slogans. How can I hear you? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह सरकार को बदनाम करने की साजिश थी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: नरेश जी, मैं आपकी कोई बात सुन नहीं पा रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपके साथी shouting कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... रेल मंत्री से माफी माँगवा दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... रेल मंत्री माफी माँग लें। ...*(व्यवधान)*... रेल मंत्री माफी माँग लें। रेल मंत्री जी ने सत्य से परे सरकार को जान-बूझ कर बदनाम करने के लिए जो बयान दिया ...*(व्यवधान)*... ट्रेन भी खाली भेजी, पानी नहीं भेजा। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इनसे कभी पानी नहीं माँगा। उसने टैंकर माँगा, तालाब की खुदाई का पैसा माँगा, बाँधों का पैसा माँगा, हैंड पम्प माँगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now the Minister wants to say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: सर ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आपने एक आरोप लगाया है और वह बिल्कुल बेबुनियाद आरोप है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... माननीय रेल मंत्री जी यहाँ पर हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उनका यह कहना है कि जो आरोप है, वह गलत है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इतने संवेदनशील मुद्दे पर किसी भी तरह की राजनीति होना ठीक नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर बुंदेलखंड में लोग प्यासे हैं, तो ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Agrawalji, you allow the Minister to explain.  
...(Interruptions)...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** सबको मिल कर काम करना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए, वे बताएँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Agrawalji, you allow the Minister to explain.  
...(Interruptions)...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** उन्होंने इस विषय में क्या किया है? ...(व्यवधान)... पानी की सप्लाई ...(व्यवधान)... आपसे बात की ...(व्यवधान)... आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Agrawalji, you allow the Minister to explain.  
...(Interruptions)... You allow the Minister to speak. ...(Interruptions)... Let the Minister say what he wants to say about this. ...(Interruptions)...

**सुश्री मायावती** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to speak on this subject?

**सुश्री मायावती:** जी, हाँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...(Interruptions)... How can you say that?  
...(Interruptions)...

**सुश्री मायावती:** जी, हाँ।

**श्री उपसभापति:** हाँ, बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Don't start a discussion. My request is, please allow the Railway Minister to reply to this ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't bring any politics into this. Water problem should be solved. Rajeev Shukla ...(Interruptions)... ऐसा नहीं, ...(व्यवधान)... वैसे ही मायावती जी को बोलने का अधिकार है। ...(व्यवधान)... मंत्री जी अभी बैठे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

**सुश्री मायावती:** माननीय उपसभापति जी, उत्तर प्रदेश आबादी के हिसाब से देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है। इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में लगभग 50 जिले सुखे की चपेट में हैं। खास तौर से बुंदेलखंड में काफी सूखा पड़ा हुआ है, पानी की भी काफी दिक्कत है। ऐसी स्थिति में बुंदेलखंड के बारे में केन्द्र और वहां की राज्य सरकार को दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर, वहां की पानी की जो किल्लत है, उसको दूर करने के बारे में सोचना चाहिए। माननीय उपसभापति जी, इस संबंध में हमारा यह कहना है कि कल खास तौर से रेलवे मंत्रालय ने वहां पर पानी के लिए ट्रेन भेजी थी। उसको लेकर वहां की सरकार का कुछ और कहना है कि वह ट्रेन खाली थी। खाली थी या भरी हुई थी, वे पानी की व्यवस्था

करके लेकर गए थे। हमारा यह कहना है कि चूंकि वहां पर सूखा पड़ा हुआ है, तो वहां की सरकार को यह चाहिए था कि जितना भी वे पानी लेकर गए थे, तो उस पानी को लेना चाहिए था। वहां के बुंदेलखंड के लोगों को ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** उसमें पानी नहीं था। ...(व्यवधान)...

**सुश्री मायावती:** ये लोग मेरी बात नहीं सुन रहे हैं। ये कहते हैं कि हम पानी लेकर गए थे। यदि ये लोग पानी लेकर गए थे तो वहां की सरकार पानी लेती और अगर वह खाली ट्रेन थी तो मालूम पड़ जाता और ये एक्सपोज हो जाते। लेकिन इसकी आड़ में राजनीति करना और बुंदेलखंड की जनता को परेशान करना, मैं समझती हूं कि ठीक नहीं है। यदि वहां की सरकार यह कहती कि हम पानी का बंदोबस्त कर लेंगे, तो मेरा यह कहना है कि फिर उनको बुंदेलखंड की जनता, जो सूखे से परेशान है, वहां पर उनकी सूखे की जो दिक्कत है, उसको दूर करना चाहिए और इसकी आड़ में राजनीति नहीं करनी चाहिए। केन्द्र की सरकार और खास तौर से रेलवे विभाग पानी के मामले में कुछ मदद कर रहे हैं तो उनकी मदद लेनी चाहिए और उसकी आड़ में राजनीति करना, मैं समझती हूं कि बिल्कुल भी ठीक नहीं है। केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार को मिलकर वहां की जो भी स्थानीय समस्या है, खास तौर से सूखे को लेकर, पानी की किल्लत को लेकर उसको मिलकर दूर करना चाहिए। वहां की जनता को सफर नहीं करना चाहिए, ऐसा मेरा समाजवादी पार्टी से भी कहना है और केन्द्र की सरकार से भी कहना है।

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** मेरी आपसे रिक्वेस्ट है कि आदरणीया मायावती जी ने, श्री नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने जो विषय रखा है, वह पूरा का पूरा विषय रेल मंत्रालय से संबंधित है। मुझे लगता है कि रेल मंत्री जी को जवाब देना चाहिए। इसके अलावा पानी की समस्या या सूखे की समस्या पर चर्चा करनी है तो वह आधे घंटे की चर्चा करा ली जाए। अब इसको चर्चा में बदलना ठीक नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र):** सर, मेरा मानना है कि पिछले दस साल में ...(व्यवधान).... पिछले दस साल में संघवाद या फेडरल स्ट्रक्चर की बात सबसे ज्यादा बीजेपी ने की और कहा कि फेडरल स्ट्रक्चर को नहीं माना जा रहा है एवं केन्द्र सरकार अपनी तरफ से मनमानी करती है। अब आप देख लीजिए। हम यह नहीं कहते कि पानी भेजा गया या नहीं भेजा गया, ट्रेन खाली थी या भरी हुई थी, यह अलग चीज है, लेकिन बिना राज्य सरकार से बात किए और बिना राज्य सरकार का सहयोग लिए अगर केन्द्र सरकार इस तरह की चीज करती है, तो यह पूरी तरह से अनुचित है। सूखे की समस्या, किसानों की समस्या और पानी की समस्या के लिए अगर दोनों सरकारें मिलकर सहयोग करें और एक दूसरे की बात करके सब चीजों को तय करें, तो समस्या ही पैदा न हो, लेकिन सिर्फ राजनीतिक प्वाइंट्स लेने के लिए यह करना, क्योंकि वहां चुनाव होने वाले हैं, यह उचित नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen to the Minister. ...(Interruptions)... Listen to the Minister ...(Interruptions)... The issue is clear. ...(Interruptions)...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सर, चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम जी और डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव जी बुन्देलखंड से ही हैं, आप इन दोनों को दो-दो मिनट सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान).... ये दोनों बुन्देलखंड से हैं, आप इन दोनों को सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...



**श्री उपसभापति:** ठीक है, आपने यह रेज़ कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि इन दोनों को दो-दो मिनट का समय दे दीजिए, फिर रेल मंत्री जी जवाब दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी:** आप पहले मंत्री जी को सुन लीजिए, उसके बाद अगर आप चाहेंगे, तो इस मुद्दे पर बहस करवा लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** नरेश जी, रेल मंत्री जी के बोलने के बाद अगर कोई इश्यू है, तो मैं एलाऊ करूंगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... अभी मैंने रेल मंत्री जी को बुलाया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप पहले रेल मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए, उनके बाद आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Now, Railways Minister.

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** सर, मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि यहां बुन्देलखंड की पानी की समस्या के बारे में चर्चा हो रही है।

सर, अगर आप मुझे अनुमति देंगे, तो मैं इसका थोड़ा सा बैकग्राउंड भी बताना चाहता हूँ, ताकि किसी को कोई गलतफहमी न रहे। जैसा मैं कह रहा था, लातूर में इतनी गंभीर समस्या खड़ी हुई कि वहां के लोग पानी के लिए तरस रहे थे, तड़प रहे थे। उस समय और कोई चारा दिखाई नहीं दे रहा था, इसलिए हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी और हमने तय करके वहां पर पानी भेजने के लिए एक ट्रेन भेजी। वह गाड़ी कहां से आई? सर, वह गाड़ी कोटा से आई, जहां उसे पूरी तरह स्टीम करके ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** आप लातूर और बुन्देलखंड की तुलना न करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** आप मुझे बोलने तो दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप सुनना क्यों नहीं चाहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... नरेश जी, आप राजनीति मत कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** वे बुन्देलखंड के बारे में भी बोलेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** सर, पानी के टैंकर को भेजने से पहले उसका स्टीम क्लीन करना पड़ता है। लोग जिस पानी को पिएंगे, उसमें कोई contamination नहीं होना चाहिए, ताकि लोगों को कोई समस्या नहीं आए। इसकी स्टीम क्लीनिंग करने का प्रबंध कोटा, राजस्थान में है, इसलिए वहीं इसका प्रबंध किया गया। जब यह बात सामने आई कि शायद हमें इस तरह की समस्या खड़ी हो सकती है, जिसमें बुन्देलखंड को भी पानी देना पड़ेगा, तो इसके प्रावधान के लिए एक नई ट्रेन को पूरी तरह से स्टीम क्लीन करवाया गया और मैं आपको लेटेस्ट इन्फॉर्मेशन दे रहा हूँ, वहां से दस टैंक वैगंस, ten tank wagons लाए गए। जिस राज्य सरकार से पानी लेना है, उसके लिए tank wagon को हमें वहीं भेजना होगा। हमारे पवार साहब यहां पर बैठे हुए हैं, जब लातूर से ट्रेन गई, तो उसका पानी मिराज से लिया गया था। मिराज भी महाराष्ट्र में ही है और वहां से पानी फिल करके, उस टैंक के पानी को लातूर लाया गया था।

कल जब ट्रेन आई, उसके बाद आज सुबह से हमने उस ट्रेन में पानी भरने की शुरुआत की। आगरा में पानी भरा जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Sorry, sorry, झांसी में भरा जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... झांसी में पानी भरा जा रहा है।

...(व्यवधान)... सर, इस पर हम कोई राजनीति नहीं करना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... हमारी इच्छा है कि किसी तरह से भी वहां के लोगों को पानी मिले। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, कल राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री अखिलेश यादव जी से मैंने खुद फोन पर बातचीत की है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने उनसे कहा कि हम इस पर राजनीति नहीं करना चाहते हैं, आपको जो भी मदद चाहिए, आप हमें बताइए। हम हर तरह से आपकी मदद करने के लिए तैयार हैं। यह बात कल मैंने खुद दोपहर में वहां के मुख्य मंत्री से बात करके कही है। ...(व्यवधान)... जैसा कि स्वयं मायावती जी ने कहा, ऐसे मामले में राजनीति नहीं करनी चाहिए, हमें मिलकर काम करने की आवश्यकता है। राज्य सरकार और हम मिलकर बात करेंगे। कल मैंने स्वयं मुख्य मंत्री से बातचीत की है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, राज्य मंत्री जी बार-बार कह रहे हैं कि उसमें पानी नहीं था।  
...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان : سر، راجیہ منتری جی بار بار کہہ رہے ہیں کہ اس میں پتہ  
نہیں تھا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, I will allow. ...(Interruptions)... But, now listen.  
...(Interruptions)... No problem. ...(Interruptions)... He said. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. ...  
(Interruptions)... He said, he had talked to the Chief Minister yesterday. ...  
(Interruptions)... So, already there was communication between the State and the  
Centre. ... (Interruptions)... So, that is over, I think. ... (Interruptions)... About water  
problem, he can speak. ... (Interruptions)... The issue is over. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, दो चीजें तो सिद्ध हो गईं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you are speaking. ...(Interruptions)... I think  
the issue you raised is over. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, दो चीजें सीधे-सीधे सिद्ध हो गईं कि जब ट्रेन  
भेजी, तो इन्होंने मुख्य मंत्री से कल बात की, इसके पहले बात नहीं की। दूसरा, खाली ट्रेन भेजी और  
बुंदेलखंड में पानी भरकर बुंदेलखंड के लोगों को पिलाना चाहते हैं, तो इसका मतलब यह है कि  
बुंदेलखंड में पीने के पानी की कमी नहीं है। जब ये दो बातें सीधे-सीधे सिद्ध हो गईं, तब बुंदेलखंड का  
राजनीतिकरण तो अपने आप हो गया। श्रीमन्, अभी एक हफ्ते पहले नीति आयोग की जो बैठक हुई थी,  
उसमें राज्य सरकार ने टैंकर माँगे थे, राज्य सरकार ने तालाब खुदाई के लिए पैसा माँगा था और जिन  
डैम्स के प्रपोजल्स रुके हैं, उनके प्रपोजल्स को माँगा था।

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

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, हमने तो ये माँगा था, हमने इनसे रेल कब माँगी थी? यह तो हमारे  
बुंदेलखंड को लेकर शुद्ध राजनीतिकरण है। ...(व्यवधान)...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: ठीक है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुनवर सलीम जी, बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... But anyhow ...**(Interruptions)**... No. ...**(Interruptions)**... Anyhow, Nareshji, the Railway Minister spoke to your Chief Minister and they have communicated each other. ...**(Interruptions)**... Let it be over by that. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** मैं तो कहता हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो बैठक बुलाई है, उसे एक हफ्ते पहले बुला लेना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us not. ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Munvvar Saleemji, are you from Bundelkhand? ...**(Interruptions)**... You are from Bundelkhand. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, who is from Bundelkhand? ...**(Interruptions)**... बुंदेलखंड वाले कौन हैं? Nishadji. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, one of you can speak. ... **(Interruptions)**... But, now you can speak only about water problem in Bundelkhand and not about any federal unions, that is over. ...**(Interruptions)**... Only speak about water problem in Bundelkhand. ...**(Interruptions)**... Okay. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश):** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सदन के संज्ञान में यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि बुंदेलखंड में लगातार कई वर्षों से बारिश कम हो रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** आप इस पर बोलिए कि यूनियन गवर्नमेंट को क्या करना है?

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** सर, वहां पर वर्षा पर आधारित खेती होती है। वहां पर वर्षा से डैम्स भरते हैं, तालाब भरते हैं और उनसे पीने के पानी का बंदोबस्त होता है। मान्यवर, प्रदेश सरकार ने वहां के प्रत्येक गांव में एक-एक टैंकर भेजकर पीने के पानी का बंदोबस्त कराया है और राहत के पैकेट्स भेजे हैं, जिनमें 25 किलो आलू, 10 किलो आटा...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, that is not the issue. ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** मान्यवर, पहले आप मेरी बात तो सुन लीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, that is not going on... ...**(Interruptions)**... That, I am not allowing. ...**(Interruptions)**... निषाद जी, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने वहां जो कुछ किया है, उसको यहां बताने की जरूरत नहीं है। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को अगर कुछ करना है, तो उसके बारे में आप बोलिए, बस। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** बता रहा हूँ, सर। मान्यवर, आपके माध्यम से मैं केन्द्र सरकार को बताना चाहता हूँ कि कल हमने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को पत्र लिखा था। उसमें माननीय चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव जी तथा हम लोगों ने बुंदेलखंड, झांसी मंडल और चित्रकूट मंडल के लिए माँग की थी कि प्रत्येक जिले में एक-एक हजार हैंड पम्प्स दिए जाएँ; हमारे यहां जो तालाब हैं, जिनमें सिल्ट जम गई

है, उनकी खुदाई के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को पैसा दिया जाए और जो हमारे डैम्स हैं, उनको बनाने के लिए पैसे दिए जाएँ। हम लोगों ने ये माँगें की थीं।

**श्री उपसभापति:** बुंदेलखंड के लिए?

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** जी हाँ, बुंदेलखंड के लिए। हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि खाली डिब्बे भेजकर राजनीति की जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** ठीक है, हो गया।

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार वहाँ पानी का बंदोबस्त कर रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...**(Interruptions)**... Okay, that is enough. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing more will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Central Government may kindly examine his request. ...**(Interruptions)**... The Government may examine their request. ...**(Interruptions)**... That is all. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, that is all, Zero Hour, Shri Prabhat Jha. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri Prabhat Jha, Zero Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't open this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't open this. ...**(Interruptions)**... This is over. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** मान्यवर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति:** क्या है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... That is over. ...**(Interruptions)**... Bhupenderji. ...**(Interruptions)**... Not on this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Okay, okay ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, Bhupenderji. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** मान्यवर, यह सरकार बुंदेलखंड में पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं कर रही है, इसलिए हम लोग सदन से वॉकआउट करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**(इस समय कुछ माननीय सदस्य सदन से बाहर चले गए)**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have asked the Government to consider, then why are you walking out? ...**(Interruptions)**... Okay, yes please. ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no, sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, Bhupender Yadav ji. ...**(Interruptions)**... You sit down, sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Bhupinder Singh ji, you sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down, I will call you. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sit down, sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, Bhupender Yadavji. ...**(Interruptions)**...

---

\*Not recorded.

**श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव** (राजस्थान): सर, मैं एक विषय की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। सबसे पहले तो मैं हमारे Rajya Sabha Secretariat के जो कर्मचारी हैं, उनको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। सर, जिस दिन Agusta Westland पर डिबेट चल रही थी...

**श्री उपसभापति:** भुपेन्द्र जी, 30 मिनट आँवर सम्मिश्र हैं, इसलिए आप जल्दी से अपनी बात कह दीजिए।

**श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव:** सर, मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात कह दूँगा। जिस दिन Agusta Westland पर डिबेट चल रही थी, उस दिन कोई coincidence था कि उधर वाला दरवाज़ा एकदम से गिरा और हमारे कर्मचारियों ने तुरंत उसे संभाला। 15 मिनट तक उन्होंने उसे संभाले रखा और सदन किसी तरह से डिस्टर्ब नहीं हुआ। सर, इस सदन में सारा antique furniture है।

**श्री उपसभापति:** भुपेन्द्र जी, वह तो Secretariat की बात है, उसे इधर रोज़ करने की जरूरत नहीं है। आप चिट्ठी लिखिए।

**श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव:** मेरा विषय यह है कि उस समय साढ़े चार बजे थे और डा0 स्वामी का संबोधन हो रहा था तथा दरवाज़े में कम्पन हो रहा था। मेरा ऐसा मानना है कि इसकी सीसीटीवी फुटेज हमारे पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर को देखनी चाहिए और फ्यूचर के लिए, हमारे सदन की जो मेंटेनेंस देखते हैं, उनको बताया जाए।

**श्री उपसभापति:** यह Secretariat की बात है।

**श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव:** सर, एक बार पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर को सुरक्षा के विषय को देखना चाहिए, एक छोटी सी कमेटी बनाकर ...(व्यवधान)... वे इस संबंध में assurance दें और इस विषय को देखा जाना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No need of any assurance, the Secretariat will take care of it. ...(Interruptions)... Now, I want to take up Zero Hour submissions.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, I had given a notice under Rule 267. For thirty minutes, the House was agitated on water.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Water is a serious problem.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: On the same problem, I had given a notice under Rule 267.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you have given the notice under Rule 267. Now, please listen to me. The notice is to provide safe drinking water expressing concern on the depletion of ground water in the country. But the notice under Rule 267 can't be given for Zero Hour.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Let me submit, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no need for any submission. That is enough. It is ruled out. ...*(Interruptions)*... Already there is a decision of the Chairman not to have a discussion under Rule 267. That is ruled out. There is no scope to take up the notice under Rule 267 during the Zero Hour.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, please listen to me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already said about it, that is enough. Now, Mr. Prabhat Jha, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only Zero Hour Business and nothing else now. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

### MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

#### Death of a dalit man due to hunger in Banda, U.P.

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, एक बहुत गंभीर मामला है और प्रत्येक व्यक्ति से ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं उस बुंदेलखंड की चर्चा कर रहा हूँ, जिस बुंदेलखंड की बात अभी उठायी गयी थी। मेरा इस सदन से निवेदन है कि यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है। बांदा के एला गांव में एक दलित की भूख से मौत हुई है। मैं किसी सरकार पर आरोप नहीं लगाता, लेकिन जो पानी को लेकर विवाद कर रहे थे, मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि बुधवार को एला गांव में नाथू नाम के 41 साल के दलित की मौत पर क्यों आंसू बहाने नहीं गए? क्यों उसकी मौत हुई? भारत में भूख से मौत होना और दलित की मौत होना सरकार की सफलता कही जाएगी या असफलता कही जाएगी, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ। इसके बाद उसकी पत्नी ने आरोप लगाया है कि पुलिस उसमें लीपा-पोती कर रही है। एक तो उसकी भूख से मौत हुई और वहां कहा जाता है कि समाजवादी राशन बांटा जाता है। नरेश जी चले गए, मैं उनसे जवाब जानना चाहता था। उसकी विधवा पत्नी मुन्नी देवी का आरोप है कि राहत पैकेट काफी देर से पहुंचे - आप इस वाक्य को सुनिए - और उसके पति की भूख से मौत हुई है, यह बयान उस विधवा पत्नी का है, मुन्नी देवी का है। उसका कहना है कि हलके के लेखपाल ने नाथू के शव को जल्द से जल्द अंतिम संस्कार करने के लिए बाध्य किया, दबाव डाला गया, ताकि उन्हें कोई मुआवज़ा न मिल सके। साथ ही आज एक अधिकारी कुछ कागजात लेकर आए और मुन्नी देवी का अंगूठे का निशान लगवाकर कहा कि वह अपने घर में अनाज न होने की बात किसी से न कहे। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह कैसी धिनोनी राजनीति है? दलित की मौत पर अगर इस तरह की राजनीति होगी, चाहे वह सपा की सरकार हो, बसपा की सरकार हो, भाजपा की सरकार हो या कांग्रेस की सरकार हो - मौत पर राजनीति नहीं करनी चाहिए। मुझे दुख हुआ है कि पानी की समस्या का निदान होता है। पानी का टैंकर भरा जाता है, ऐसी बात पर राजनीति करते हो, लेकिन दलित की मौत पर राजनीति क्यों? क्यों नहीं मुआवज़ा दिया गया, क्यों नहीं राशन पहुंचा? आप कहते हो कि उत्तर प्रदेश उत्तम प्रदेश है, यह कैसा प्रदेश है, यह हम जानना चाहते हैं। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि जिस तरह से केरल में घटना हुई, वहां जांच समिति भेजी, वहां मंत्री गए, यहां के लिए भी कोई न कोई व्यवस्था हो और इस नाथूराम को न्याय मिले, यह मेरी अपील है।

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अमर शंकर साबले (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Anand Sharma ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Anand Sharma; not present ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, प्रभात झा जी ने बांदा का जो मुद्दा उठाया है, यह बहुत ही संवेदनशील मुद्दा है और बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। उस दिन जब केरल में एक बहुत ही वहशियाना घटना हुई थी, तो आपने सरकार को निर्देश दिया था कि वह उसके बारे में तत्काल पता लगाए। निश्चित तौर से मुझे लगता है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार अगर अपनी जिम्मेदारी से... इसके प्रति उसकी जितनी जिम्मेदारी और संवेदनशीलता होनी चाहिए, उसको पूरा करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार उसको कहेगी और आवश्यकता होगी तो आगे कदम उठाएगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; he has raised it. Dalit issue is a Central issue also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, yesterday, you asked the Rajya Sabha ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, yesterday, you asked the Rajya Sabha Secretariat ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, yesterday, you asked the Secretariat to submit a report to you on the progress of the authentication of the documents quoted by Dr. Subramanian Swamy day before yesterday ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will tell you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will come back to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I have not received that report ...*(Interruptions)*... and what action...*(Interruptions)*... on that report.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will come back ...*(Interruptions)*... I will come back to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will reply to you...*(Interruptions)*...

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, हमें भी सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

[چودھری منور سلیم : آپ سبھا پتی جی، ہمیں بھی سن لیجئے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will reply to you, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will reply...*(Interruptions)*... Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... What? ...*(Interruptions)*... About this Dalit issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान):** उपसभापति महोदय, पूरे देश में खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून लागू हो गया है। सिर्फ दो राज्य तमिलनाडु और केरल बचे हैं, जहां पर चुनाव चल रहे हैं। खाद्य सुरक्षा के अंतर्गत हम लोग उत्तर प्रदेश में भी 79 परसेंट लोगों को 2 रुपये किलो गेहूं और 3 रुपये किलो चावल दे रहे हैं। जब सरकार की ओर से खाफ सुरक्षा कानून लागू हो गया है और उस परिस्थिति में किसी व्यक्ति की भूख से मरने का समाचार आता है, तो यह बहुत ही दुखद है। हम इसकी जांच के लिए यहां से टीम भेजेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can take note of it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes; you can do that.

**श्री रामविलास पासवान:** बिहार में भी हमने टीम भेजी थी, जब जागो मांझी की भूख से मृत्यु हुई थी। हम टीम भेजेंगे और पता लगाएंगे कि जब प्रत्येक महीना 100 प्रतिशत उठाव हो जाता है, तब उस व्यक्ति को कब से अनाज नहीं मिला और नहीं मिला, तो क्यों नहीं मिला?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; that is okay. Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**सुश्री मायावती (उत्तर प्रदेश):** उपसभापति महोदय, एक मिनट, एक मिनट।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Our Zero Hour will be derailed. ...*(Interruptions)*... हो गया।

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश):** सर, आप सुन लीजिए।

**सुश्री मायावती:** उपसभापति जी, बुंदेलखंड में जो सत्ता पक्ष की ओर से माननीय सदस्य ने एक दलित की भूखे रहने की वजह से मृत्यु होने का कारण बताया है, मैं आपको बताना चाहती हूं कि बुंदेलखंड में एक नहीं, कई लोगों की मृत्यु हो चुकी है, वे मर चुके हैं। यह जांच का विषय है। वहां पर बेकसूर लोगों की हत्याएं भी की जा रही हैं। दलितों का बड़ा शोषण हो रहा है और भुखमरी से लोग कर रहे हैं। बुंदेलखंड में जिन दलितों की भूखे रहने की वजह से मृत्यु हुई है, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; all right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Noted ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is noted. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay; you can take note of that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.



**सुश्री मायावती:** तो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी है कि वह यहां से कोई टीम भेजे और वहां पर उस मामले की जांच करवा कर, जो भी इसमें दोषी लोग हैं, उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I told you that I will come back to you.

**सुश्री मायावती:** माननीय उपसभापति जी, क्योंकि यह मामला सेंसिटिव है, यहां से जो टीम भेजी और जो भी रिपोर्ट आए, उससे सदन को जरूर अवगत कराया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are sitting up to 5.00 p.m. Why are you worried? ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Shri D. Raja. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mayawatiji, please sit down. Shri D. Raja, please be fast.

**Situation due to deteriorating health of some JNU students participating  
in indefinite fast**

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, with great sense of anguish, I draw the attention of the entire House. I draw the attention of the Government that the JNU students are on indefinite fast; eight days have passed. Teachers also joined the students; they are also part of the indefinite fast. Sir, the situation in JNU is very serious. The condition of students is deteriorating. Last night, the JNUSU President, Kanhaiya Kumar has been shifted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. His health has gone down. Several students are facing the similar problem. The situation is so sad, and Jawaharlal Nehru University has been constituted under the Act of Parliament. Under the nose of Parliament, our students are suffering in such a way in JNU campus. The University authorities have resorted to punitive action against students. Several students have been rusticated; several students have been heavily fined. Why should the University authorities do this? Yesterday also, during the debate, I asked the HRD Ministry to intervene and advise the University authorities to reconsider their action against students. The Vice-Chancellor, the University authorities must offer negotiations with Students' Union, and sort out the problem. Sir, it cannot go out of control. After all, these students are the future of this nation. Sir, Jawaharlal Nehru University is a prestigious University. Hon. Minister, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman is sitting here. She is from JNU; Shri DP. Tripathi is from JNU; Shri Sitaram Yechury, my Comrade, is from JNU. Sir, JNU has produced such eminent politicians, statesmen, scientists, foreign affairs experts, diplomats and everything. Such a University is passing through unprecedented crisis, Sir. Can we tolerate it? Can we allow this? Can we allow our children to suffer like this? Their health is going from bad to worse. Sir, how can we, sitting in Parliament, tolerate such a situation? I am asking you this because you

were the Professor, Sir. You know the psychology of students. You know how students question everything. Sir, you tell me, I am asking you because you were the Professor once upon a time. Can such a situation continue in JNU? It is not only in JNU but also in Allahabad University similar situation is prevailing. So, Sir, my humble submission to the Government is, the Government should intervene without any delay; the Government should advise the University authorities to reconsider their decision; the Government should ask the University Vice-Chancellor and other authorities to offer negotiation with students. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, the time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Naqviji, I think the Government should try to solve the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

MS. ANU AGA (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

**श्री के.सी. त्यागी** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री शरद यादव त्यागी** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री अली अनवर अंसारी** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री के.सी. त्यागी** : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

**डा. तजीन फातमा** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

ڈاکٹر ترنن فاطمہ: مہودے، ماننیے سدسی نے جو موضوع اٹھایا ہے، میں بھی اپنے  
کو اس سے سمبڈ کرتی ہوں۔

**श्री पवन कुमार वर्मा** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री हरिवंश** (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी आपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Shantaram Naik. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PAVAN KUMAR VARMA: Sir, the students are. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... ओ.के. मैंने बोल दिया।  
...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Shantaram Naik.  
...*(Interruptions)*... No, no, not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... हो गया।

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: \*

**श्री शरद यादव**: जो डी. राजा ने कहा है... आप सुनिए। आप तो प्रोफेसर रहे हैं। हमको साढ़े चार साल ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the Government will look into all this.  
...*(Interruptions)*... I have told them.

**श्री शरद यादव**: सरकार कभी ऐसा काम नहीं करती है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन है कि नौजवानों पर केस करना ...*(व्यवधान)*... समिति बनाना, यह देश के लिए अच्छी बात नहीं है। हम लोग भी नौजवान आंदोलन में रहे हैं, चार-चार साल सज़ा ...*(व्यवधान)*... लेकिन कभी भी यूनिवर्सिटी ने हमें सज़ा नहीं दी, इसलिए नक्रवी साहब, इसमें ठीक ...*(व्यवधान)*... नहीं चल रहा है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Naqviji, please convey the feeling of the Members to the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Minister may initiate steps to solve the crisis. Be serious, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी)**: सर, ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स की जो फीलिंग्स हैं, मैं उनको होम मिनिस्टर को और प्रेजेंट मिनिस्टर को कन्वे कर दूंगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Shantaram Naik, not here. Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap.

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

\*Not recoded.

**Harmful effects on vegetation and increase in pollution due to burning of stubbles in fields**

**श्री राम कुमार कश्यप** (हरियाणा): सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि देश में राष्ट्रीय, राजकीय व अन्य मार्गों पर आग से बहुत सी छोटी-छोटी घटनाएं हो रही हैं, जिनके कारण हमारे आसपास का वातावरण तो दूषित हो ही रहा है, इसके साथ-साथ सड़कों के साथ जो पेड़-पौधे लगे हैं, इनका और वनस्पति का बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है। यह एक बहुत ही चिंता का विषय है। आग लगने के कई कारण हो सकते हैं, जिनकी तरफ ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। प्रायः खेतों में गेहूं व धान के अवशेषों को जलाने के लिए आग लगा दी जाती है। चिंता इस बात की नहीं है कि खेतों में आग लगाने से खेतों की उर्वरा शक्ति कम हो जाती है, बल्कि चिंता इस बात को लेकर है कि जब अवशेषों को जलाने के लिए खेतों में आग लगा दी जाती है, तो यह आग सड़कों के पास पहुंच जाती है। यह आग सड़कों के आसपास पेड़-पौधों व वनस्पतियों को जलाने का काम करती है। इस प्रकार की घटनाएं प्रायः NH1 पर देखी जा सकती हैं। आग लगने के कारण चारों ओर धुआं ही धुआं हो जाता है और धुआं नागरिकों के स्वास्थ्य को भी कई प्रकार से नुकसान पहुंचाता है। सरकार की तरफ से इस प्रकार की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए कोई पुख्ता इंतजाम नहीं हैं। उनके पास न ही कोई हेल्पलाइन नंबर है, जिस पर आग बुझाने की सूचना दी जा सके। कई बार तो आग की इन छोटी-छोटी घटनाओं से जानी नुकसान भी हो जाता है। पिछले दिनों हरियाणा के जिला पानीपत में एक ऐसी ही घटना घटी, जिसके कारण धुएँ में फंसे माँ-बेटा जिंदा जल गए। सीक गांव का रहने वाला, 11वीं कक्षा में पढ़ने वाला शौकीन नाम का एक लड़का अपनी माँ सीमा के साथ, अपनी स्कूल की किताबें खरीदने के लिए शहर गया हुआ था। किताबें खरीदने के बाद शाम चार बजे, जब शहर से गाँव की तरफ बाइक पर लौट रहा था, तो रास्ते में खेतों में आग लगी हुई थी। तेज हवा व धूप के कारण आग ने विकराल रूप धारण किया हुआ था, सड़क पर धुआँ ही धुआँ था। उसने सोचा कि धुआँ थोड़ी दूर पर ही होगा और वे बीच के रास्ते से निकल जाएंगे। यह सोचकर शौकीन ने बाइक धुएँ के अंदर प्रवेश करा दी। धुएँ की वजह से शौकीन की बाइक का संतुलन खराब हो गया और वह खड्डे में गिर गई। वहां पर तेज आग होने की वजह से माँ-बेटा बुरी तरह से आग में झुलस गए और जिंदा जल गए। यह तो एक उदाहरण है, न जाने कितने और उदाहरण होंगे, जिनसे हमारे देश का नुकसान हो रहा है। यह देश के हित में नहीं है, इसलिए मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा और इस प्रकार की घटनाएं, विशेष रूप से आग की घटनाएं न हों, इसके पुख्ता इंतजाम किए जाएं। ऐसा करना देश के हित में होगा। जय हिंद।

**Incidents of eve-teasing of students in Haryana**

**श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन** (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं जिस विषय को उठाना चाह रही हूँ, वह बहुत ही गंभीर विषय है। एक तरफ सरकार "बेटी पढ़ाओ, बेटी बचाओ" का नारा दे रही है, और दूसरी तरफ गाँव की जो बेटियाँ स्कूल जा रही हैं, वे स्कूल छोड़ने पर मजबूर हो रही हैं। मैं हरियाणा के रेवाड़ी डिस्ट्रिक्ट के सूमो और कतोपुरी गाँवों की बात करना चाहती हूँ। यहाँ लाला गाँव में एक स्कूल है, यहाँ की दो बच्चियाँ उस स्कूल में पढ़ने के लिए जाया करती हैं, लेकिन लाला गाँव के कुछ लड़के उनके साथ छेड़छाड़ करते हैं। जब उन्होंने अपने अभिभावकों से यह बात बताई, तो अभिभावकों ने उनका स्कूल छोड़ा दिया। वहाँ 10 लड़के हैं, लेकिन यह सिर्फ उन लड़कियों

की नहीं, बल्कि उस गांव की जितनी 38 लड़कियाँ हैं, उनकी समस्या है। जो लड़कियाँ लाला गांव के स्कूल जाया करती थीं, गाँव के लोगों ने उनका स्कूल छुड़वाकर एक शिक्षक की नियुक्ति कर दी है, जिससे कि वे बच्चियाँ वहीं पढ़ें, स्कूल नहीं जाएं। इससे पहले भी उस गाँव में इन दोनों गाँवों की लड़कियों के साथ गैंगरेप हुआ था और आज वे लड़के सलाखों के पीछे हैं। उसके बावजूद भी 2012, 2014 में ये घटनाएँ घटी थीं, लेकिन ...(व्यवधान)...

**डा. चंदन मित्रा** (मध्य प्रदेश): सरकार से कहना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन:** मैं हरियाणा की बात बोल रही हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि कल जिस तरह से ...(व्यवधान)... मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि एक तरफ जिस तरह से सरकार, "बेटी पढ़ाओ, बेटी बचाओ" का नारा लगा रही है, दूसरी तरफ गाँव की बेटियाँ स्कूल जाने से रुक रही हैं। जब गाँव में इस तरह के हादसे होते हैं, तो लोग अपनी बेटियों को घरों में रख लेते हैं, लेकिन पढ़ने के लिए नहीं भेजते हैं। मैं उन अभिभावकों को और उस गाँव के लोगों को सलाम करती हूँ कि उन्होंने अपनी बेटियों की पढ़ाई रोकी नहीं। मुझे चिंता उस लाला गाँव की है कि वहाँ की लड़कियाँ होंगी, वहाँ की लड़कियाँ भी स्कूल जाया करती होंगी, लेकिन वहाँ की लड़कियों की क्या दुर्दशा होती होगी या उनकी क्या हालत होगी, मुझे इसकी चिंता सता रही है। वहाँ का ज़िला प्रशासन इस ओर कुछ भी ध्यान नहीं दे रहा है, इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह माँग करती हूँ कि अगर वे इस मामले में संजीदा हैं, तो वहाँ एक कमेटी भेजकर इसकी जाँच शुरू कराएँ और बेटियों की जो मुश्किलें हैं, उनको आसान करें। बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री अली अनवर अंसारी** (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसार निषाद** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री नीरज शेखर** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

**श्री हरिवंश** (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री रामचन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह** (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर** (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव** (छत्तीसगढ़): उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Goel. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Vijay Goel. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Vijay Goel. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): करने के लिए आ रहे थे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनको रोका गया ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Goel. ...*(Interruptions)*... No point of order now. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing any point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Vijay Goel. ... *(Interruptions)*... Vijay Goelji, you please proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only what Shri Vijay Goel says will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not do that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Vijay Goelji, you please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... You speak, Goelji, only that will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

**REFERENCE BY MEMBERS — Contd.**

**Re. News item appearing in print media**

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान): उपसभापति जी, मैं सबसे पहले सदन को इस बारे में ...**(व्यवधान)**... बोलना चाहता था, लेकिन तीन महीने पहले मेरा फ्रेक्चर हो गया, इसलिए मैं पार्लियामेंट नहीं आ पाया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं यह मामला उठाना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can hear. You speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Vijay Goel, you speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can hear. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can hear. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: उपसभापति जी, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब मैं सवेरे अखबार खोलता हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... तो मैं समाचार पत्र में लिखा देखता हूँ कि Odd-Even fail हो गया है ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्योंकि इससे कोई प्रदूषण नहीं घटा ...**(व्यवधान)**... और इससे किसी प्रकार से कोई ट्रैफिक कम नहीं हुआ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your issue? ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: किन्तु अगले दिन जब मैं समाचार पत्र देखता हूँ, तो देखता हूँ कि बड़े-बड़े अक्षरों में लिखा हुआ है कि Odd-Even सफल हो गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे तो यह समझ में नहीं आता है कि एक ही अखबार के अन्दर ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक ही अखबार के अन्दर एक दिन पहले उसको असफल बताया गया है ...**(व्यवधान)**... और दूसरे दिन उसी अखबार में उसको सफल बताया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can hear. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is going on record. You speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can hear. It is going on record. You speak.

...(Interruptions)... गोयल जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... गोयल जी, आप बोलिए, यह रिकॉर्ड में जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपको सुन सकता हूँ, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... What are you doing? ...**(Interruptions)**... आप लोग क्या कर रहे हैं? Mr. Vijay Goel, are you not speaking? ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री विजय गोयल:** सर, मुझसे नहीं बोला जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, not present. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri P. Bhattacharya. Mr. Bhattacharya, would you like to speak? ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shrimati Baidya, speak loudly on the mike. I can hear. ...**(Interruptions)**... It will be on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... I can hear.

---

#### MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION — *Contd.*

##### **Declining allocation for MGNREGA in the budget**

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, in the backdrop of global economic slowdown, the budget should have increased measures that enhance domestic demand. ...**(Interruptions)**... Instead, it chose to continue with the same regressive policies that are contradictory. ...**(Interruptions)**... This would aggravate inequality, unemployment and further contract exports. ...**(Interruptions)**... It would lead to increasing distress in agriculture and the countryside, the collapse of industrial production, the slowdown in construction activities and many services. ...**(Interruptions)**...

The lofty claim of highest ever allocation for MGNREGA is patently false because it was higher in the year 2010-11. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't do that. ...**(Interruptions)**... What are you people doing? ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Maintaining 2010-11 levels in real terms would have required an expenditure of over ₹ 65,000 crores in 2016-17. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is even more shocking is a concealment of the fact that in 2015-16, despite it being a drought year and the promise of doubling the number of days of work from 100 to 200 days, the actual level of expenditure was so low as to generate only an average of 38 mandays. ...**(Interruptions)**...

With declining work opportunities for women, especially, in rural areas due to the widespread drought, there was a need to increase the allocation for the MGNREGA.

...(Interruptions)... However, the nominal increase of just 7.7 per cent over the revised allocations means that there is no real increase after taking into account inflation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, for Tripura, we also got cut in this Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... In Tripura, the total number of work mandays completed is 94 days. Why has the allocation been cut? ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to know from the Government as to why Tripura has been deprived of the MGNREGA. ...*(Interruptions)*... Anti-people Budget will lead to a new wave of protest against the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Union budget has exposed the sheer anti-people class character of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... It has increased indirect taxes to burden the common man. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Over, over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Message from the Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*... Message from the Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

### MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

#### The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 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 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th May, 2016."

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

...*(Interruptions)*...

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

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

---

*The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,*

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

#### REFERENCE BY MEMBERS — *Contd.*

#### Re. Demand for listing Short Duration Discussion

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, one week has gone by. I had given a notice for a Short Duration Discussion. What is the fate of my request, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...



MR. CHAIRMAN: But this is Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल** (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I would like to say that today, there has been a protest by the senior leadership of the Congress Party, including all the Members of Parliament, where the former Prime Minister, former Ministers, the Congress President, Mrs. Gandhi, Vice-President, Mr. Rahul Gandhi, everybody, was arrested. We are protesting against the assault on the democracy by this Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this Government is busy abusing and insulting the Constitution. भारत के संविधान का अपमान हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देश में दमन हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देश में कुशासन चल रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... लोकतंत्र पर प्रहार हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसके विरोध में हमने अपनी आवाज़ उठाई है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Sharmaji. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. This is not the occasion for it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री आनन्द शर्मा**: सर, यह सदन लोकतंत्र की सबसे ऊँची संस्था है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can express your views, but this is not the occasion for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... आनन्द शर्मा जी, आप प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आप क्या कह रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... Let me go to Question No. 136. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, there is one thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I am on a very important point, which I must bring to your notice. Day before yesterday, we had a debate in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... An hon. Minister of the Government has said that that House, the other House, is the honourable House and this House is the 'Augusta House'. This one is the 'Augusta House'. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is a Minister saying, "This is the 'Augusta House' and that is the august House." ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Such expressions have no relevance. The House holds its own dignity ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, you are the custodian. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are the custodian of the dignity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody is part of the House. This House has its own dignity. We don't need certificates from anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this House has a certain... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow me to conduct the Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...* आप प्लीज बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I had given notice for Short Duration Discussion. What is the fate of my request? *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, I want to know whether my notice for a Short Duration Discussion on an issue of national importance will it be accepted or not? *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, it is one week, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know it is the Question Hour. I would explain the position to you. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, it is one week. I am asking this question everyday. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Come and see me in the Chamber after this. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am a law-abiding Member of this House. I am constrained to stand up repeatedly and request for admission of my notice. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. But, at the moment *...(Interruptions)...* Please, I can't give you the answer here. *...(Interruptions)...* Nareshji, please allow the Question Hour to proceed. *...(Interruptions)...* आप प्लीज बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* Nareshji, आप कहिए, आपको क्या कहना है? *...(व्यवधान)...*

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** माननीय सभापति जी, उत्तर प्रदेश से संबंधित एक मैटर उठाया गया। *...(व्यवधान)...*

**श्री सभापति:** ज़ीरो ऑवर खत्म हो गया। *...(व्यवधान)...* नहीं, नहीं। वह खत्म हो गया। *...(व्यवधान)...* I am sorry. *...(Interruptions)...*

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** श्रीमन्, मंत्री जी ने घोषणा *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. *...(Interruptions)...*

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** लेकिन वह तो पूर्णतः असत्य है *...(व्यवधान)...* वह पूर्णतः गलत है। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, what happened to my notice for a Short Duration Discussion? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, I cannot give you the answer here. This is Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...*

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सर, वहां एक भी आदमी की भूख से मौत नहीं हुई है। *...(व्यवधान)...* सर, इस तरीके की असत्य बातें कहना और *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)...* Is the questioner present? *...(Interruptions)...* आप बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* Please. *...(Interruptions)...* What is the point? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, has my notice for a Short Duration Discussion been admitted or not? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप प्लीज बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point in disrupting the Question Hour? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no, no. None of this is going on record. Why are you...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, it may not go on the record, but ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But what is the point in raising it? ...*(Interruptions)*... Look, there are Members who have asked questions. It is only fair that they get answers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय सभापति जी, लगातार ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question 136. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, what is the fate of my request? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can't give you the answer here. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry, I cannot give you the answer here. ...*(Interruptions)*... बैठ जाइए, बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. The question. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Question No. 136.. What is the point? This has no relevance. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Reservation of SCs/STs/OBCs etc. in judicial service

\*136.DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received requests/suggestions in favour of reservation for OBCs/SCs/STs/Muslims/Women in the judicial service;

---

\*Not recorded.

(b) if so, whether the demand would be considered favourably; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) to (c) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government has, however, requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and from amongst women.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issues of appointment, promotion, reservations etc. of judicial officers in the State Judicial Service. Central Government has no direct role in this regard.

Most recently, upon receiving representations from various sources, the Member-Secretary, National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) requested the Government to consider providing 27% reservations for OBCs in lower as well as Higher Judicial Services of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Since the matter pertains to the State Government of NCT of Delhi, the request has been forwarded to them as well as to the Delhi High Court for taking necessary action.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is irrelevant; I don't expect this from you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Question No.136. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Questioner is present. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please raise your question? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the answer be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... Supplementary question ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: हम उसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't do this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, बैठ जाइए, आप भी बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Where is the discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jairam Rameshji, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please stop interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*... Jairam Rameshji, please stop interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, Rs.20,000 crore of bank money ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री नीरज शेखर:** बुंदेलखंड के सूखे पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't do this. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप भी बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry you are disturbing the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Where is the discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*... We want your decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot get the decision at this time. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the occasion to seek an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: When is the occasion? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

*The House reassembled at twenty-one minutes past twelve of the clock,*

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao has raised his question and the answer has been given. Now, he may ask his supplementary.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, according to my understanding, the great founders of our Constitution envisaged the rule of reservation keeping in view the objective that the underprivileged people, particularly those belonging to the lower strata of the society, would become equal to the other sections of the society who are privileged. Sir, to my understanding, the framers of the Constitution had never banned or disallowed...

**श्री सभापति:** आपका question क्या है?

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I was making a small introduction. I am coming to the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; just ask the question.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, to my understanding, they had never banned reservation in the Judiciary. On seeing the hon. Minister's reply, to my limited understanding and to my limited IQ, I am getting a feeling as if the framers of the Constitution had prohibited reservation in the judicial system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, what are you asking?

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, through you, I would like to ask from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal from the Government side for considering a Constitutional amendment in this regard because the Standing Committee on Law and Justice has already recommended for such a thing. Is there any proposal from the Government to call for an all-party meeting to discuss this issue?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, the High Court and the Supreme Court Judges are the Constitutional posts and their appointment and selection is done as per the Constitutional provisions. As on today, the appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court are governed by the Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution respectively. These Articles do not provide for any reservation for persons belonging to any caste or class. So, as far as the High Court and Supreme Court Judges are concerned, under the present Constitution, there is practically no reservation as far as any caste or community is concerned. But, as my friend rightly said, repeatedly, we are writing to the Chief Justices of various High Courts. My predecessor, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, wrote two or three letters to all the Chief Justices of the High Courts to please consider the reservation for SCs, STs, women and all that at the time of making the list of the Judges in the Collegium. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: सर, इनके सप्लिमेटरी का जवाब नहीं आया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

[جناب محمد علی خان : سر، ان کے سپلیمنٹری کا جواب نہیں آیا۔۔۔*(مداخلت)*۔۔۔]

श्री सभापति: पहले सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: I am coming to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... They should hear me. As far as the higher judiciary and higher judicial services are concerned, there are certain differences. Higher judiciary is High Courts and the Supreme Court. As far as higher judicial services are concerned and as far as the lower judiciary services are concerned, of course, in various States, it comes under the control of the High Court, and,

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

there are reservations. I have got all the particulars of all the 24 High Courts where there are reservations in the appointment of judges. My learned friend is from Andhra Pradesh. Let us take the example of Andhra Pradesh. As far as Andhra High Court is concerned, in the lower judiciary, certainly, for Scheduled Castes, it is 15 per cent, for Scheduled Tribes, it is 6 per cent, and, for BC, it is 29 per cent. It is applicable to the lower judicial services. But as he rightly said, at present, there is no proposal before the Government as far as Constitutional amendment is concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. That is all right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your second question, and take less time.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, the Government has to bring the proposal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Selja ji, it is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Respected Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Selja ji, please sit down.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Sir, for the High Court and the Supreme Court, the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Punia ji, please. He has given the answer.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: No, he has not given the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no proposal before the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

KUMARI SELJA: Who will bring the proposal? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I am repeating my first supplementary again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please ask your second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your first supplementary has been answered.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, he did not answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go to other question, if you do not ask the second supplementary.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, you have to come to my rescue. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to come to my rescue and you must protect me. ...*(Interruptions)*... He never answered my question. Is the Government considering. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question was: Does the Government have the matter under consideration? The answer is 'no'. Now, ask your second supplementary.

KUMARI SELJA: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Constitutional Amendment. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are not considering. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what he has said. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your second question. We are running out of time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Is the Central Government, particularly, the Law and Justice Department, considering the issue of specific model rules and regulations, which will be binding upon the State Governments and other judiciary in the States?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I said that the appointments of the judicial officers in the States is completely under the domain of the High Courts and the High Courts in consultation with the State Governments, will form rules and regulations as far as the appointments to the lower judiciary are concerned. There are about 19 States where there are reservations in the appointment of judicial officers in the lower judiciary. But as far as High Courts and the Supreme Court are concerned, these are Constitutional posts.

They are governed by the Constitutional authorities. There is no such reservation. My friend has asked as to whether we are going to hold an all-Party meeting to consider all these aspects. His suggestion is taken note of, and, I will think about it.

SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Sir, I want to put a question to the hon. Law Minister. In his answer to the question on record, he has stated that there are certain difficulties under the Constitution of India for having fixed reservation quotas for OBCs, SCs and Muslims also. We find that after the quashing of the Judicial Appointments Commission, there has been some confusion with regard to the responsibility to be fixed upon the Chief Justice or upon the Central Government, but, at the same time, I would request you to do something in order to restore the faith of the people of this country in the administration of justice, and, more particularly, of the minorities, the SCs, STs who are always at the receiving end, as far as injustice is concerned. So, I think the Government would do well.



The Law Minister would kindly examine the representation of Judges, both in higher judiciary and lower judiciary, periodically twice a year to ensure that adequate number of judges' representation is there so that the people who belong to Backward Class, including Muslims, would feel secure as far as distribution of Justice is concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: It is well taken, Sir. Unfortunately, the NJAC was struck down. But you have seen the intention of the Government in NJAC. One of the Members should belong to either SC or ST or Woman or Minority Community. But, unfortunately, it was struck down. Apart from that, we are repeatedly writing to the Chief Justice. And it was a unanimous decision of the Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir; Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. Yes, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the answer says, the Government has, however, requested the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to the suitable candidates belonging to the OBC, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, minorities and from amongst women. Sir, what is 'suitable candidates'? It is an insulting word, I find. I have come across all the Government documents, public sector, judiciary, everywhere, whenever it comes to SC/ST/OBC, you say eligibility is not there, suitability is not there. After independence, seven decades have passed and you are saying no suitable candidate is there. Due consideration should be given to 'suitable candidates'. This is a very insulting word, Sir. I make this comment.

Now, I come to the question. As per the data which I have, up to 13.02.2016, in Supreme Court of India, total Chief Justices appointed are 43. Out of these, OBC is 1, SC is 1. Additional Judges are 177. So, total Judges are 219. Out of these, the number of OBC Judges is 5, SC Judges is 4 and ST Judges is nil. How do you justify this, Sir? I am asking the Law Minister how you justify this position.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in almost all the appointments, the suitability is there. Right from IAS up to the last stage of appointment, suitability is a word which is used for each and every post that has certain eligibility criteria. That has to suit. That is what I mean by suitability. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am sorry, Sir, in all public sector undertakings, take the case of Board of Directors. They say no suitable candidate is available. And here, you say no suitable candidate is available. It is an insulting word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, please listen to the answer.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, suitability is a word. In each and every appointment, there are certain eligibility criteria. For example, ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you. To become a District Judge from a Bar, he has to complete seven years of service. All these are eligibility criteria. That is the suitability what I mean.

Sir, as far as his other issue is concerned that these are the numbers of OBCs, these are the numbers of SCs and STs, the Supreme Court and High Courts don't maintain the statistics about the religion, community or anything in their portal. So, I don't know from where my friend has got all those numbers. So far, I have received reply from all the High Courts and the Supreme Court. They say that they don't maintain statistics with regard to religion, community or caste. Even the format wherein an advocate is elevated to the High Court or to the Supreme Court does not contain any sentence with regard to eligibility and other things.

**श्री दिग्विजय सिंह:** माननीय सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी फरमाया है कि सभी पार्टियों में आम सहमति होने के बाद एक सर्वसम्मति का प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ और उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यदि सर्वसम्मति का प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया और आम सहमति है तो फिर संविधान का संशोधन करने में क्या दिक्कत है?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, technically, we have seen NJAC. It has been unanimously passed. But judicial scrutiny is there under the Constitution. Now, ...*(Interruptions)*... Wait, wait. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIDIGVIJAYASINGH: Sir, the Constitution can be amended....*(Interruptions)*... It is the right of the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: For that only, the suggestion given by my friend, I said that it is well-taken. Certainly, we will consider that and we will go ahead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: When? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: That I cannot say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No.137. ...*(Interruptions)*... Satishji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, the total strength of the Allahabad High Court is 160. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether even one per cent of the judges from the Scheduled Castes is there or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सभापति:** आप बैठ जाइए। आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: The total strength of the Allahabad High Court is 160. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, how many ...*(Interruptions)*... judges from Scheduled Castes are there? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, you will get an answer from the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister will give you an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, he has the data. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: So, he may just tell us how many judges belonging to the Scheduled Castes are there in Allahabad High Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have moved on to the next Question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Even if it is zero, out of 160, tell us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, this is important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will give you the data. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: ...because there is no Judge in the Allahabad High Court ...*(Interruptions)*... who belongs to Scheduled Caste. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: And he says that we have sent a letter. ...*(Interruptions)*... They have asked the Chief Justice to follow the guidelines. ...*(Interruptions)*... They never follow it. If they do not follow it, what can you do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, we cannot take it that here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: If they use it ...*(Interruptions)*... please send them ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you not send their names back to them ...*(Interruptions)*... saying that you send the names of SC, ST and OBC and minorities; I have included it as per the guidelines? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Therefore, it should be sent back. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why should they put a stamp on it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, it calls for a serious discussion between you and the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: And there is no prohibition for reservation in High Court and Supreme Court ...*(Interruptions)*... under Articles 124 and 217. ...*(Interruptions)*... Is any prohibition there? ...*(Interruptions)*... You can still make a reservation over there under your Rules because it is a State. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Can we. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: ..and this falls within the definition of 'State'. ...*(Interruptions)*... The High Court and Supreme Court are not beyond the State. ...*(Interruptions)*... And Article 16(4) deals with respect to State. And it says they can frame reservation for them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: If the High Court Judges and the Supreme Court Judges get salary as a State ...*(Interruptions)*... then, you should make reservation for them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are learned in law. The hon. Minister is learned in law. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can discuss this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Question No. 137, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Question be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... Minister of Agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: This is a serious issue, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my main question was. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: सर, इस इश्यू पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

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

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: आप इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा करवाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: They are agreeing to it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Government is agreeing to it. ...(*Interruptions*)... No problem. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: When there is no prohibition, why no reservation? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... आप बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, I am asking on the issue of reservation. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is a serious issue, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... There should be one hour discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh.

#### **Decreasing land area under cultivation**

\*137.DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the area of land under cultivation is decreasing; and
- (b) if so, the rate of decrease during the last three years?

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

#### ***Statement***

(a) and (b) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2012-13 (latest available), total land under cultivation/cultivable land in the country has marginally declined from 182.01 million hectares in 2010-11 to 181.96 million hectares in 2011-12 and further to 181.95 million hectares in 2012-13. The average decrease in the cultivable land in the country during the above period has been 0.03 million hectares per year.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my main question to hon. Minister of Agriculture was whether the land under cultivation is decreasing, for which my assessment was right, as the reply is that the land is decreasing. In the last four years, about 8 lakh hectares land under cultivation has decreased. Sir, apart from that, the average land holding has also

come down drastically. The current average land holding is 1.16 hectares, which is quite small. Now, with the result, the yield per hectare or the production per hectare has also gone down drastically.

I will give you two examples before I come to my main question. In the case of rice, the average yield in India is 2.4 tonnes per hectare, whereas in countries like China it is 4.7 tonnes; in Brazil it is 3.6 tonnes. On wheat, which is one of our main crops, the average yield in India per hectare is 3.15 tonnes versus South Africa, which produces 3.4 tonnes and China does 4.9 tonnes per hectare.

Now, with the abysmal level of yield per hectare, the agriculture is no more economically, probably, viable. We see a lot of farmers committing suicide.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. The land under cultivation is going down. The land average size holding is going down. The yield per hectare is going down. The farmers are committing suicide. Does the Government have a specific plan to address this problem?

**कृषि और किसान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान):** माननीय सभापति जी, 0.03 हेक्टेयर per year cultivable land कम हो रहा है, माननीय सदस्य की यह बात सही है। अगर आप productivity देखेंगे, तो over a period of time, productivity बढ़ी है, productivity कम नहीं हुई है। हो सकता है कि पिछले वर्ष सूखे की वजह से productivity में थोड़ी कमी रही हो, इसका कारण भी है। अगर आप किसी भी crop का average time period देखेंगे, तो हिन्दुस्तान में 80 से 110 दिन हैं। कुछ देशों में यह 180 से 200 दिन के करीब है। यह भी सही है कि देश में mechanism कम है, यह भी सच है कि fertilizers और quality seeds की कमी है। धीरे-धीरे इन पर काम तो जरूर हो रहा है, काम slow हुआ है, यह सच है, लेकिन यह कोई इतनी alarming situation नहीं है, आपने जो सबसे बड़ी बात कही है। अगर जमीन में थोड़ी बहुत कमी है, तो वह उसकी cropping intensity को बढ़ाकर दूर की जा सकती है। आज भी देश में cropping intensity मात्र 138 per cent है, जो कि बढ़कर 200 per cent तक जा सकती है। उसमें धीरे-धीरे progress भी है और उसमें सबसे बड़ा कारण irrigation की कमी है। उस पर focus भी है और 'प्रधान मंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना' द्वारा उस पर काम भी हो रहा है। इन्हीं सभी mechanisations के द्वारा भी काम बढ़ाया जा रहा है और quality seeds की सबसे बड़ी समस्या, आप कह सकते हैं कि पूरे भारत की रही है। हमेशा एक ही crop ली जाती रही है और उस crop को लेने का तरीका भी अलग ही रहा है। उसमें न pesticides का इस्तेमाल हुआ और न fertilizers का कभी पूरे भारत में रहा। सिंचाई सुविधाएं कम थीं, तो Green Revolution को पूरे भारत के लिए नई स्कीम शुरू की गई है, उसके द्वारा इसको address किया जा रहा है।

**डा. कनवर दीप सिंह:** सर, मैंने मंत्री जी से यह पूछा था कि अगर कोई specific plan है, तो मंत्री जी ने specific plan न बताकर केवल problems ही बताई हैं। But anyway that is the way it

is. Sir, the population in our country is increasing and the growth in agriculture is only two per cent. It accounts only for 14 per cent of our GDP. This, in my opinion, is an alarming situation which will reach probably those levels if we don't address it right away. We got independence in 1947. Almost that was the time when a country like Israel came into being. Israel does not have land for cultivation. Its soil is not good. They do not have water. I have had the privilege of visiting it. I come from agriculture background, so I went into the interiors and asked as to how they could do it. The simple slogan at that time was: One square inch of land and one drop of water should convert into one US dollar. And they did it. I think the time has come when we also need to address it. Otherwise, you will not be able to save the farmers; you will not be able to prevent them from committing suicides.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: In the reply, which the hon. Minister has given, he has only admitted the problems, which I have highlighted. They do exist. The time is to deploy the technology in agriculture. Do they have any specific plan for technology application in agriculture?

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** सर, मैंने जवाब दिया था कि देश में जो सबसे बड़ी समस्या है, वह irrigation की समस्या है। आज भी 45 per cent total irrigated land हमारे पास है। इसी समस्या को दूर करने के लिए मैंने आपसे 'प्रधान मंत्री कृषि योजना' का जिक्र किया था। जो Israel में हुआ है, वह drip irrigation, sprinkler, per drop, more crop, पानी की हर बूंद का इस्तेमाल, अगर कुछ प्रदेशों को छोड़ दिया जाए, तो आज तक यह हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं हुआ। इन प्रदेशों में तमिलनाडु, महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात हैं। इन प्रदेशों में drip irrigation का ज्यादा इस्तेमाल हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री के.सी. त्यागी:** Israel में कुछ और भी अच्छे काम हुए हैं।

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** यह सच है कि हम Israel से बहुत पीछे हैं और यह भी सच है कि अगर आप लगातार Israel में agriculture के field में investment देखेंगे, तो उसमें और हिन्दुस्तान में mechanisation को देखते हुए एक बहुत बड़ा gap है, और यह सच है कि agriculture का growth rate कम रहा है, 2 per cent से भी कम और यह basically इसीलिए है, अगर 55 per cent land देश का आज भी non-irrigated है, तो क्या यह कल्पना की जा सकती है कि लगातार दो सूखे के बावजूद हम growth rate ज्यादा ले जाएं? तो इसका तरीका यही है कि irrigation बढ़ाया जाए और यदि irrigation बढ़ेगा, तो हम सूखे का मुकाबला कर पाएंगे।

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: My question is ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's all. ...**(Interruptions)**...

DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN: I answered it. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is the Scheme called Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is being implemented. इस वर्ष भी उसमें...

**डा. कनवर दीप सिंह:** सर....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let there be a short question and a short answer.

**श्री राधा मोहन सिंह:** महोदय, माननीय सदस्य यदि योजना के बारे में विस्तार से जानना चाहते हैं, तो फिर एक दिन सिंचाई योजना पर अलग से चर्चा करा लें, अच्छा रहेगा।

**श्री शादी लाल बत्रा:** चेयरमैन सर, मैं मंत्री महोदय, से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने जो cultivated land बनाया है, वह total land का कितने percent है और barren land कितना है, land under forest कितना है, और क्या कोई ऐसी land है, जिसको हम cultivation के लायक बना सकें?

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** माननीय सभापति महोदय, देश का 328 मिलियन हेक्टेयर टोटल ज्योग्राफिकल एरिया है। इसमें से आप कह सकते हैं कि, इस देश में 181.95 cultivable land मौजूद है। आप अंदाजन कह सकते हैं कि यह करीब 60 परसेंट है। हम जो ला सकते हैं, हमारी जो सबसे बड़ी समस्या है, वह यह है कि हमारे पास जो current fallow land है, वह 15.82 million hectares लैंड है, जिसमें पिछले एक वर्ष से खेती नहीं हुई है। दूसरा लैंड fallow land होती है, other than current fallow, जिसमें पिछले पाँच सालों से खेती नहीं हुई है, वह भी देश के करीब 11 बिलियन हेक्टेयर मौजूद है। इस तरह से अगर इरिगेशन की फेसिलिटी बढ़े, तो 15.25 और 11, यानी की करीब 26 मिलियन हेक्टेयर लैंड को एकदम से cultivable बनाया जा सकता है।

**श्री बसवाराज पाटिल:** माननीय सभापति जी, जब विश्व के अन्य देशों से तुलना करते हैं तो जो भारत की जमीन है, वह सबसे अधिक उपजाऊ जमीन है। यहाँ की जनसंख्या भी तीव्र गति से बढ़ रही है। कल यह भी हो सकता है कि दुनिया को अन्न देने की क्षमता भारत को लेनी पड़ेगी। ऐसे समय में हमारे पास अधिक cultivable लैंड का स्टॉक रखते हुए, उसको नॉन एग्रीकल्चरल लैंड में कंवर्ट करना, केवल देश के अन्न की समस्या नहीं, बल्कि दुनिया के अन्न की समस्या के लिए संकट बन सकती है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में कृषि मंत्रालय क्या सोचता है?

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, 2007 में "नेशनल पॉलिसी फॉर फार्मर्स" आई थी। उसी समय कृषि मंत्रालय द्वारा सभी प्रदेश सरकारों को एडवाइज दी गई थी कि एग्रीकल्चरल cultivable लैंड को नॉन एग्रीकल्चरल लैंड में मिनिमम ट्रांसफर किया जाए। अगर इंडस्ट्री भी लगानी है, कुछ और चीज़ है तो वेस्ट लैंड पर होनी चाहिए, लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी जो cultivable लैंड है, कुछ ऐसी योजनाएं हैं, जैसे सड़कें, रेलवे, इरिगेशन फेसिलिटीज़, बिजली आदि, जिनमें कुछ न कुछ cultivable लैंड हमेशा ही कम होता जाएगा। आप प्रैक्टिकली उसे किसी भी तरह से रोक नहीं सकते हैं, लेकिन फिर भी जो .03 मिलियन हेक्टेयर की कमी है, वह बहुत ज्यादा नहीं है। हम वेस्ट लैंड को कंवर्ट करके उसको रोक सकते हैं। आप देख सकते हैं कि पिछले बहुत सालों से हमारा नेट शोन एरिया लगभग वही है, कम नहीं है।



**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद:** सभापति महोदय, हमारा भारत कृषि प्रधान देश है। पहले घाघ की कहावत थी कि, "उत्तम खेती, मध्यम बाना।" हमारा देश पूरी तरह से कृषि पर आधारित देश है। इस समय किसान अपनी कृषि छोड़कर बाहर पलायन कर रहा है, क्योंकि घाटे की खेती हो रही है। हम माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहते हैं कि क्या वे कम पानी की फसलें उगाने के लिए कोई ऐसा इंतजाम करेंगे, जिससे कि किसान को ज्यादा लाभकारी मूल्य मिले और किसान को खुद अपनी खेती का मूल्य निर्धारण करने का अधिकार मिले। केंद्र सरकार कम मूल्य निर्धारित करती है, इसलिए क्या आप किसान को भी उद्योगपतियों की तरह पावर देंगे, उन्हें यह अधिकार देंगे कि किसान अपनी फसल का मूल्य निर्धारित करें?

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** माननीय सभापति महोदय, किसान को अभी भी यह अधिकार है कि वह एमएसपी पर अपनी फसल न बेचे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री के.सी. त्यागी:** नहीं है, यह गलत है।

**डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान:** नहीं, बिल्कुल गलत नहीं है, किसान को अधिकार है। अगर मार्केट में स्टॉक ज्यादा है, तो उस पर कोई कंडीशन नहीं है कि किसान को अपनी फसल एमएसपी पर बेचनी ही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वह अलग बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आदरणीय सदस्य ने पूछा था कि क्या अधिकार है? माननीय सदस्य ने अधिकार की बात पूछी थी, वह अलग बात है कि एमएसपी पर बिक रहा है, लेकिन उन्होंने अधिकार की बात कही थी। मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहूंगा कि आज भी किसान को अधिकार है कि किसी भी तरफ, एमएसपी से ज्यादा अपनी फसल को बेच ले, यह अधिकार उसे प्राप्त है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद सिंह:** देखिए, जिस तरह उद्योगपति अपने मूल्य का निर्धारण करता है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसी प्रकार किसान को अधिकार होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... Sit down. Thank you.

**श्री भूपिंदर सिंह:** सभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... It is not your question, sit down. Why do you want to speak on every subject? Sit down, please. Has the question been answered?

### **Ongoing/pending railway projects in Maharashtra**

\*138.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of ongoing/pending railway projects in Maharashtra, project-wise, on cost-sharing basis between Government of Maharashtra and the Ministry of Railways;

(b) whether Government of Maharashtra has proposed new railway lines/construction works for balanced socio-economic development of the State on cost-sharing basis; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) Following ongoing railway line projects including sub-urban projects falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra have been taken up on cost sharing basis with the Government of Maharashtra. Details and present status of these projects are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of Project & length	Latest anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March, 2016	Outlay proposed for 2016-17	Present status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajjnath (261 km) New Line.	2826	178	402	Ahmednagar-Narayandoh (15 km): Track linking completed. Narayandoh-Parli (246 km): Land acquired for 240 km out of 246 km. Earthwork & bridge works have been taken up.
2.	Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km) New Line.	2765	150	150	34 km out of 284 km land has been acquired. Bridge works have been taken up.
3.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (50 km) New Line.	232	70	90	Staking of alignment has been completed and land acquisition has been taken up.
4.	Belapur-Seawood-Uran-electrified double line.	1782	582	120	Land except for a stretch of three Km has been handed over by CIDCO. Works in remaining stretches have been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) Phase-II	5300	26.16	1262	Rolling stock procurement and construction works have been taken up.
6.	CSTM Panvel/Andheri-Running of 12 coach EMU train on Harbour corridor.	714	31	160	Rolling stock procurement and construction worksc have been taken up.
7.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) Phase-III	1144	0	10	Included in Pink Book subject to Government approval.

In addition, Nagpur-Nagbhir Gauge Conversion (106 km), Karad-Chiplun New Line (112 km), Manmad-Indore (368 km) New Line, Pune-Nashik (265 km) New Line, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CSTM)-Panvel sub-urban corridor and Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) Phase-III have also been included in Railway Budgets on cost sharing basis with the Government of Maharashtra subject to requisite approvals.

(b) and (c) Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra *vide* his letter dated 14.12.2015 has requested to take up 3 New Lines *viz.* Manmad-Indore, Pune-Nashik and Gadchandur-Adilabad on cost sharing basis for socio-economic development of the State. These works have been included in Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of project	Length (Km)	Cost (₹ in crore)	Remarks
1.	Manmad-Indore	368	9968	Included in Pink Book.
2.	Pune-Nashik	265	2425	Included in Pink Book.
3.	Gadchandur-Adilabad	70	1500	Included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17

Further, in anticipation of State Governments coming forward to take up projects through Joint Venture, 3 New Line projects falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra have been included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 (incorporated as

annexure to the 'Pink Book' of sanctioned works) at an anticipated cost of ₹ 7660 crore. Details of these projects are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Railway Head	Plan (Km)	Length (Km)	Cost (₹ in crore)	State
1.	Latur-Nanded via Loha and Ahmedpur	Central Railway	New Line	155	3100	Maharashtra
2.	Jeur Ashti	Central Railway	New Line	78	1560	Maharashtra
3.	Jalna-Khamgaon	Central Railway	New Line	155	3000	Maharashtra

**श्री संजय राउत:** सभापति जी, मैं रेल मंत्री जी का अभिनंदन करता हूँ कि आप मुंबई-अहमदाबाद बुलेट ट्रेन शुरू कर रहे हैं। मैंने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, वह मुम्बई लोकल ट्रेन यात्रियों के लिए घोषित ऑनगोइंग रेलवे प्रोजेक्ट्स के बारे में है। आपने बहुत विस्तार से उत्तर भी दिया है। उसमें बहुत से प्रोजेक्ट्स की बात भी कही है, लेकिन my question is very specific, आपने छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस की रिमॉडलिंग की घोषणा की थी।

**श्री संजय राउत:** उसके बारे में क्या स्थिति है?

दूसरा, छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस के बगल में ही आजाद मैदान मेट्रो स्टेशन है, वहाँ आपने पूरा underground rail corridor बनाने की बात की थी। मैं उसकी स्थिति के बारे में भी रेल मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** सर, मैं सम्मानित सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस बिल्डिंग के लिए हम अभी second entry का काम शुरू करेंगे। हाल ही में, 21 अप्रैल को हमारे राज्य शासन के सम्माननीय मुख्य मंत्री के साथ काफी लंबी बातचीत हुई है और इसमें हमने काफी समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए रास्ता ढूँढ़ लिया है। छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस में 7 buildings होंगी, जो शिवाजी महाराज के पोर्ट की थीम के ऊपर होंगी। इसका सेंट्रल डोम 30 मीटर x 30 मीटर होगा। वहाँ उनकी एक statue भी लगाई जाएगी। 6 buildings, जो 20 मीटर x 20 मीटर each की रहेगी। Underground basement में two storeyed 70 मीटर x 300 मीटर की basement बनाई जाएगी and Central dome to be retained by the Railways because of the Heritage site. Remaining 6 buildings में PPP model पर काम किया जाएगा। इसका मॉडल J.J. School of Arts, जो हमारे देश की एक सबसे अहम संस्था है, उसने बनाया है।

साथ ही, सम्मानित सदस्य ने जो कहा, वह बिल्कुल सही है कि Western Railways and Central Railways मुम्बई की lifeline हैं। जो लोग Western Railway से आते हैं, वे चर्च गेट तक पहुंच जाते हैं और जो लोग Central Railway से आते हैं, वे छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस तक पहुंच जाते

हैं। आज उनको आपस में जोड़ने का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है। इसलिए हमने तय किया है कि एक underground tunnel बना कर उन दोनों को जोड़ा जाए।

साथी ही, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पहली बार मेट्रो की e-ticket के ऊपर ट्रेन, BEST बस और shared Taxi के सभी लोग सफर कर पाएँगे। हमने यह एक बहुत ही नई पहल शुरू की है। मुझे लगता है कि लोगों को इसका लाभ जरूर मिलेगा।

**श्री संजय राउत:** चेयरमैन सर, मंत्री जी का उत्तर और घोषणाएं भी अच्छी हैं और हम आशा करते हैं कि काम शुरू हो जाएगा। रेल मंत्रालय ने महाराष्ट्र में लगभग 40 Wi-Fi stations बनाने की बात की थी। बाद में इनमें और 15 स्टेशंस को बढ़ाने की भी बात हुई थी। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये 15 स्टेशंस कौन से हैं और ये Wi-Fi stations कब बनेंगे?

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** सर, Wi-Fi लगाने के लिए हम दो तरीके से काम कर रहे हैं। एक तो हमारे देश में जो 400 major stations हैं, वहां पर गूगल के साथ Wi-Fi लगाया जाएगा। इसे कहने में मुझे खुशी होती है और इससे सम्मानित सदस्य भी खुश होंगे कि इसका शुरुआत मुम्बई सेंट्रल स्टेशन से की गई थी, यानी जो देश का सबसे पहला स्टेशन चुना गया, वह मुम्बई सेंट्रल ही था। आगे आने वाले दिनों में भी हम यह काम करेंगे। अभी इसकी जो exact list है, अगर आप चाहें, तो मैं आपको दे दूँगा, लेकिन साथ ही गूगल के साथ-साथ हम लोग और भी अलग-अलग ऑपरेटर्स की तरफ से भी Wi-Fi लगा रहे हैं। गूगल का जो काम है, उसके बारे में गूगल का कहना है कि गूगल विश्व की एक बड़ी कंपनी है और पूरे विश्व में जब यह काम अगले साल पूरा होगा, तो इससे ज्यादा स्पीड का public Wi-Fi कोई नहीं होगा। यह जहां भी लगाया जाएगा, परसों हमने भुवनेश्वर में भी लगाया, विशाखापट्टनम में भी लगाया, वहां के लोगों का भी यही कहना है कि आज public Wi-Fi में हमने गूगल का जो Wi-Fi शुरू किया है, वह सबसे fast चलने वाला Wi-Fi है।

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा:** सर, सबसे पहले मैं रेल मंत्री, सुरेश प्रभु जी की प्रशंसा करता हूँ और उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने पहली बार स्टेट्स से पूछा है कि उनकी priorities क्या हैं। उन priorities के तहत उन्होंने महाराष्ट्र के अन्दर भी गवर्नमेंट ऑफ महाराष्ट्र के साथ joint venture agreement sign किया है। बताया जाता है कि वे उसको करीब 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए देने वाले हैं। उन्होंने उनसे पूछा है कि उनकी priorities क्या हैं और priorities के हिसाब से वह अपनी रेल लाइन खुद तय करे। इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

सर, मैं एक विषय की तरफ आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि विदर्भ और मराठवाड़ा, किसानों के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। वहां हजारों लोगों ने आत्महत्या की है, लेकिन जो वर्धा-यवतमाल-नांदेड़ परियोजना है, जिसका उस समय के माननीय रेल मंत्री, लालू प्रसाद जी ने 11 फरवरी, 2009 को भूमिपूजन किया था, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसका काम अभी तक 3.1 प्रतिशत क्यों हुआ है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उस समय से land acquisition में जो प्रॉब्लम आ रही है, तो क्यों नहीं आप

जिस प्रकार से हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर जी ने पूल के अन्दर उनकी जमीनें लीं, उनको मुआवजा दिया, उसी प्रकार से आप भी करें? साथ ही साथ, मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आप यह परियोजना कब तक complete करेंगे? क्या विंदभ और मराठवाड़ा पर प्रभु जी की कृपा हो जाएगी, क्योंकि प्रभु एक बार प्रसन्न हो जाएँ, तो सब कुछ हो जाता है, ऐसा मैं मानता हूँ।

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** सर, इन्होंने जिस परियोजना की बात की है, यह परियोजना Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal and Pusood है, Yavatmal एक सूखाग्रस्त इलाका भी है, जहां किसानों ने बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में खुदकुशी भी की है, इसलिए हमारे लिए इस लाइन की बहुत प्राथमिकता है। आज out of 284 kilometers, 34 kilometers जगह एक्वायर कर ली गई है।

सर, आपकी अनुमति से मैं एक-दो मिनट में अपनी बात कहना चाहता हूँ, ताकि लोगों को इस मामले की पूरी जानकारी मिल सके। महाराष्ट्र में हम लोगों ने कुल मिलाकर 35 प्रोजेक्ट्स, जिनका कुल निवेश 52,614 करोड़ रुपए होगा, हाथ में लिए हैं। इनके साथ सात नये प्रोजेक्ट्स और हैं, जिनके बारे में 21 अप्रैल को मुख्य मंत्री जी से हमारी मीटिंग हुई थी। उन प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए 18,984 करोड़ रुपये का बजट है। सब मिलाकर महाराष्ट्र में 52,614 करोड़ रुपये के प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम करने के लिए राज्य सरकार और केन्द्र सरकार मिलकर एक नई कंपनी बनाने जा रही हैं। इसके बारे में विस्तृत चर्चा बाद में की जायेगी। वह कंपनी कुछ ही दिनों में बन जाएगी। इसके साथ ही, जैसा अभी संजय राउत जी ने पूछा, मुम्बई के लिए अतिरिक्त 19,237 करोड़ रुपये और, 35,000 करोड़ रुपये के खर्च से प्रोजेक्ट्स बनाए जाएंगे, यानी हमने बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में मुम्बई, महाराष्ट्र में निवेश करने की शुरुआत की है। इसमें लैंड एक्वायर करने के लिए जो दिक्कतें आती हैं, उसके लिए रेलवे ऐक्ट तो है ही, लेकिन फिर भी हमने राज्य सरकार से यह कहा है कि जो मुआवजा राज्य सरकार उचित मानती है, रेल मंत्रालय उनको वह मुआवजा देने के लिए तैयार रहेगा।

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा:** क्या आपके रहते हुए यह काम पूरा हो जाएगा?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the next question be put.

**डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ:** सर, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने राज्य सरकार के साथ cost sharing basis के आधार पर बजट में कुछ नई रेलवे लाइनें स्वीकृत की हैं। महाराष्ट्र के मुख्य मंत्री जी ने इसके लिए परमिशन भी दे दी है।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ, एक लाइन Manmad to Indore जाती है, जिसमें मध्य प्रदेश का का भी काफी एरिया आता है। वह एरिया कितने किलोमीटर है? क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के मुख्य मंत्री जी ने इसके लिए अनुमति दे दी है? अगर दे दी है, तो उसके लिए आपने कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की है?

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** यह महाराष्ट्र की योजना के तहत आता है और यह बात सही है कि जो Manmad to Indore रेलवे लाइन है, यह लाइन Dhule से जाएगी। बहुत लम्बे समय से इस लाइन की जरूरत थी। यह बात सही है कि उसमें कुछ हिस्सा मध्य प्रदेश में जाता है, इसलिए इसमें अलग तरीके से काम करने के लिए हम मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार से बातचीत कर रहे हैं। मुझे लगता है कि इसमें Tripartite Agreement करने की आवश्यकता होगी, क्योंकि महाराष्ट्र, मध्य प्रदेश और रेल मंत्रालय मिलकर इस कार्य को करेंगे। इस योजना की घोषणा इस बजट में भी कर दी गई है और इसको pink book में इन्क्लूड कर दिया गया है। जब तक किसी योजना को pinkbook में इन्क्लूड नहीं किया जाता, तब तक उसके ऊपर कार्यवाही नहीं की जाती है, इसलिए हमने इस योजना को pinkbook में इन्क्लूड कर दिया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Husain Dalwai. ...*(Interruptions)*... Allow Mr. Dalwai to put his question.

**श्री हुसैन दलवाई:** सर, मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि Karad-Chiplun rail line 112 kilometer की है, जिसे करने की उनकी योजना है। आज Guhagar में industrial development हो रहा है। Guhagar समुद्र के किनारे है। क्या आप Karad-Chiplun Railway line को Guhagar तक लेकर जाएंगे? क्या आपने इसके लिए बजट में कोई प्रोविजन रखा है और क्या इसके लिए भूसंपादन किया जा रहा है?

**श्री सुरेश प्रभु:** Karad-Chiplun railway line को PPP मॉडल पर बनाया जाएगा, इसीलिए इसका RFQ जल्दी कर दिया गया था। इस प्रोजेक्ट को Konkan Railways implement कर रही है। उसके लिए जो भी आवश्यक कार्यवाही है, वह Konkan Railway की तरफ से की जाएगी। इस लाइन का एलाइनमेंट करने के लिए बहुत सारे स्थानों पर बोरिंग करवाई जा रही है। It has to pass through the mountain. इसके लिए land acquisition का इश्यू इतना सीरियस नहीं होगा, क्योंकि यह लाइन पर्वत के नीचे से ही चली जाएगी। आपने यह बात बिल्कुल सही कही कि महाराष्ट्र में 720 किलोमीटर की दूरी समुद्र के किनारे पर ही है। जब तक रेल की कनेक्टिविटी पोर्ट तक नहीं बनती है, तब तक industrialization की जो बात आपने कही है, वह सही मायने में नहीं हो पाएगी। हमने इसमें यह काम includer किया है, इसीलिए Karad-Chiplun के आगे Jaigad में जो port development का काम हो रहा है, वह भी PPP Model पर ही हो रहा है। Jaiga Port को कनेक्ट करने में इसका एक बहुत बड़ा योगदान है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question 139.

**Health hazard from mobile towers**

\*139. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the mobile towers set up in the residential areas are serious health hazards;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted by the Ministry in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to check this health hazard?

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) No Sir. With regard to impact of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) emissions from mobile towers on health, World Health Organization (WHO) has referred to approximately 25,000 articles published around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has stated, "Despite the feeling of some people that more research needs to be done, scientific knowledge in this area is now more extensive than for most chemicals." WHO has concluded - "current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields".

WHO in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May 2006 on Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that "From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF Signals produced by base stations.....considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF Signals from base stations and wireless networks caused adverse health effects." Also, in September 2013, WHO in online question and answers have mentioned that "Studies to date provide no indication that environmental exposure to RF fields, such as from base stations, increases the risk of cancer or any other disease."

(b) and (c) Department of Telecommunication (DoT) has been monitoring global developments and has already taken necessary steps and adopted stricter norms for safety from EMF emissions from mobile towers.

To examine the effect of EMF emissions from base stations and mobile phones an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) consisting of members from Department of



Telecommunications (DoT), Indian Council of Medical Research (Ministry of Health), Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest, was constituted on 24.08.2010. The IMC in its report, after examining various national and international studies on the environmental and health related concerns due to EMF, has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause and effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health.

This matter has also been agitated in different High Courts from time to time. Several High Courts *viz* Hon'ble High Courts of Punjab & Haryana, Madras, Kerala, Gujarat, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Allahabad in the court cases related to issue of effects of the radiation from cell phone towers have given judgments whereby they have dismissed petitions, where the mobile tower installations at various locations, including residential, were challenged on grounds of health effects of EMF radiations.

Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh in one of the judgements has noted "What in fact emerges is that radio frequency radiation from the mobile towers and phones are in minuscule range and is lakhs of time weaker than X-rays or UV rays or even normal visible light. In fact, so low that they simply cannot cause any disturbance of electrons in the basic atoms of matter or living tissue and hence classified as "non-ionising radiation"

Hon'ble Madras High Court while dismissed a petition on the issue has stated - "If we have to accept the aforesaid plea of the petitioner, then we would have to shut down mobile services practically throughout Tamil Nadu. In Chennai, most areas would be thickly populated and if this test is applied, then there would be no mobile services available in Chennai."

In a Writ Petition filed in Hon'ble High Court Allahabad, Lucknow bench, the Hon'ble Court constituted a committee including Members from IITs Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorkee, Bombay and from other scientific institutions of the country including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Delhi. The Committee in their report submitted in 2014 has, *inter alia*, noted - "... On the basis of scientific evidences, studies and reports available, it has been found that there is no conclusive evidence about the stated dangers of EMF radiation from mobile BTS tower..." The Committee has also noted that "there are no conclusive evidence to establish any causal link between the effect of EMF radiation from BTS with biological effects described in cell models, animals or humans, and any possible resulting health effects."

However, keeping in mind the public concerns, a joint initiative has been launched by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body under Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Department of Telecommunications (DoT), to study possible impact of electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation exposure from mobile towers and handsets on life. *i.e.* Humans, Living Organisms, Flora & Fauna and Environment. Nineteen research proposals, including those from Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and All India Institutes of Medical Science (AIIMSs) have been initiated in 2015.

Government of India has been taking due precautions and necessary actions in respect of EMF radiation emitted from mobile towers by issuing various guidelines and norms taking into account the international standards/norms. Presently the norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) in India are already 10 times more stringent than the safe limits prescribed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and recommended by WHO. Further, Government of India has taken adequate steps to ensure that Telecommunications Service Providers strictly adhere to these prescribed norms.

All new mobile Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) sites start radiating commercially only after ensuring adherence to prescribed norms and after submission of self certificate to this effect to relevant Telecom Enforcement Resource & Monitoring (TERM) field offices of DoT. In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed stricter precautionary norms of EMF radiation from mobile tower, the extensive audit of compliance of self-certificates being submitted by telecom service providers and Base Transceiver Station (BTS) sites is carried out by TERM field units of DoT. In case, any BTS site is found to violate the prescribed EMF norms, actions are taken to put a penalty of ₹ 10 lakh per BTS per incidence including closing of BTS site, if the violation persists. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell.

**श्री दिलीप कुमार तिरकी:** मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि मोबाइल टावर से स्वास्थ्य को कोई खतरा नहीं है। मेरी जो जानकारी है, उसके अनुसार जीव-जंतुओं और पक्षियों पर मोबाइल टावर के प्रभाव को जानने के लिए अक्टूबर 2011 में Ministry of Environment and Forests ने एक एक्सपर्ट ग्रुप का गठन किया था। उस एक्सपर्ट ग्रुप ने जिन 919 पेपर्स की जांच की थी, उनमें से 593 पेपर्स में यही कहा गया कि मोबाइल टावर्स से जीव-जंतुओं और पक्षियों पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है कि जीव-जंतुओं और पक्षियों पर इसका बुरा प्रभाव पड़ेगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

---

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS****Bringing transparency and objectivity in computing MSP**

\*140. SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Minimum Support Price (MSP), cost of production and profit margins over cost of production in respect of all principal crops during the last one year, crop/produce-wise;
- (b) the latest data of projected cost of production of all principal crops in the current year and the next year;
- (c) whether Government proposes to bring objectivity and transparency in the procedure to compute the MSP for crops, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to announce the MSP for various agricultural produces for the current year, if so, the details thereof, produce-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) to (d) Government has fixed the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Kharif and Rabi crops for the current year (2015-16).

All India weighted average cost of production along with family labour (A2+FL), MSP and profit margin over cost of production for 2014-15 and 2015-16 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The objective of Government's price policy is to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers. Towards this end, Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. Before finalizing its recommendations, CACP holds consultations with various stakeholders including State Governments and farmers' representatives. While formulating recommendations on price policy, CACP considers a number of important factors which include, *in-te-ralia*, 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. Government offers to procure farmers' produce at MSP, however, they are free to sell it to Government agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

**Statement***MSP, Cost of Production (A2+FL) and Profit Margin of Major Crops*

(₹ per quintal)

Commodity	2014-15			2015-16		
	MSP	A2+FL	Profit Margin over cost of production (%)	MSP	A2+FL	Profit Margin over cost of production (%)
<b>Kharif Crops</b>						
Paddy	1360	978	39.1	1410	1020	38.2
Maize	1310	914	43.3	1325	941	40.8
Arhar (Tur)	4350	3105	40.1	4425^	3237	36.7
Cotton (Medium Staple)	3750	2510	49.4	3800	2753	38.0
Cotton (Long Staple)	4050	2510	61.4	4100	2753	48.9
Groundnut in shell	4000	3232	23.8	4030	3314	21.6
Soyabean	2560	1729	48.1	2600	1770	46.9
<b>Rabi Crops</b>						
Wheat	1450	744	94.9	1525	785	94.3
Gram	3175	1902	66.9	3425*	2124	61.3
Rapeseed/ Mustard	3100	1504	106.1	3350	1702	96.8

^ Bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal is payable over and above MSP.

\*Bonus of ₹ 75 per quintal is payable over and above MSP.

A2+FL = All paid out costs + imputed value of family labour.

**Subsidy for establishing oil palm processing units**

\*141. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy would be made available to establish oil palm processing units in the country, particularly in Odisha; and

- (b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is available to establish oil palm processing units in the country in North Eastern States/Left Wing (LW) extremism affected districts/hilly States. In Odisha, financial assistance to establish oil processing units is available in LW extremism affected districts.

- (b) Financial assistance for establishing oil palm processing units is included in the annual action plan under NMOOP by the State Government, as and when it deems fit.

**Protecting earthworm for sustainable development of farming**

†\*142. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that excessive use of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and other toxic chemicals in the agricultural fields of the country, including Maharashtra, has brought the man's friend, earthworm, on the brink of extinction whereas these play a vital role in preserving the nutrients of the soil naturally;

- (b) if so, steps taken by Government to protect earthworms for sustainable development of farming; and

- (c) the scheme formulated by Government to encourage the farmers of the country, including Maharashtra, for adopting organic farming through adequate improvement in the soil quality, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources such as vermi-compost, farm yard manure, bio-fertilizers, green manure, etc. of plant nutrients to ensure judicious use of chemical fertilizers to maintain soil health. Application of recommended doses of chemical fertilizers/pesticides is unlikely to cause harm to soil eco-system including earthworm activity.

The Government is conscious of the importance of regulated and balanced use of chemical fertilizers. Hence, it is implementing the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, which aims at providing all the farmers in the country with a SHC once in a period of

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

every 2 years. SHC is issued based on testing the soil sample for 12 parameters. It contains the soil nutrient status and recommendations on crop specific fertilizer dosage and soil amendments to be used.

The Government registers pesticides only after a detailed evaluation of safety and efficacy to human, animal and environmental health. Pesticides used in accordance with the label and leaflets are unlikely to cause any adverse effects.

(b) Technical reviews are carried out from time to time and continued use of pesticides is permitted only if found safe. Based on the reviews, the Government takes appropriate decisions on ban, withdrawal etc. of unsafe pesticides.

Various schemes/programmes of DAC&FW promotes on-farm production of vermi-compost as listed below:

- (i) Soil Health Management of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), financial assistance is being provided @ 50% of cost subject of a limit of ₹ 5000/ha. and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary for promotion of organic inputs including vermin-compost on farmer's field.
- (ii) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH): Assistance is provided for establishing vermi-compost units @ 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.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana: Financial assistance is being provided to cluster members @ ₹ 5000/- per unit for procurement of earth worms, preparation of pits, construction of brick wall, labour charges and other raw materials required for construction of vermi-composting units of size 7'x3'x1'.
- (iv) Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth (PDKV), Akola, Maharashtra has established Vermi-compost production unit under 'Centre of Organic Agriculture Research and Training'. This centre makes available vermi-compost and vermi-culture for farmers along with advice and demonstration.

(c) Government is promoting organic farming across the country under various Central Sector Schemes viz. National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic

Farming Under ICAR etc. to encourage the farmers of the country including Maharashtra for adopting organic farming through adequate improvement in the soil quality. The initiatives taken by the Government are as under:-

- (i) To encourage the farmers for adopting organic farming PDKV, Akola Maharashtra has started six monthly course entitled "Certificate Course on Organic Agriculture", since 2010.
- (ii) The Department has been focusing on creating awareness and educating the farmers about organic farming practices in the areas where clusters are formed, under PKVY. The scheme guidelines provide a sum of ₹ 80,000 per cluster to undertake mobilization of farmers through exposure visits and training. The National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Ghaziabad, a unit under the department undertakes various extension and publicity activities like exhibitions, radio talks, TV programmes, distribution of literature on organic inputs/organic farming etc. to educate the farmers. NCOF is also publishing bi-annually Bio-Fertilizer Newsletter as well as quarterly Organic Farming Newsletter. In addition, various books on production and use of bio-fertilizers have been published in various languages for distribution to the farming community. Radio jingles on organic agriculture are broadcasted on 4 different FM Radio Stations including Delhi, Bangalore, Nagpur and Lucknow.
- (iii) NCOF organizes 30 days certificate course on organic farming for skill development in organic agriculture sector for youth. It also conducts 10 days Refresher course for analysts under Fertilizer control order (FCO); 5 Days Trainers Training and 2 Days training for field functionaries and extension staff of the State Government.
- (iv) ₹ 25.98 crore as central share has been released to Government of Maharashtra under PKVY scheme to develop 932 clusters during the year 2015-16.

#### **Bringing down prices of essential medicines**

\*143. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of essential medicines have come down from April, 2016 since the WPI has come down, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action taken by Government under National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy to bring down prices of all essential formulations, including pain killers, anti-infectives, antibiotics and drugs for diabetes and cardiac problems;

(c) whether some of the private companies are still selling medicines at MRP of last year; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR):

(a) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) notified the revised (reduction in prices) ceiling prices of 530 scheduled formulations *vide* notification number S.O. 644(E) dated 02-03-2016 after applying WPI of (Minus) 2.7105% for the year 2015. These prices are effective from 1st April, 2016. The manufacturers whose scheduled medicines were being sold at sub-ceiling prices have also been instructed to reduce the MRP of their products by 2.7105%.

(b) Pursuant to the announcement of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012, (NPPP, 2012) Government notified Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 15th May, 2013; All medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the First Schedule of DPCO, 2013. NPPA fixed the prices of 530 medicines under First Schedule of DPCO, 2013 (including 53 medicines for cardiovascular disease, 6 anti-diabetics, 20 anti-HIV/AIDS, 24 anti-Tuberculosis (TB), 47 anti-Cancer and 6 medicines for Kidney disease) based on market based pricing methodology as enunciated in NPPP, 2012.

NLEM 2015 has been notified *vide* Ministry of Health and Family Welfare notification dated 27th December, 2015. Department of Pharmaceuticals *vide* notification dated 10.03.2016 amended Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013 substituting NLEM, 2011 with NLEM, 2015. Ceiling Price of 226 scheduled medicines of revised Schedule I (including 20 medicines for cardiovascular disease, 5 anti-diabetics, 14 anti-HIV, 12 anti-tuberculosis (TB), 29 anti-cancer, 5 medicines for analgesics (pain killers), 80 medicines for anti-infective and anti-biotics) have also been fixed.

NPPA has also fixed the retail price of 289 'new drugs' (which fall within the purview of Para 2(u) of DPCO, 2013) under paragraph 5 of DPCO, 2013. In addition, maximum retail price (MRP) was capped under Para 19 of DPCO, 2013, in respect of 106 non scheduled medicines, out of which 84 are used for treatment of cardiovascular diseases and 22 for diabetes.

(c) and (d) NPPA has not received any specific complaint in this regard.



**Anti-collision device**

\*144. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of Anti-Collision Device to control train accidents;
- (b) whether this device has since been tested and implemented successfully, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the action plan to improve this device to make it effective in controlling train accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Anti Collision Device (ACD) developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) was provided as a pilot project on 1736 Route Kilometres on Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR).

Complex operational and technical problems were experienced during these trials which could not be fully resolved by KRCL due to design limitation of ACD. As such, proliferation of ACD is not contemplated.

Indian Railways have planned for alternative Automatic Train Protection (ATP) Systems and in this regard following pilot projects have been taken up for evaluating their technical suitability on Indian Railways.

1. Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) - Pilot launched on South Central Railway in Lingamapalli-Vikarabad-Wadi and Vikarabad-Bidar (250 Route Kms) section of Secunderabad Division
2. Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) - Pilot successfully implemented on:
  - (i) Chennai-Gummidipundi suburban section (50 RKms).
  - (ii) Nizamuddin-Agra main line section (200 RKms).
  - (iii) Kolkata Metro Dum Dum- Kavi Subhash section (25 RKM).

**Assistance to drought-affected states**

†\*145. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry in view of the drought situation in Maharashtra and Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh at present;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the States which have suffered heavy losses due to drought in the last three years and the assistance provided to those States during that period in this regard;

(c) the preparations of Government to deal with emergency situations like drought; and

(d) the details of assistance provided to the drought-affected States and people at present?

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 Kharif-2015, the Government of Maharashtra declared drought in 21 districts (covering 15747 villages) and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India for financial assistance under the NDRF. Government of India considered the Memorandum and approved ₹3049.36 crore from NDRF to the Government of Maharashtra. On 25th April 2016, Government of Maharashtra has informed that 7 more districts have been declared as drought affected besides the earlier 21 districts. However, no additional memorandum has been submitted in this regard seeking Financial Assistance from NDRF. Government of Uttar Pradesh also declared drought in 50 districts (covering 72014 villages) including Banda, Chitrakoot, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Lalitpur, Jalaun and Jhansi in the Bundelkhand region during Kharif-2015 and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India seeking financial assistance under the NDRF. Government of India considered the Memorandum and approved ₹ 1304.52 crore from NDRF to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The States which suffered losses due to drought in the last three years and funds approved to these States from the NDRF are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Due to deficit monsoon during the year 2015-16, 10 States *i.e.* Governments of Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and

Rajasthan submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance from NDRF after declaring drought in affected parts of those States. Government of Gujarat has declared semi scarcity in 05 districts of the State.

To deal with the situation of drought, the following measures have been taken:

- During 2015-16, Intervention made in drought affected areas by Implementation of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy, Implementation of interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops, implementation of additional fodder development programme.
- 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. During 2015-16, ₹ 5390.998 crore has been released to the above 11 drought hit States under this scheme.
- Central Government has relaxed the norms under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (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 during 2015-16. During 2015-16 and 2016-17, ₹ 18715.011 crore and ₹ 9367.196 crore have been released respectively to the drought hit States under MGNREGA.
- The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DW&S) has also released ₹ 2622.53 crore during 2015-16 to the above 11 drought affected States under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and allowed the States to use flexi funds to the extent of 10% of NRDWP for provision of water at the onset of the summer season.
- The Central Government has released ₹ 5507.725 crore as Central share in the SDRF in 2015-16 to the 11 drought affected States and also released the 1st installment of SDRF 2016-17, amounting ₹ 2551.875 crore, in advance to the drought affected States (excluding Gujarat).
- 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.

**Statement***Assistance approved from National Disaster Response  
Fund (NDRF) for drought*

Sl. No.	Name of States	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Karnataka	226.57	200.85	1540.20 Rabi-723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	1276.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	-	1962.99	3049.36
5.	Odisha	-	-	815.00
6.	Telangana	-	-	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	-	777.34	1304.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	254.54	237.51	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	-	-	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	-	-	1193.41
11.	Bihar	931.87	-	-
12.	Haryana	-	168.87	-
TOTAL		1412.98	3347.56	13496.57

**Agricultural productivity of India vis-a-vis other countries**

\*146. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agriculture sector of the country is the second largest in the world in terms of arable land; and

(b) the comparative productivity on per hectare basis of India vis-a-vis top ten agricultural countries in the world?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) As per latest available data maintained by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), India is the largest country in the World in terms of arable land.

(b) The details of comparative productivity of major crops in India vis-a-vis top ten agricultural countries in the World are given in Statement.

**Statement**

*Comparison of productivity of major crops of India vis-a-vis other major agricultural countries during 2014*

Country	Productivity (Kg/hectare)						
	Rice, Paddy	Wheat	Total Cereals	Coarse Grain	Total Pulses	Oilcrops Primary	Sugarcane
Argentina	6504	2810	4555	5726	954	508	63632
Australia	10920	2006	2137	2326	1408	492	81381
Brazil	5201	2209	4641	4975	1030	529	70625
India*	3587	2750	2331	1703	728	1075	71511
Russian Federation	5362	2498	2443	2340	1448	480	NA
United Kingdom	NA	8585	7707	6340	3717	1375	NA
United States of America	8487	2944	7637	9936	1943	555	79511
China	6746	5048	5888	5747	1550	640	72243
France	4994	7357	5829	3959	3653	1226	NA
Germany	NA	8630	8050	7475	3335	2089	NA
South Africa	2617	3619	4320	4418	1149	4655	58498

Source: Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO)

NA: Not Available

\*Figures for India are as per official estimates for 2014-15 released by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

**Fertilizer subsidy to farmers**

\*147. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of subsidy provided on various fertilizers during each of the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory and fertilizer wise;
- (b) whether poor and marginal farmers are unable to reap the benefits of fertilizer subsidy;
- (c) if so, Government reaction thereto;

(d) whether Government proposes to provide fertilizer subsidy directly to farmers through their bank account on the line of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme and;

(e) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR):

(a) The details of subsidy provided on various fertilizers during each of the last three years and funds allocated for the current year:

(₹ in crores)

Particulars	Indigenous Urea	Imported Urea	Indigenous P&K Fertilizers	Imported P&K Fertilizers
2013-14	26500.00	15353.30	15500.00	13926.86
2014-15	38200.01	16200.00	12000.00	8667.30
2015-16	38200.00	16400.00	11969.00	9968.56
2016-17 (BE)	40000.00	15100.00	12000.00	6999.99

State/UT-wise subsidy paid figures are not available as the subsidies are released to fertilizers companies.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Subsidy on Urea and 22 grades of Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers is passed on to farmers through fertilizers companies at a MRP, which is much below the delivered cost. While Urea is provided at Government fixed price of ₹ 5360/- MT (excluding taxes extra), the P & K fertilizers are provided to farmers at subsidized price based on the nutrient content on each grade of P&K fertilizer. The fertilizers companies are required to clearly print the MRP alongwith applicable subsidy on each fertilizer bag. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the Essential Commodities Act. In order to check whether the prices fixed by fertilizer companies are reasonable, the companies are required to submit cost data of their fertilizer product so that the Government can ensure that the subsidy has been passed on to the farmers. Thus all the farmers are benefitted from the grant of subsidy on fertilizers.

(d) and (e) After the announcement of Hon'ble Finance Minister's Budget Speech, 2016-17 regarding the proposal to introduce Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) on pilot basis for fertilizer in a few districts across the country with a view to improving the quality of service delivery to the farmers, Department of Fertilizers has already initiated the process to pilot the proposal in few select districts to create robust data-base that

would capture the retailer's sales and buyer details (Bank account details; Aadhaar number; land records, etc. whichever are available). This exercise would identify and evaluate field level challenges after which a final decision will be taken for implementation of the DBT.

#### **Call drops per day**

\*148. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for call drops and the number of call drops per day all over the country, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken to curb call drops, if so, the results thereof; and
- (c) if not, who is to bear the losses incurred by the customers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) In the recent months, the incidences of call drops have come to the notice of the Government. There are many possible reasons for the call drops. These include the change in the pattern of traffic especially exponential increase in data traffic, need for proportional increase in the number of mobile service towers and related infrastructure, need for regular network optimisation by adjusting different parameters by telecommunications service providers alongwith spectrum synchronisation, limited availability of spectrum in certain areas and, closing down of mobile service towers by local authorities.

So far as the number of call drops is concerned, as per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) Performance Monitoring Report on Quality of Service of Cellular Mobile Service Providers for quarter ending December 2015, the details of call drop in percentage terms for 2G and 3G networks on service area basis are given in Statement-I & II respectively (*See below*).

- (b) In order to monitor the status of mobile services, Quality of Service parameters have been prescribed and notified by TRAI from time to time. 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 stakeholders, has also enacted the Telecom Consumer Protection (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 dated 16th October 2015, which came into force on 1st January, 2016.

Besides, 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 towers.

As reported by various service providers, in the period from July, 2015 to March 2016, around 64,763 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) for 3G services have been added in various parts of the country. Out of total 64,763 BTS, around 20,313 BTS have been added in the months of February and March, 2016 itself. Similarly, around 29,516 BTS for 2G services have been added in various parts of the country. Out of total 29,516 BTS, around 10,145 BTS have been added in the months of February and March, 2016 itself. Besides, BSNL has added 11,114 BTS for 3G services and 13,010 BTS for 2G services in the country in the years 2014 to 2016.

Further, Department of Telecommunications has finalised lot of policy initiatives to facilitate mobile services. Guidelines for Spectrum Sharing and Trading and liberalisation of administratively allocated spectrum have been issued. Besides, active infrastructure sharing is also permitted.

The Department has been taking pro-active steps in monitoring and improving the situation. Telecommunications Service Providers carry out the network optimisation by adjusting different parameters to reduce call drops within the limits prescribed by TRAI. As per TRAI's Performance Monitoring report on Quality of Services of cellular Mobile Service Providers for quarter ending December, 2015, there is one 2G service provider in North-East area and one 3G service provider in Jammu & Kashmir area where rate of call drop is higher than 2% on monthly average basis for the entire Service Area.

During this period, sustained communications has been done to dispel the fear that radio emissions from telecommunications equipments have no potential health hazards. Steps have also been taken at the National and State levels to facilitate Right of Way issues.

(c) To compensate consumers against call drop, TRAI has prescribed compensation of ₹ 1/- per dropped call in the originating network, subject to a maximum of ₹ 3/-per day. However, the matter is *sub judice*. No interim stay on TRAI Regulations has been granted so far.



**Statement-I**

(2G)

*TRAI's Performance Monitoring Report on Quality of Service of Cellular Mobile Service Providers for quarter ending, December, 2015*

Name of Service Area	Name of Service Provider	Connection Maintenance (Retainability)
1	2	3
		Call Drop Rate (%age)
		<= 2%
Andhra Pradesh	Aircel	0.53
	Airtel	0.41
	BSNL	0.74
	Idea	0.77
	RCOM CDMA	0.12
	RCOM GSM	0.10
	TATA CDMA	0.22
	TATA GSM	0.52
	Telenor	0.70
Assam	Vodafone	0.43
	Aircel	1.67
	Airtel	1.23
	BSNL	2.00
	Idea	0.49
	RTL	0.09
Bihar	Vodafone	0.61
	Aircel	1.71
	Airtel	1.69
	BSNL	1.55
	Idea	1.07
	RCOM CDMA	0.15
	RTL	0.27

1	2	3
Chennai	TATA CDMA	0.52
	TATA GSM	0.50
	Telenor	0.52
	Videocon	0.82
	Vodafone	0.86
	Airtel	0.80
	BSNL	0.96
	Idea	0.30
	Vodafone	0.52
	Aircel	0.96
Delhi	Airtel	0.76
	Idea	0.68
	MTNL CDMA	NR
	MTNL GSM	1.85
	MTS	0.27
	RCOM CDMA	0.19
	RCOM GSM	0.16
	TATA CDMA	0.29
	Vodafone	1.20
	Aircel	0.31
Gujarat	Airtel	0.78
	BSNL	0.72
	Idea	0.92
	MTS	0.01
	RCOM CDMA	0.07
	RCOM GSM	0.08
	TATA CDMA	0.40
	TATA GSM	0.69
	Telenor	0.45

1	2	3
Haryana	Videocon	0.43
	Vodafone	0.83
	Aircel	0.94
	Airtel	0.67
	BSNL	1.34
	Idea	0.64
	RCOM CDMA	0.08
	RCOM GSM	0.07
	TATA CDMA	0.67
	TATA GSM	0.67
Himachal Pradesh	Videocon	0.52
	Vodafone	0.64
	Aircel	1.35
	Airtel	0.78
	BSNL	1.90
	Idea	1.24
	RCOM CDMA	0.06
	RTL	0.37
	TATA CDMA	0.09
	TATA GSM	0.38
Jammu and Kashmir	Vodafone	0.64
	Aircel	1.30
	Airtel	0.89
	BSNL	1.20
	Idea	1.66
	RCOM GSM	0.17
Karnataka	Vodafone	0.68
	Aircel	1.15
	Airtel	0.71

1	2	3
	BSNL	0.76
	Idea	0.67
	MTS	0.47
	RCOM CDMA	0.19
	RCOM GSM	0.11
	TATA CDMA	0.55
	TATA GSM	0.65
	Vodafone	0.52
Kerala	Aircel	0.55
	Airtel	0.42
	BSNL	0.61
	Idea	0.66
	MTS	0.15
	RCOM CDMA	0.11
	RCOM GSM	0.08
	TATA CDMA	0.46
	TATA GSM	0.53
	Vodafone	0.46
Kolkata	Aircel	0.65
	Airtel	0.69
	BSNL	0.77
	Idea	0.32
	MTS	0.53
	RCOM CDMA	0.25
	RTL	0.11
	TATA CDMA	0.54
	TATA GSM	0.60
	Vodafone	0.82
Madhya Pradesh	Aircel	0.68

1	2	3
Maharashtra	Airtel	0.77
	BSNL	1.26
	Idea	0.73
	RCOM CDMA	0.28
	RIL	0.14
	TATA CDMA	0.37
	TATA GSM	0.60
	Videocon	0.57
	Vodafone	0.64
	Aircel	0.91
	Airtel	0.58
	BSNL	1.10
	Idea	0.68
	RCOM CDMA	0.15
	RCOM GSM	0.12
	TATA CDMA	1.03
	TATA GSM	0.76
	Telenor	0.51
	Vodafone	0.76
Mumbai	Aircel	0.86
	Airtel	0.63
	Idea	1.05
	RCOM CDMA	0.12
	RCOM GSM	0.16
	TATA CDMA	0.48
	TATA GSM	0.72
	Vodafone	0.93
	MTNL CDMA	1.50
	MTNL GSM	1.49

1	2	3
North East	Aircel	1.66
	Airtel	1.54
	BSNL	2.92
	Idea	0.57
	RIL	0.26
	Vodafone	0.70
Odisha	Aircel	1.45
	Airtel	1.11
	BSNL	1.90
	Idea	0.39
	RCOM CDMA	0.10
	RIL	0.28
	TATA CDMA	0.42
	TATA GSM	0.45
Punjab	Vodafone	0.60
	Aircel	0.62
	Airtel	0.61
	BSNL	0.27
	Idea	0.49
	QTL CDMA	0.10
	QTL GSM	0.73
	RCOM CDMA	0.03
	RCOM GSM	0.06
	TATA CDMA	0.31
	TATA GSM	0.65
Rajasthan	Vodafone	0.55
	Aircel	0.66
	Airtel	0.64
	BSNL	1.45

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu	Idea	0.71
	MTS	0.36
	RCOM CDMA	0.13
	RCOM GSM	0.11
	TATA CDMA	0.33
	TATA GSM	0.59
	Vodafone	0.69
	Aircel	1.23
	MTS	0.37
	TATA CDMA	0.48
	TATA GSM	0.62
	Airtel	0.83
	BSNL	1.14
	Idea	0.25
UP-East	RCOM CDMA	0.23
	RCOM GSM	0.09
	Vodafone	0.64
	Aircel	0.53
	Airtel	0.97
	BSNL	1.85
	Idea	1.23
	RCOM CDMA	0.12
	RCOM GSM	0.09
	TATA CDMA	0.34
	TATA GSM	0.95
	Telenor	0.64
	Videocon	1.06
	Vodafone	0.76
UP-West	Aircel	0.23

1	2	3
West Bengal	Airtel	1.36
	BSNL	1.31
	Idea	1.22
	MTS	0.16
	RCOM CDMA	0.12
	RCOM GSM	0.08
	TATA CDMA	0.52
	TATA GSM	0.89
	Telenor	0.52
	Videocon	0.51
	Vodafone	0.76
	Aircel	1.17
	Airtel	1.28
	BSNL	1.30
	Idea	0.47
	MTS	0.66
	RCOM CDMA	0.13
	RIL	0.13
	TATA CDMA	0.25
	TATA GSM	0.52
	Vodafone	0.77

**Statement-II**

(3G)

*TRAI's Performance Monitoring Report on Quality of Service of Cellular Mobile Service Providers for quarter ending, December, 2015*

Name of the Service Area/ City	Name of Service Provider	Connection Maintenance (Retainability) Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate: (% age)
	Benchmark	≤2%
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Aircel	0.48
	Airtel	0.47



1	2	3
	BSNL	0.67
	Idea	0.27
Assam	Aircel	0.67
	Airtel	0.72
	BSNL	2.00
	RTL	1.42
Bihar	Aircel	1.19
	Airtel	0.60
	BSNL	1.92
	RTL	1.21
Chennai	Airtel	0.29
	BSNL	1.63
	Vodafone	0.33
Delhi	Airtel	0.41
	Idea	0.51
	MTNL	1.60
	RCOM	0.50
	Vodafone	0.49
Gujarat	BSNL	1.70
	Idea	0.39
	Tata	0.55
	Vodafone	0.21
Haryana	BSNL	1.47
	Idea	0.26
	Tata	0.19
	Vodafone	0.28
Himachal Pradesh	Airtel	0.79
	BSNL	1.83
	Idea	1.57

1	2	3
	RTL	0.67
Jammu and Kashmir	Aircel	2.36
	Airtel	0.76
	BSNL	1.40
	Idea	1.36
	RCOM	0.84
Karnataka	Aircel	0.45
	Airtel	0.24
	BSNL	0.77
	Tata	0.44
	Vodafone	0.18
Kerala	Aircel	1.07
	BSNL	1.13
	Idea	0.37
	Tata	0.44
	Vodafone	0.24
Kolkata	Aircel	0.33
	Airtel	0.54
	BSNL	0.83
	RTL	0.83
	Vodafone	0.33
Madhya Pradesh	BSNL	0.88
	Idea	0.73
	RTL	0.89
	Tata	0.41
Maharashtra	BSNL	1.60
	Idea	0.30
	Tata	0.58
	Vodafone	0.29
Mumbai	Airtel	0.43
	MTNL	1.47
	RCOM	0.46
	Vodafone	0.40

1	2	3
North East	Aircel	1.41
	Airtel	1.27
	BSNL	2.38
	RTL	1.30
Odisha	Aircel	1.47
	BSNL	1.37
	RTL	1.06
Punjab	Aircel	0.49
	BSNL	0.33
	Idea	0.66
	RCOM	0.26
	Tata	0.22
Rajasthan	Airtel	0.54
	BSNL	1.67
	RCOM	0.37
	Tata	0.00
Tamil Nadu	Aircel	0.52
	Airtel	0.17
	BSNL	0.10
	Vodafone	0.25
UP-East	Aircel	0.63
	BSNL	1.60
	Idea	0.51
	Vodafone	0.32
UP-West	Airtel	0.57
	BSNL	1.12
	Idea	0.27
	Tata	0.40
West Bengal	Aircel	0.30
	Airtel	0.69
	BSNL	1.00
	RTL	1.23
	Vodafone	0.46

**Output of rice**

\*149. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice output is likely to slip below 100 MT due to monsoon failure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the loss estimated so far, State-wise, including in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per 2nd Advance Estimates released on 15th February, 2016, total production of rice in the country during 2015-16 is estimated at 103.61 million tonnes. State-wise details of production of rice in the country during 2015-16 *vis-a-vis* increase (+)/decrease (-) in its production over the previous five years average rice production and the rice production during the last year *i.e.* 2014-15 are given in Statement.

**Statement***State-wise details of production of rice*

State	Production of Rice			Increase(+)/Decrease(-) in production of rice as compared to	
	Average Production (2010-11 to 2014-15)	2014-15	2015-16 (2nd Adv. Est.)	Average Production (2010-11 to 2014-15)	2014-15
	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	7338.9	7233.9	6940.0	-398.9	-293.9
Assam	4906.2	5222.6	5123.0	216.8	-99.6
Bihar	5931.3	6356.7	6106.3	175.0	-250.4
Chhattisgarh	6366.9	6322.1	6294.7	-72.2	-27.4
Gujarat	1658.9	1830.9	1564.0	-94.9	-266.9
Haryana	3842.2	4006.0	4176.2	334.0	170.2
Himachal Pradesh	126.4	125.2	98.6	-27.8	-26.6
Jammu and Kashmir	599.7	517.2	416.1	-183.6	-101.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jharkhand	2715.6	3361.9	3456.4	740.8	94.6
Karnataka	3724.1	3541.0	3393.0	-331.1	-148.0
Kerala	534.3	562.1	697.3	163.0	135.2
Madhya Pradesh	2648.9	3625.3	3487.3	838.4	-138.0
Maharashtra	2932.0	2946.0	2614.0	-318.0	-332.0
Orissa	7168.4	8298.2	5795.1	-1373.3	-2503.1
Punjab	11025.4	11107.0	11637.0	611.6	530.0
Rajasthan	284.1	366.7	353.7	69.6	-12.9
Tamil Nadu	5675.7	5727.8	5716.7	41.0	-11.1
Telangana	5305.5	4440.8	4194.9	-1110.6	-245.9
Uttar Pradesh	13446.8	12167.9	12509.0	-937.8	341.1
Uttarakhand	581.3	603.7	630.0	48.7	26.3
West Bengal	14544.7	14677.2	16100.0	1555.3	1422.8
Others	2370.6	2441.7	2309.3	-61.3	-132.4
ALL INDIA	103728.0	105482.1	103612.7	-115.3	-1869.3

**Setting up of Pharma Technology Upgradation Fund  
and Venture Capital Fund**

\*150. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up a ₹500 crore Pharma Technology Upgradation Fund which will facilitate cheaper loans to entities looking to upgrade their manufacturing facilities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is also working on a proposal to establish a Venture Capital Fund to provide cheaper loans to small and marginal companies to set up new units under Make-in-India Scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR):

(a) The Department of Pharmaceuticals is formulating a Scheme—Pharmaceutical Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (PTUAS) to support Pharma Industry (Medium Enterprises Only) to upgrade their regulatory Technology Compliance from Schedule M of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 to WHO-GMP norms by facilitating low

interest loans. Compliance to WHO-GMP Norms are necessary to enter export markets in most of the countries.

(b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals is also formulating Venture Capital Fund Scheme to promote Drug Discovery and Pharma Innovation in the country.

---

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

#### **Shortfall in production of pulses**

1441. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there will be a likely shortfall in the production of pulses leading to higher import of major pulses, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps proposed by Government to increase the acreage for enhancing cultivation of pulses to meet the domestic demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The annual production of the pulses in the country has been generally lower than their requirement and the gap is met through imports. As per 2nd Advance Estimates, total production of pulses in the country during 2015-16 is estimated at 17.33 million tonnes against their projected demand of 21 million tonnes for the year.

(b) In order to increase production of pulses in the country through area expansion and enhancement of productivity, Government of India has been implementing through State Governments, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses since 2007-08. Since 2014-15, NFSM- Pulses is being implemented in 622 districts of 27 States including all districts of North-Eastern and hill States. From the year 2016-17, NFSM- Pulses has been extended to 638 districts of 29 States with the inclusion of 14 districts of Kerala and 2 districts of Goa. Under NFSM, a programme on additional area coverage for increasing pulses production during Rabi/Summer season is also being implemented since 2012-13 to enhance area and productivity of pulses in major pulses growing States. To give a boost to their area and production, pulses have also been included under the scheme “Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)” from 2015-16 as part of demonstrations under cropping systems based approach to target rice fallow areas.

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

During 2015-16, over and above MSPs, the Government has also announced a bonus of ₹ 200/- per quintal for kharif pulses and ₹ 75/- per quintal for rabi pulses.

### **Cultivation of sugarcane in drought prone areas**

1442. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to discourage cultivation of sugarcane in drought prone areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to compensate the farmers of drought affected Marathwada, 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. There is no Central or State law under which sugarcane cultivation can be restricted. However, steps are being taken to promote less water requiring crops like oilseeds, pulses, coarse cereals etc. in drought prone areas. Besides, cultivation of drought tolerant cultivars, use of efficient irrigation devices and water conservation practices are also being promoted.

(c) Government has released an amount of ₹ 1112.25 crores as central share under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) during 2015-16 and ₹ 583.875 crores as first installment in 2016-17. An amount of ₹ 3049.36 crores was approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to Government of Maharashtra.

### **Plantation of Eucalyptus**

†1443. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that in the area of real green revolution of Western Uttar Pradesh, in the Action Plan for the year 2015-16 available on the website *updas.org* plantation of eucalyptus had been included;
- (b) whether plantation of eucalyptus is against the real purpose of this scheme; and
- (c) if so, Government's response thereto?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, in the annual action plan of crop diversification in Original Green Revolution States of Western Uttar Pradesh for the year 2015-16 approved by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) plantation of eucalyptus is included. This annual action plan was not approved by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

(b) and (c) No. Eucalyptus plantation is allowed under the scheme in water logged conditions only for utilization of such lands.

#### **Scheme for drought hit areas**

1444. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has asked State Governments to implement schemes meant for drought-hit areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how many districts in the affected States, have been declared drought hit, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) In view of the deficit monsoon during kharif 2015, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had approved the proposal of Implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme, Enhancement of Ceiling on Seed Subsidy, Implementation of interventions for saving Perennial Horticulture Crops, Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Program (AFDP) for providing relief measures to the farmers.

The Governments of Bihar, Nagaland and Jharkhand have implemented the Diesel Subsidy Scheme during Kharif 2015.

On the basis of proposals received from the State Governments under AFDP, ₹ 1.21 crore to Andhra Pradesh, ₹ 0.49 crore to Madhya Pradesh, ₹ 2.42 to Rajasthan, ₹ 6 crore to Telangana, ₹ 6.25 crore to Karnataka, ₹ 0.48 crore to Chhattisgarh and ₹ 14.40 crore to Odisha, have been released during 2015-16.

The Government has decided to continue AFDP, during 2016-17 with an allocation of ₹ 100 crore (Central Share) to mitigate impact of drought on livestock in the districts/blocks where drought has been declared.



Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) was approved on 1st July, 2015 with the objective of extending the coverage of irrigation in a focused manner with end to end solution on source creation, distribution, management, field application and extension activities. PMKSY has components viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) & PMKSY- Har Khet Ko Pani; implemented by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; PMKSY- Per Drop More Crop; implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare; PMKSY- Watershed Development implemented by Department of Land Resources. During 2015-16, an amount of about ₹ 1556 crore was released to States as Central Share and for 2016-17, an amount of ₹ 2340 crore (BE-2016-17) has been allocated under PMKSY Per Drop More Crop.

(b) Details of the total number of districts affected by drought in the country, State-wise, in the financial year 2015-16, is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of districts declared drought affected during 2015-16*

Sl. No.	Name of State/total number of districts	Name of the affected districts	Total No. of districts affected
1	2	3	4
1.	Karnataka	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, Chikkamagalur  Drought - Kharif - (12 districts - already declared as drought affected during Kharif also) Ballari, Koppal, Raichuru, Kalaburagi, Yadagir, Bidar, Belagavi, Baglkote, Vijayapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad.	27
2.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur, Gariaband, Mahasamund, Dhamtary, Durg, Balod, Bemetara, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Bastar, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Ranker, Dantewara, Sukma, Bijapur, Bilaspur, Mungeli, Janjgir-Champa, Korba, Balrampur, Surajpur, Korla, Raigarh, Jashapur	25

1	2	3	4
3.	Madhya Pradesh	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, Ashoknagar, Khargone, Hoshangabad, Badwani	46
4.	Maharashtra	Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Hingoli, Buldhana, Akola, Yavatmal, Nagpur, Gadchiroli, Solapur, Amaravati, Washim, Wardha, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Goandia	28
5.	Odisha	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Balangir, Boudh, Cuttack, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Keonjhar, Khordha, Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Nayagarh, Puri, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Subarnapur, Sundargarh, Bhadrak	27
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur, Chittoor, YSR Kadapa, Kurnool, Prakasam, SPSR Nellore, Guntur, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Krishna	10
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Ravidas Nagar, Sonbhadra, Sultanpur, Mirzapur, Ballia, Sidharthnagar, Shahjahanpur, Banda, Pratapgarh, Chandauli, Etawah, Basti, Baghpat, Jaunpur, Faizabad, Gonda, Kannauj, Barabanki, Sant Kabir Nagar, Jhansi, Jalaun, Gorakhpur, Hathras, Etah, Allahabad, Ghaziabad, Farrukhabad, Mau, Unnao, Rampur, Hamirpur, Lalitpur, Chitrakoot, Kanpur Nagar, Lucknow, Deoria, Mainpuri, Maharajganj, Agra, Auraiya, Pilibhit, Amethi, Mahoba, Rae Bareilly, Kushinagar, Kanpur Dehat, Kaushambi, Fatehpur, Ambedkar Nagar and Balrampur	50
8.	Telangana	Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nizamabad, Ranga Reddy, Nalgonda, Karimnagar and Warangal	7
9.	Jharkhand	Ranchi, Khunti, Lohardaga, Gumla, Simdega, West Singhbhum, Saraikela, East Singhbhum, Palamu, Garhwa, Latehar, Hazaribagh, Ramgarh, Koderma,	22

1	2	3	4
		Dhanbad, Bokaro, Chatra, Dumka, Godda, Deoghar, Jamtara, Giridih	
10.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalor, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Pratapgarh	19
11.	Gujarat	Rajkot, Jamnagar, Devbhumi Dwarka, Kutch, Porbandar	05#
TOTAL			266

# Government of Gujarat declared semi scarcity in 5 districts.

#### Permission for cultivation of three new varieties of Khesari dal

†1445. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that three new varieties of Khesari dal have been found fit for human health;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that production of pulses are declining continuously;
- (c) if so, whether Government would permit cultivation of those three varieties of Khesari dal in the country, which are found fit for human health;
- (d) if so, by when; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, three improved varieties of Khesari dal namely "Ratan", "Prateek" and "Mahateora" have been released for general cultivation in Chhattisgarh, MP, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, which have been found safe for human consumption due to presence of very low level (0.07-0.1 %) of a neurotoxin called Beta-ODAP (P- N oxaly-L-P-diaminopropionic acid), that is within limit.

(b) Production of pulses in the country during the last 4-5 years has been quite encouraging, increasing from 14.7 million tonnes in 2009-10 to highest ever 19.3 million tonnes in 2013-14. However, in 2014-15, it reduced by about 12 per cent to 17.2 million tonnes owing mainly to adverse weather conditions and the second advance estimates for total pulses production in 2015-16 is about 17.3 million tonnes.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) to (e) There is no ban on cultivation of Khesari dal, only its sale and storage are prohibited.

**Pest attack on CR-1009 Samba rice variety**

1446. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that CR-1009 Samba rice variety, grown widely in Delta region, has over the years become susceptible to pests such as brown plant hopper and bacterial blight;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the yield losses reported due to such pest attack; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by Government to develop new pest resistant variety of Samba rice for Delta region in order to prevent high scale losses to Samba cultivator farmers of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Mono culturing of few selected rice varieties repeatedly for many years results in loss of resistance/tolerance of the rice variety against pest and diseases. CR-1009 was released more than two decades back and the same, though still popular, grown widely in the delta region, had over the years become susceptible to pests such as Brown Plant Hopper (BPH) and Bacterial (Yield) Blight among other pests. It is not unusual that due to continuous pest pressure the tolerance level is reduced. To meet the challenge, ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities are continuously engaged in breeding varieties and improving existing varieties to withstand the onslaught of pests and diseases.

(b) Yield losses in Samba rice variety depends on the intensity and spread of the disease (BLB) and the insect pest (BPH).

Moderate to severe incidence of bacterial blight of rice (*Xanthomonas oryzae* pv. *Oryzae*) was recorded on rice variety CR. 1009 (Savitri) with an average yield loss of 15-20% in areas like Kariakal in Puduchhery and Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu recently.

(c) ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad in collaboration with Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) have introgressed three major Bacterial Blight resistance genes, *Xa21*, *xa13* and *xa5* into the genetic background of Samba Mahsuri. Resulting improved Samba Mahsuri is released in the States of Tamil

Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The variety is being promoted aggressively by Indian Institute of Rice Research and National Rice Research Institute in the pest endemic areas.

A new rice cultivar AD-09367 is also developed for cultivation in the Delta region. The new variety has high tolerance to major pests and diseases, with yield advantage of 10 per cent over CR-1009.

### **Doubling the income of farmers by 2022**

1447. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that it is not feasible to double the income of farmers by 2022 without changing the current agricultural policies and without provision of remunerative price to farmers for their produce;

(b) if so, the details of policy changes Government proposes in this regard;

(c) whether Government is aware that doubling the income by 2022 would not be achievable without implementation of the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee;

(d) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(e) if not, the concrete road-map for doubling the income of farmers by 2022?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (e) Government is aware of the need to review the strategy and programmes to double the farmers income by 2022. A Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare for examining the following aspects to double the farmers income:

- (i) To study the current income level of farmers/agricultural labourers.
- (ii) To measure the historical growth rate of the current income level.
- (iii) To determine the needed growth rate to double the income of farmers/agricultural labourers by the year 2021-22.
- (iv) To consider and recommend various strategies to be adopted to accomplish (iii) above.

- (v) To recommended an institutional mechanism to review and monitor implementation to realise the goal.
- (vi) To examine any other related issue.

**Compensation to farmers for crop loss**

†1448. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been no announcement so far to give compensation to farmers for the damage of rabi crops due to untimely rain and hailstorm recently;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, how many acres of crops have been damaged in this natural calamity and the amount of compensation announced by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. 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. Assistance under SDRF/NDRF provided is for immediate relief and not by way of compensation for the loss suffered.

As per reports received up to April, 2016, an area of 6.21 lakh hectare was damaged under various crops due to unseasonal rains, hailstorms and winds. Lodging of wheat crop was reported in an area of 9.04 lakh hectare. Thus, total area of 15.25 hectare was affected in the country.

The Government of Rajasthan has submitted memorandum on 26.4.2016 seeking assistance from NDRF in the wake of hailstorm. Financial assistance will be approved as per norms on the basis on Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) Report.

**Allocation for agriculture and farmers welfare**

†1449. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in the current

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

budget and the schemes which have been implemented to provide benefits to the farmers, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any separate package has been provided to poor States such as Bihar which are affected by floods and drought every year, if so, the amount which has been allocated, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The details indicating plan/non-plan outlays in respect of various schemes proposed to be implemented in the current budget to provide benefit to the farmers is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The details indicating the assistance provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities (drought and hailstorm) to the various States during 2014-15 and 2015-16 is given in Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare  
Plan outlays*

(₹ in lakhs)

A Plan Outlays in respect of various

Sl. No.	Name of Mission/Scheme	BE 2016-17
<b>1A</b>	<b>Green Revolution-Krishonnati Yojana</b>	
1.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	162000.00
	Total- MIDH	162000.00
2.	<b>Oil Seeds</b>	
2.1	Tree borne Oil Seeds	300.00
2.2	National Oilseeds and Oil Palm Mission	49700.00
	Total- Oil Seeds	50000.00
3.	<b>National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture</b>	
3.1	National Mission on Promotion of Organic Farming	300.00
3.2	Organic Value Chain Development for NE Region	10000.00
3.3	National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility (including Soil Health Card]	36200.00
3.4	National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture(RADP & climate change)	22500.00
3.5	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana	29700.00

Sl. No.	Name of Mission/Scheme	BE 2016-17
3.6	National Mission on Agro-Forestry	7500.00
	Total- National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture	106200.00
4.	<b>National Mission On Agriculture Extension and Tecnology</b>	
4.1	National Mission on Agriculture & Extension	63500.00
4.2	Strengthening/ Promoting Agriculture Information Systems	4000.00
4.3	Sub-Mission Seeds & Planting Material	18000.00
4.4	Sub-Mission On Agriculture Mechanisation	18000.00
4.5	Sub-Mission On Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine	2500.00
4.6	National E Governance Plan - Agriculture	4000.00
	Total-NMAET	110000.00
5.	<b>Intigrated Scheme On Agriculture Census &amp; Statistics</b>	21000.00
6.	<b>Integrated Scheme On Agriculture Cooperation</b>	13000.00
7.	<b>Agricultural Marketing</b>	
7.1	Integrated scheme on Agricultural Marketing	78790.00
7.2	National Agriculture Market	5000.00
8.	<b>National Food Security Mission</b>	170000.00
9.	<b>National Rainfed Area Authority</b>	10.00
	Total- Green Revolution-krishonnati yojana	716000.00
<b>B</b>	<b>Green Revolution-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana</b>	540000.00
2.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yoiana (PMFBY/NCIP)	550000.00
3.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana	234000.00
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2040000.00</b>

*Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare*  
*Non-plan outlays*

(₹ in lakhs)

**B. Non-plan outlays in respect of various schemes**

Sl. No.	Division/Scheme	B E 2016-17
1.	Agri. Extension and Training	3036.00
2.	Economic Administration	3556.00
3.	Seeds	610.00



Sl. No.	Division/Scheme	B E 2016-17
4.	Manures and Fertilisers	1806.00
5.	Plant Protection	12906.00
6.	Mechanisation & Technology	2862.00
7.	Crops	586.00
8.	Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses	269.00
9.	Horticulture	927.00
10.	Secretariat Eco. Services	11146.00
11.	Agriculture Marketing	4595.00
12.	Natural Resource Management	2096.00
13.	National Rainfed Area Authority	1732.00
14.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	115.00
15.	Cooperation	8000.00
16.	International Cooperation	3387.00
17.	Diesel Subsidy in Drought and deficit rainfall affected areas	740.00
18.	Interest Subvention for Providing Short Term Credit to Farmers	1500000.00
GRAND TOTAL		1558369.00

**Statement-II**

*Information assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for  
Natural Calamities (Drought & hailstorm) in the States*

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount sought	Amount approved
<b>During -2014-2015</b>				
1.	Haryana	Drought	4829.25	168.87
		Hailstorm	1925.97	369.09
2.	Karnataka	Drought	779.20	200.85
		Hailstorm	151.28	105.33

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount sought	Amount approved
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	4819.49	777.34
		Hailstorm	7573.70	2801.59
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	6013.28	1962.99
5.	Artdhra Pradesh	Drought	1532.00	237.51
6.	Rajasthab	Hailstorm	11885.45	1447.73
7.	Bihar	Hailstorm	2041.10	791.42
8.	Telangana	Hailstorm	117.59	83.744
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Hailstorm	353.395	71.534
TOTAL			42021.71	9017.998
<b>During -2015-2016</b>				
1.	Karnataka	Drought	3830.84	1540.20
		Drought-R	1417.14	723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought	6093.79	1276.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought	5114.53	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	4002.82	3049.36
5.	Odisha	Drought	2344.99	815.00
6.	Telangana	Drought	2601.17	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	2057.79	1304.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	2000.56	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	Drought	2142.78	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	Drought	10537.02	1193.41
		Hailstorm	4372.27	#
TOTAL			46515.70	13496.57

R:Rabi

# Inter Ministerial Central Team has visited affected areas. The matter is under process.

**Imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers**

†1450. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers, agricultural land in the country has been severely damaged;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government has identified those areas in the country where agricultural lands have been affected the most and the least; and
- (d) if so, names of those States and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) studies show that there is no harmful effect of chemical fertilizers with recommended doses and its judicious use. However, imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may result in multinutrient deficiencies and decline in soil health.

(b) Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to ensure judicious use of chemical fertilizers preventing deterioration of soil health.

Government is implementing Soil Health Card scheme that provides soil fertility status and also fertilizer recommendations to be used by farmers. Recommendation is also given for soil amendments for deficiencies found.

(c) and (d) The state-wise districts delineated deficient in different nutrients are given in Statement.

#### **Statement**

*Districts low in soil available Nitrogen(N), Phosphorus(P), Potassium(K), Sulphur(S), Zinc(Zn), Iron(Fe), Manganese(Mn) and Boron(B) in different States*

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Andhra Pradesh including Telengana	N	Adilabad, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Nizamabad, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari
	P	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Rangareddi, Srikakulam, Warangal
	K	Nil

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Assam	S	Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Kadappa, Guntur, Anantpur, Nizamabad Nalgonda
	Zn	Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Guntur, Anantpur, Rangareddy, Krishna West Godavari, Adilabad, Parakasham, Srikakulam
	Fe	Kurnool, Anantpur, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Parakasham, Vishakhapatnam
	Mn	Rangareddy, West Godavari, Nizamabad, Medak
	B	Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Rangareddy, Krishna, West Godavari, Nalgonda, Adilabad, Vishakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Medak
	N	Bongaigaon, Bopeta, Chirang, Darrang, Kokrajhar, Morigaon, N C Hills, Nalbari
	P	Jorhat, Karbi angling, Udalguri
	K	Bongaigaon, Cachar, Chirang, Golaghat, Hailakandi, Jorhat, Karimganj, Kokrajhar, N C Hills, Nagaon, Sivsagar, Udalguri
	S	Jorhat, Sibsagar, Kamrup
	Zn	Jorhat, Golaghat, Barpeta, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Dibrugarh, Darang, Tinsukia
Chhattisgarh	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Jorhat, N Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh
	N	Bastar, Dantewara, Dhamtari, Durg, Kanker, Kawardha, Mahasmund, Raipur, Rajnandgaon
	P	Bastar, Dantewara, Dhamtari, Kanker, Korba, Mahasmund, Raipur
Gujarat	K	Bastar, Dantewara, Kanker
	N	Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Kutch, Mahesana, Narmada, Patan, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara
	P	Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dahod, Mahesana, Narmada, Navsari, Panchmahal, Patan, Porbandar, Surendranagar, Valsad
	K	Nil

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Haryana	S	Banaskantha, Anand, Kheda, Panchmahal, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Dahod
	Zn	Patan, Bharuch, Ahmedabad, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Kutch
	Fe	Anand, Kheda, Patan, Vadodara, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Gandhinagar, Kutch
	Mn	Nil
	B	Panchmahal, Patan, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Gandhinagar
	N	Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehbad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Sirsa, Sonipat, Yamuna Nagar
	P	Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehbad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Sirsa, Sonipat, Yamuna Nagar
	K	Nil
	S	Kurukshetra, Mohindergarh, Jhajjar, Rewari, Ambala, Palwal, Bhiwani, Rohtak, Fatehabad
	Zn	Mohindergarh, Bhiwani
	Fe	Sirsa, Hisar, Mohindergarh, Fatehabad, Bhiwani, Rohtak
	Mn	Hisar, Karnal, Fatehabad
Himachal Pradesh	B	Nil
	N	Nil
	P	Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi, Simla, Una
	K	Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kinnaur, Lahaul spiti, Una
	S	Nil
	Zn	Hamirpur, Una, Chamba, Mandi
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
Karnataka	B	Bilaspur, Una, Kangra, Shimla, Solan
	N	Kolar
	P	Bellari, Bijapur, Hassan, North Kannada, South Kannada, Udupi
	K	South Kannada, Udupi

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Kerala	N	Kasaragod, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram
	P	Nil
	K	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	N	Bhind, Chhattarpur, Datia, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Mandsaur, Neemuch, Morena, Panna, Ratlam, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi
	P	Ashok Nagar, Betul, Bhind, Chhattarpur, Damoh, Daria, Dewas, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Panna, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Umaria
	K	Dhar, Anuppur, Betul, Gwalior, Morena, Sagar, Sidhi
	S	Chattarpur, Satna, Chhindwara, Narsinghpur, Reewa, Dewas, Panna, Morena
	Zn	Balaghat, Seoni, Shahadol, Mandala, Bhopal, Raisen, Tikamgarh, Chhattarpur, Satna, Chhindwara, Jabalpur, Narsinghpur, Reewa, Dewas, Panna, Morena
	Fe	Bhopal, Panna, Narsinghpur
	Mn	Nil
	B	Nil
Maharashtra	N	Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Beed, Bhandara, Buldhana, Gondiya, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nashik, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangali, Satara, Solapur, Usmanabad, Wardha, Washim, Yeotmal
	P	Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Bhuldhana, Dhule, Gondiya, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kolhapur, Latur, Nagpur, Nanded, Nandurbar, Nashik, Parbhani, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sangali, Satara, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Usmanabad, Wardha, Washim, Yeotmal
	K	Raigad, Sindhudurg
	S	Akola, Aurangabad, Washim, Nanded, Gondia, Nagpur, Parbhani, Latur
	Zn	Akola, Bhandara, Jalna, Yavatmal, Amravati, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Aurangabad, Wardha, Hingoli, Nanded, Nagpur, Parbhani, Latur
	Fe	Akola, Jalna, Amravati, Aurangabad, Washim, Wardha, Beed, Parbhani
	Mn	Nil
	B	Nil

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Odisha	N	Bhadrak, Boudh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapada, Khurda, Mayurbhanj, Nuapada, Nayagarh, Bhulbani, Puri, Sundargarh
	P	Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Nawrangpur, Phulbani, Sambalpur
	K	Cuttack, Ganjam, Nayagarh
	S	Bargarh, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Kalahandi, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Sambalpur, Sonepur
	Zn	Angul, Bhadrak, Boudh, Puri, Sonepur
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Angul, Bargarh, Bhadrak, Boudh, Dhenkanal, Kandhmal, Kendrapada, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Puri, Sambalpur, Sonepur
Punjab	N	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Muktsar
	P	Nil
	K	Nil
	S	Nil
	Zn	Gurdaspur
	Fe	Bhatinda
	Mn	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Gurdaspur, Tarantaran
	B	Nil
Rajasthan	N	Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Bharatpur, Barmer, Bundi, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Durgapur, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagpur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirhi, Sriganganagar, Tonk
	P	Bharatpur, Barmer, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Durgapur, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Sirhi, Sriganganagar
	K	Nil
Tamil Nadu	N	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Pudukkottai, Kanchipuram, Kanyakumari, Karur, Madurai,

State/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
		Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Theni, Thiruallur, Thiruvarur, Thoothukudi, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Trichirapalli, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar
	P	Kanchipuram, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi, Trichirapalli
	K	Ariyalur
	S	Nagapattinam, Coimbatore, Virudhunagar, Theni, Krishnagiri, Pudukkottai
	Zn	Thanjavur, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Theni, Krishnagiri, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Pudukkottai
	Fe	Trichy, Erode, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Krishnagiri
	Mn	Villupuram
	B	Erode, Salem, Krishnagiri, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Pudukkottai
Uttar Pradesh	N	Azamgarh, Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkarnagar, Auraiya, Badliya, Baghpat, Bahraich, Balrampur, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijnour, Buland Shahr, Chandauli, Chitrakut, Deoria, Etah, Etahwa, Faizabad, Farukhhabad, Fatehabad, Firozabad, Gautambudh nagar, Gaziipur, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Hathras, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Jyotibapahool nagar, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kashirampur, Kaushambi, Kushinagar, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Lakhimpur, Maharajganj, Mahoba, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Muradabad, Muzaffar Nagar, Pilibhit, Pratapgarh, Rampur, Rayburi, Saharanpur, Santkabeer Nagar, Shahjahanpur, Siddharth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonbhadra, Sribasti, Sultanpur, Unnao, Varanasi.
	P	Azamgarh, Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkarnagar, Auraiya, Badliya, Baghpat, Bahraich, Balrampur, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijnour, Buland Shahr, Chandauli, Chitrakut, Deoria, Etah, Etahwa, Faizabad, Farukhhabad, Fatehabad, Firozabad, Gautambudh nagar, Gaziipur, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Jyotibapahool nagar, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kashirampur, Kaushambi, Kushinagar, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Lakhimpur, Maharajganj, Mahoba, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Mirzapur, Muradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pilibhit, Pratapgarh, Rampur,



1	2	3
		Raybareli, Saharanpur, Santkabeer nagar, Santravidasnagar, Shahjahapur, Sidharth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonebhadra, Sribasti, Sultanpur, Unnav, Varanasi
	K	Nil
	S	Allahabad, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Raibareli, Ramabai nagar, Unnao
	Zn	Agra, Allahabad, Farrukhabad, Gorakhpur, Kannauj, Kanpur, Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Raibareli, Ramabai nagar, Sitapur
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Etawah, Farrukhabad, Kannauj, Kanpur, Sitapur, Varanasi
	B	Nil
Uttarakhand	N	Denradun, Tehari Gadwal, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarkashi
	P	Bageswar, Chamoli, Champawat, Dehradun, Haridwar, Paudi, Rudraprayag, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarkashi
	K	Nil
	S	Champawat, Dehradun
	Zn	Udham Singh Nagar
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Rudraprayag
	B	Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Tehri
West Bengal	N	Midnapore E, Midnapore W, North 24- Parganas, South 24-Parganas
	P	Midnapore E, Prakama, Purulia
	K	Jalpaiguri
	S	Nil
	Zn	Jalpaiguri, North Dinajpur, N 24 Pargana, Bardhaman, Coochbehar
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Hooghly, Murshidabad, Bardhaman, Nadia, Coochbehar, S 24 Pargana

**Inflation in agricultural prices**

1451. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of growth in agriculture GDP for the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of growth in real farm income of farmers for the last five years, State-wise;
- (c) the details of inflation in agricultural prices in the last five years; and
- (d) whether inflation in agricultural prices has been more than inflation in non-agricultural prices in the last five years, if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" during NSS 70th round in 2013 in the rural parts of the country. The State-wise details of estimated average monthly income per agricultural household for the period July 2012-June 2013, as per the above survey are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Prices are determined by the interplay of market forces of demand and supply. The details of inflation for agricultural prices and non-agricultural prices are not maintained. However, the details of annual rate of inflation in major commodity groups including food articles and non-food articles comprising items such as fibres, oilseeds, flowers, sugarcane, etc. are as under:-

Name of Commodities	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
All Commodities	8.94	7.36	5.98	2.00	-2.53
Primary Articles	9.80	9.81	9.84	2.98	0.21
(A) Food Articles	7.30	9.90	12.76	6.08	3.35
(B) Non-Food Articles	9.64	10.52	5.60	-0.54	3.37
(C) Minerals	26.60	8.19	-0.12	-10.96	-30.21
Fuel & Power	13.96	10.33	10.16	-0.94	-11.62
Manufactured Products	7.26	5.41	2.99	2.42	-1.12

Source: DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Statement-I***Growth Rates of Gross Domestic Product of Agriculture and Allied Sector*

(per cent)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
		2004-05 prices		2011-12 prices		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-1.1	3.2	4.03	10.79	2.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.5	10.2	3.31	2.95	4.26
3.	Assam	2.8	1.7	6.08	0.68	3.40
4.	Bihar	16.7	12.5	8.42	-8.87	1.33
5.	Jharkhand	4.5	26.2	5.88	-1.24	6.05
6.	Goa	1.7	1.4	-4.28	15.24	5.74
7.	Gujarat	21.6	5.5	-13.84	25.90	-0.69
8.	Haryana	5.5	7.9	-1.97	3.08	-0.73
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16.5	-3.5	7.21	14.26	-1.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.4	2.3	-6.24	7.87	-13.66
11.	Karnataka	16.2	-6.6	-4.93	10.22	1.60
12.	Kerala	-6.4	4.9	1.43	-2.13	-4.68
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0.2	13.4	25.81	-1.43	6.16
14.	Chhattisgarh	21.5	3.0	6.12	2.89	9.63
15.	Maharashtra	21.0	-2.6	-1.86	12.62	-15.96
16.	Manipur	-18.2	2.4	6.77	1.66	NA
17.	Meghalaya	1.9	4.5	10.97	5.37	2.69
18.	Mizoram	16.4	4.1	-2.38	6.21	-0.25
19.	Nagaland	8.4	5.3	5.03	12.64	0.81
20.	Odisha	1.9	-0.6	16.54	-5.15	9.26
21.	Punjab	1.6	1.8	0.90	3.83	-3.41
22.	Rajasthan	38.5	-1.1	2.96	5.96	-0.90
23.	Sikkim	4.9	38.4	2.16	3.37	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Tamil Nadu	7.5	10.0	-10.76	17.73	7.68
25.	Telangana	19.4	-0.4	8.84	2.14	-5.34
26.	Tripura	11.4	1.7	4.84	7.49	NA
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4.7	5.8	5.24	0.46	-2.46
28.	Uttarakhand	4.4	4.0	1.92	-2.19	1.12
29.	West Bengal	-2.1	0.8	3.33	3.01	3.31
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.2	3.0	2.51	4.05	5.69
31.	Chandigarh	-6.9	-15.7	-3.83	1.83	0.66
32.	Delhi	7.9	0.9	-22.19	-6.03	12.75
33.	Puducherry	25.6	-14.4	5.15	2.91	4.68

*Source:* Central Statistics Office.

***Statement-II***

*Average monthly income (₹) per agricultural household during the agricultural year July 2012 - June 2013 for different States/ Group of UTs*

State	Total Income (₹)
Andhra Pradesh	5979
Arunachal Pradesh	10869
Assam	6695
Bihar	3558
Chhattisgarh	5177
Gujarat	7926
Haryana	14434
Himachal Pradesh	8777
Jammu and Kashmir	12683
Jharkhand	4721
Karnataka	8832
Kerala	11888

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	6210
Maharashtra	7386
Manipur	8842
Meghalaya	11792
Mizoram	9099
Nagaland	10048
Odisha	4976
Punjab	18059
Rajasthan	7350
Sikkim	6798
Tamil Nadu	6980
Telangana	6311
Tripura	5429
Uttarakhand	4701
Uttar Pradesh	4923
West Bengal	3980
Group of UTs	8568
ALL INDIA	6426

Source: Table 7 of NSS report KI (70733): Key Indicators of Situation of Agricultural Households in India.

Note: Income Includes income from salary wages, net receipt from cultivation, net receipt from farming of animals and net receipt from non-farm business.

### **Decline in sowing of rabi crops**

1452. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sowing of rabi crops in 2015-16 is 30 per cent less than 2014-15;

(b) if so, how Government will be able to increase grain production by 5 per cent to offset 2 per cent drop in kharif grain output; and

(c) how the Ministry is looking at the above situation and the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per Second Advance Estimates, total area coverage under rabi crops during 2015-16 has been lower by only around 5% as compared to that of 2014-15. However, as a result of various initiatives and mitigation measures taken by the Government, total production of rabi foodgrains during 2015-16 is estimated to be higher by around 4% as compared to rabi foodgrains production during 2014-15.

(c) In order to boost agricultural production including that of rabi crops in the country, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

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

#### **Profit on MSP**

†1453. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to implement the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee as such, in the country including Maharashtra;

(b) the number of crops in the Centre's list including paddy and wheat for which minimum support price is given, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Central Government and the State Governments propose to add 10 per cent profit in the minimum support price given to the farmers every year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan was set up in 2004. The Commission submitted five reports to the Government. The major recommendations of the Commission contained in the five reports were included in the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the Commission itself in 2006. Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', submitted by the Commission, the Government approved the National Policy for Farmers-2007.

National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 aims to improve economic viability of farming and increase net income of farmers. Policy provisions in NPF-2007 include, *inter-alia*, asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural bio-security system; use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and setting up of farm schools to revitalize agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiative for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy, etc. The Ministry has adopted various schemes/programmes based on the NPF, 2007.

(b) to (d) The Government's price policy for 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 prices. The prices 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 central nodal 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.

The Government decides on the support price for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices.

The CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers a number of important factors which include cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, inter-crop price parity, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, international market price situation etc.

The cost of cultivation/production includes all paid out costs, such as, those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour (both hired and owned) and rent paid for leased in land besides cash and kind expenses on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges including cost of diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets, etc. Besides, cost of production includes imputed value of wages of family labour and rent for owned land. The cost also covers depreciation of farm machinery and buildings. As such, the cost of production covers not only actual expenses in cash and kind but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour.

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

The details indicating the MSPs announced in recent years is given in Statement.



**Statement****Minimum Support Prices  
(According to crop year)**

(As on 28.04.2016)

(₹ per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	(#) increase in MSP 2014-15		(#) increase in MSP 2015-16		(#) increase in MSP 2016-17	
							over 2013-14	2015-16	over 2014-15	2016-17	over 2015-16	2016-17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
<b>Kharif Crops</b>												
1.	Paddy	Common	1080	1250	1310	1360	50(3.8)	1410	50(3.7)			
		Grade 'A'	1110	1280	1345	1400	55(4.1)	1450	50(3.6)			
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	980	1500	1500	1530	30(2.0)	1570	40(2.6)			
		Maldandi	1000	1520	1520	1550	30(2.0)	1590	40(2.6)			
3.	Bajra		980	1175	1250	1250	-	1275	25(2.0)			
4.	Maize		980	1175	1310	1310	-	1325	15(1.1)			
5.	Ragi		1050	1500	1500	1550	50(3.3)	1650	100(6.5)			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6.	Arhar (Tur)		3200¶	3850	4300	4350	50(1.2)	4425^	75(1.7)		
7.	Moong		3500¶	4400	4500	4600	100(2.2)	4650^	50(1.1)		
8.	Urad		3300¶	4300	4300	4350	50(1.2)	4425^	75(1.7)		
9.	Cotton	Medium Staple	2800 <sup>a</sup>	3800	3700	3750	50(1.4)	3800	50(1.3)		
		Long Staple	3300 <sup>aa</sup>	3900	4000	4050	50(1.3)	4100	50(1.2)		
10.	Groundnut in Shell		2700	3700	4000	4000	-	4030	30(0.8)		
11.	Sunflower Seed		2800	3700	3700	3750	50(1.4)	3800	50(1.3)		
12.	Soyabean	Black	1650	2200	2500	2500	-	-	-		
		Yellow	1690	2240	2560	2560	-	2600\$\$	40(1.6)		
13.	Sesamum		3400	4200	4500	4600	100(2.2)	4700	100(2.2)		
14.	Nigerseed		2900	3500	3500	3600	100(2.9)	3650	50(1.4)		
	<b>Rabi Crops</b>										
15.	Wheat		1285	1350	1400	1450	50(3.6)	1525	75(5.2)		
16.	Barley		980	980	1100	1150	50(4.5)	1225	75(6.5)		
17.	Gram		2800	3000	3100	3175	75(2.4)	3425**	250(7.9)		

18.	Masur (Lentil)	2800	2900	2950	3075	125(4.2)	3325**	250(8.1)
19.	Rapeseed/ Mustard	2500	3000	3050	3100	50(1.6)	3350	250(8.0)
20.	Safflower	2500	2800	3000	3050	50(1.7)	3300	250(8.2)
21.	Toria	2425	2970	3020	3020	-	3290	270(8.9)
	<b>Other Crops</b>							
22.	Copra	4525	5100	5250	5250	-	5550	300(5.7)
	(Calender	4775	5350	5500	5500	-	5830	330(6.0)
	Year)							410(7.0)
23.	De-Husked	1200	1400	1425	1425	-	1500	75(5.3)
	Coconut						1600	100(6.7)
	(Calender Year)							
24.	Jute	1675	2200	2300	2400	100(4.3)	2700	300(12.5)
25.	Sugarcane*	145.00	170.00	210.00	220.00	10(4.8)	230.00	10(4.5)

# Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

\* Fair and remunerative price.

¶ Additional incentive at the rate of ₹ 500 per quintal of tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies was payable during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

a Staple length (mm) of 24.5 - 25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3-5.1

aa Staple length (mm) of 29.5 - 30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5-4.3

^ Bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal is payable over and above the Minimum Support Price.

\*\* Bonus of ₹ 75 per quintal is payable over and above the Minimum Support Price.

\$\$ Single Minimum Support Price has been fixed irrespective of the variety.

**Storage facility to farmers**

†1454. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that farmers in the country do not have adequate storage facility;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering formulation of any plan to provide storage facility to farmers; and
- (c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per the Report of the Working Group of Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) on "Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Secondary Agriculture and Policy Required for Internal and External Trade" for the XII Five Year Plan, 2012-17, the total warehousing gap during XII Plan period is estimated at ₹ 35.00 million MT. Against this estimate, under storage component of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) (erstwhile Grameen Bhandaran Yojna (GBY)) whose objective is to promote scientific storage in rural areas, 30.231 million MT capacity has been sanctioned in the XII Plan till 31.03.2016.

Further as per report date 27.05.2013 on Evaluation and Impact Assessment study of the Scheme done by M/s Global Agri System Pvt. Ltd., the usage pattern shows that 62.4% capacity is being used for storing farmers' own produce and 37.6% capacity is being offered to other users.

(b) and (c) This department has since 01.04.2001 been promoting construction of scientific godowns in rural areas under the storage component of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) (erstwhile Grameen Bhandaran Yojna (GBY)) which is a demand driven, capital investment and backened subsidy linked scheme. Due to shortage of funds, the scheme is temporarily stopped since 05.08.2014 for general category promoters. However, the scheme is open for North-East States and for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Reviving National Commission on Farmers**

1455. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to revive the National Commission on Farmers and to change its nomenclature, aims and objectives with new version; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government with long-term and short-term measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal to revive the National Commission on Farmers and to change its nomenclature, aims and objectives with new version.

**Drought in the country**

1456. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of districts affected by drought in the country, State-wise, in the financial year 2015-16; and
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to rehabilitate the farmers and their families affected by the drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) During 2015-16, 10 States *i.e.* Governments of Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund(NDRF) after declaring drought in affected parts of those States. Government of Gujarat has also declared semi scarcity in 05 districts of the State during Kharif 2015. However, no memorandum was submitted by Government of Gujarat seeking financial assistance from NDRF.

The details regarding the number of districts affected State-wise by drought during 2015-16 are given in Statement-I [*Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No.1444 part - (b)*] and assistance approved to those drought affected States are given in Statement-II. (*See below*).

To deal with the situation, the following measures have been taken:

- Intervention made in drought affected areas during 2015-16 by Implementation of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy, Implementation of interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops, implementation of additional fodder development programme.
- 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 & 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 during 2015-16.
- In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016.
- The first installment of Central Share of SDRF for the year 2016-17 amounting to ₹ 2551.875 crore has been released in advance to the 10 drought affected States (excluding Gujarat).

***Statement-II***

*Assistance Approved from the NDRF to drought affected States during 2015-16*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Central Assistance approved by GOI under NDRF
1	2	3
1.	Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi)	1540.20 723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	1276.25

1	2	3
3.	Madhya Pradesh	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	3049.36
5.	Odisha	815.00
6.	Telangana	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	1304.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	1193.41
TOTAL		13496.57

#### Menace of bogus seeds

1457. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of media reports that a cotton farmer of Aalur village Palamur in Mahbubnagar district tried to commit suicide on April 16, 2016 for being unable to bear the loss caused by bogus seeds; and

(b) if so, whether steps are being taken to check the menace of bogus seeds which is ruining the farmers' lives in rural economy if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The State Government of Telangana has reported that, they have taken cognizance of the incident and resolved the issue amicably with the concerned seed companies. Moreover, the State Government has reported that the loss of cotton crop was not due to bogus seeds but on account of climatic conditions.

Further, the State Government has taken adequate steps like creating awareness among the the farmers to purchase quality seeds from authorized and licensed dealers, enhancing capacity of a Seed Inspectors, single window diagnostic facility laboratory for testing of service sample, effective implementation of Seed Law Enforcement and formation of special squad at state level for surprise checks and inspection of seed dealer premises and processing units to curb the sale of spurious seeds in the Slate.

**Efficient use of water in agriculture**

1458. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards any research report that India uses two to four times more water to produce a unit of major food crops than China and Brazil, if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for the efficient use of water in agriculture sector, particularly in drought affected States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes Sir, there are some research reports published during last decade stating that India uses two to four times more water to produce a unit of major food crop than China and Brazil due to low water productivity in India. However, with adoption of modern agronomic practices like raised bed sowing, alternate furrow irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, drip irrigation, direct seeding of rice, system of rice intensification and newer practices of water usage by the Indian farmers, the water requirement for raising food crops in India is comparable with other countries.

(b) The Government advocates drought affected States for crop diversification with low water consuming crops and use of drought tolerant cultivars along with efficient methods of irrigation and water-use efficient agronomic practices. The Government has recently launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) by amalgamating ongoing schemes, viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, Integrated Watershed Management Programme and On Farm Water Management (including drip/sprinkler irrigation) of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) aiming at 'more crop per drop' and '*Har Khet ko pani*' for benefit of the farming community.

**Cultivation of new arhar variety**

1459. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute have developed a new arhar variety —Pigeon pea that matures in 120 days;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with its main features; and



(c) the time by which the new variety of arhar is likely to be made available to farmers for commercial cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Indian Agricultural Research Institute has developed early maturing (120 days) arhar genotype. This genotype is of determinate habit, short statured (<100 cm), suited for close planting (30x15 cm) and amenable to mechanical harvesting.

(c) This genotype is yet to be evaluated in different agro-ecologies in All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Pigeon pea.

#### **Use of hybrid and GM seeds**

1460. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Economic Survey has favoured use of hybrid and Genetically Modified (GM) seeds to increase agricultural productivity since there is limited scope for increasing acreage, if so, the views of Government in this regard; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to totally ban diversion of agricultural land for any other purposes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Economic Survey has strongly advocated for adopting high yielding technologies such as hybrid and GM technologies for rapid progress towards world's agro-technological frontiers to increase crop productivity per unit area. Hybrids of maize, cotton, pearl millet, sorghum, castor, rice and vegetables have considerably enhanced the yield per unit area and revolutionized Indian agriculture. Bt cotton is the only transgenic crop approved for cultivation in India subsequent to extensive evaluation and regulatory process. Yields prior to commercialization of Bt cotton in 2002 rose from 300 kg/ha. to 523 kg/ha. during 2014.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Compensation to farmers for crop loss due to change in climatic conditions**

1461. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sudden and severe change in the climatic conditions is causing intense damage to crops and is affecting productivity also;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to ensure that the damage to crops is minimized and the loss to farmers is compensated; and

(c) whether Government will consider balancing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of crops based on the amount of damage that has been caused to the crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) During the year 2015-16, in view of deficit rainfall, several States in the country faced drought situation within their territories. Government of Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan submitted Memoranda seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in this regard. The details regarding funds approved as agriculture input subsidy in 2015-16 drought affected States are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) The following measures have been taken to ensure that the damage to crops is minimized and the loss to the farmers is compensated:

- Intervention made in drought affected areas during 2015-16 by implementation of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy, implementation of interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops, implementation of additional fodder development programme.
- 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 during 2015-16.
- In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions. Government of India recently

introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016.

- The first installment of Central Share of SDRF for the year 2016-17 amounting to ₹ 2551.875 crore has been released in advance to the 10 drought affected States.

(c) The Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the major agricultural produce on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after taking views of the State Governments, Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, CACP considers various important factors which, *inter-alia*, include cost of cultivation, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living etc.

MSP is in the nature of Minimum price offered by the Government to farmers. However, farmers exercise their option to sell their produce to Government agencies at MSP or in the open market.

#### *Statement*

*Assistance for agriculture input subsidy approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for drought 2015-16*

(₹ in crore)			
Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount approved in 2015-16
1.	Karnataka	Drought	1525.31
		Drought-R	#
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought	1231.72
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought	2030.56
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	2873.95
5.	Odisha	Drought	815.00
6.	Telangana	Drought	702.71
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	1244.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	316.93
9.	Jharkhand	Drought	253.28
10.	Rajasthan	Drought	1177.59
TOTAL			12171.57

# Government approved in total ₹723.23 crore from NDRF including subsidy for agriculture input.

R: Rabi

**Schemes for poor fishermen**

1462. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes provided by Government for poor fishermen who do not own fishing boats;
- (b) the other schemes Government has to provide sustainable livelihood to poor fishermen; and
- (c) the other financial help provided by Government to such fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Government has approved a restructured Central Sector Scheme (CSS) namely 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' with 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' as one of the components. The National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen provides financial assistance to fishers during the lean fishing season/fishing ban period. In addition, financial assistance is also provided for construction of houses for fishers and creation of other basic amenities such as drinking water facility and community halls. Besides this, insurance coverage for fishers is also provided under the scheme.

(b) and (c) The Blue Revolution Scheme also aims for integrated development and management of the fisheries sector covering inland fisheries, aquaculture, marine fisheries, mariculture, cage/pen culture and creation of fisheries infrastructure through central financial assistance towards sustainable livelihood to fishermen. It has the following components namely, (i) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and its activities; (ii) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture; (iii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations; (iv) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen; (v) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System of the Fisheries Sector; and (vi) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and other need based interventions.

**Shortage of fodder**

1463. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is facing shortage of fodder due to shrinking of country's grasslands;

(b) whether India is also facing a deficit of about 35.6 per cent of green fodder and about 10.9 per cent of dry fodder due to burning of crop residue by farmers; and

(c) if so, whether Government is planning to bring in a policy on shortage of feed and fodder and also make some arrangements for awareness of farmer to stop burning crop residue which may help substantially decrease the deficit of dry fodder, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the latest report furnished by Directorate of Economics and Statistics Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare in their Land Use Statistics at Glance May, 2015 report, there is marginal decrease in the total permanent pasture and other grazing land in the country from 10,305 thousand ha. in 2010-11 to 10,240 thousand ha. in 2012-13.

(b) and (c) As per ICAR-Jhansi based Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute vision-2050 document, at present in the country, there is an estimated deficit of 35.6% green fodder (supply of 526 MT against demand of 817 MT) and 11.0% of dry forage (supply of 453 MT against demand of 509MT).

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing, National Livestock Mission (NLM) with a budgetary allocation of ₹ 292 crores during the year 2016-17 with a sub-Mission on Feed and Fodder Development where financial assistance is provided to all States and UTs under the following components:

Sl. No.	Name of the Components
1.	Fodder Production from Non-forest wasteland/rangeland/grassland/non-arable land.
2.	Fodder production from forest land.
3.	Fodder Seed Procurement/Production and Distribution.
4.	Introduction of Hand Driven Chaff-Cutter.
5.	Introduction of Power Driven Chaff-Cutter.
6.	Distribution of low capacity, tractor mountable Fodder Block Making units, hay baling machines/reapers/forage harvesters.
7.	Establishment of silage making units.
8.	Establishment of by-pass protein production units.
9.	Establishment of Area Specific Mineral Mixture/Feed Pelleting/Feed Manufacturing Unit.
10.	Establishment/modernization of Feed Testing Laboratories.

The Department had issued advisories to all States and UTs from time to time and latest on 18.04.2016 to avoid burning of crop residues and also for diversion of crop residues for industrial use, etc. so as to increase the availability of fodder.

### **Suicide by farmers**

1464. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers' suicides taken place in the country, this year, State-wise;
- (b) the details of relief measures provided to the bereaved families and the steps taken by Central Government to compensate the losses State-wise;
- (c) whether all such families have got the compensation decided by the Government, especially in Marathwada region, if not, reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to prevent farmers' losses and suicides in the next agricultural cycle which may be due to conditions arising out of weather irregularities, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These reports on suicides upto 2014, are available at its website. The reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have not been published yet. For the year 2016, the data as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides, due to agrarian reasons, have been compiled and given in Statement (*See below*).

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. State Government of Maharashtra gives *ex-gratia* relief of ₹ 1.00 lakh to the heirs of the deceased farmer as per scheme of State Government.

The 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. From the current year (*i.e.* 2016), the urea that is imported would also be neem coated.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- (iv) The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) A new crop Insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is being implemented from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and is 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.
- (vi) The Government provides interest subvention @ 3% on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment. Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme, 2015-16, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

***Statement***

*Number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons as  
reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016	Reported on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NR	28-01-2016
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	14-03-2016
3.	Assam	NR	14-03-2016
4.	Bihar		13-08-2015
5.	Chhattisgarh		16-11-2015
6.	Goa	0	04-04-2016
7.	Gujarat	NR	17-03-2016
8.	Haryana	0	28-03-2016
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	10-3-2016
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	14-03-2016
11.	Jharkhand	0	10-3-2016
12.	Karnataka (F/Y)		22-07-2015
13.	Kerala	0	29-02-2016
14.	Madhya Pradesh		03-06-2015
15.	Maharashtra	57	29-02-2016
16.	Manipur		
17.	Meghalaya	0	11-03-2016
18.	Mizoram	0	11-03-2016
19.	Nagaland		7-3-2016
20.	Odisha	0	3-Oct-16
21.	Punjab		
	Farmers		
	Labourers	56	11-03-2016
22.	Rajasthan	NR	10-02-2016
23.	Sikkim	NR	17-02-2016
24.	Tamil Nadu	NA	29-2-2016



1	2	3	4
25.	Telangana	3	14-03-2016
26.	Tripura	0	21-03-2016
27.	Uttar Pradesh		23-07-2015
28.	Uttarakhand		5-3-2016
29.	West Bengal	NR	10-02-2016
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	3-3-2016
31.	Chandigarh	0	02-03-2016
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		17-02-2016
33.	Daman and Diu		03-08-2015
34.	NCT Delhi	0	26-02-2016
35.	Lakshadweep		
36.	Puducherry	0	08-03-2016

NR - Not Reported.

#### Providing smart phone to farmers

1465. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning or has any proposal to provide smart phone to farmers of the country as part of welfare measures for farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress of this proposal so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration. However, Government has taken many initiatives to provide information to farmers through mobile phone such as mobile apps like Kisan Suvidha, Pusha Krishi etc., SMS advisories through mKisan Portal and toll free Kisan call centre.

#### Financial losses incurred by SAFAL outlets

1466. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of objectives for establishment and promotion of 'SAFAL' outlets in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether 'SAFAL' a Government outlet for selling vegetables and fruits, has incurred financial losses during last several financial years;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has conducted any study with regard to measures required to improve financial condition of 'SAFAL', make it economically viable and earn sufficient profit; and

(e) if so, the measures taken/plan prepared by Government to make SAFAL successful and fruitful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per the information received from National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), NDDB established the Fruit and Vegetable project in 1986 at Delhi for undertaking integrated marketing of horticulture produce under the brand name "SAFAL". The objective was to facilitate a direct link between fruit and vegetable growers and consumers in order to provide quality produce and services at reasonable rates besides improve the quality of life of farmers and producers through fair and optimum price realization for their produce. SAFAL is presently the business initiative of Mother Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Private Limited, a subsidiary of NDDB. SAFAL is engaged in procurement, processing and marketing of fresh fruits and vegetables, processed and frozen products etc., with operations spread in Delhi-NCR (386 Fruit and Vegetable shops) and Bangalore (28 Fruit and Vegetable shops).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

#### **Suicide by farmers**

1467. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of suicides by farmers has increased during last two years;

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

(c) the action taken by Government to prevent suicide by farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The National

Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These reports on suicides upto 2014, are available at its website. The reports for the subsequent years (i.e. 2015 onwards) have not been published yet. As per ADSI reports for the year 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have been compiled and given in Statement-I (*See* below). As may be seen from this statement, during the year 2014, it was for the first time that the suicides of farmers were delineated as that of farmers and agricultural labourers. In so far as the year 2015, the data, as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides, due to agrarian reasons, have been complied and given in Statement-II (*See* below).

Agriculture, including agricultural indebtedness, being a State subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture in the State. 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. From the current year (*i.e.* 2016), the urea that is imported would also be neem coated.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- (iv) The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.

- (v) A new crop Insurance scheme, namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is being implemented from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and is 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.
- (vi) The Government provides interest subvention @ 3% on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment. Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme, 2015-16, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

***Statement-I***

*Number of suicides under sub-head "Self-employed Persons (Farmers)" for various reasons*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Farmers	Labourers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160	472
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	3
3.	Assam	21	38
4.	Bihar	0	10
5.	Chhattisgarh	443	312
6.	Goa	0	0
7.	Gujarat	45	555
8.	Haryana	14	105
9.	Himachal Pradesh	32	31
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12	25
11.	Jharkhand	0	4
12.	Karnataka	321	447

Sl. No.	State/UT	Farmers	Labourers
13.	Kerala	107	700
14.	Madhya Pradesh	826	372
15.	Maharashtra	2568	1436
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	2
18.	Mizoram	0	5
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Odisha	5	97
21.	Punjab	24	40
22.	Rajasthan	0	373
23.	Sikkim	35	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	68	827
25.	Telangana	898	449
26.	Tripura	0	32
27.	Uttar Pradesh	63	129
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0
29.	West Bengal	0	230
	TOTAL (STATES)	5642	6694
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	16
	TOTAL (UTs)	8	16
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	5650	6710
	GRAND TOTAL	12360	

Source : Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

***Statement-II***

*Number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons as  
reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015	2016	Reported on
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58	NR	28-01-2016
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	14-03-2016
3.	Assam	0	NR	14-03-2016
4.	Bihar	1		13-08-2015
5.	Chhattisgarh	3		16-11-2015
6.	Goa	0	0	04-04-2016
7.	Gujarat	3	NR	17-03-2016
8.	Haryana	1	0	28-03-2016
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	10-3-2016
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	0	14-03-2016
11.	Jharkhand	NR	0	10-3-2016
12.	Karnataka (F/Y)	107		22-07-2015
13.	Kerala	1	0	29-02-2016
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0		03-06-2015
15.	Maharashtra	1841	57	29-02-2016
16.	Manipur	NR		
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	11-03-2016
18.	Mizoram	0	0	11-03-2016
19.	Nagaland	0		7-3-2016
20.	Odisha	#138	0	3-Oct-16
21.	Punjab			
	Farmers	46		
	Labourers	#449	56	11-03-2016
22.	Rajasthan	3	NR	10-02-2016
23.	Sikkim	0	NR	17-02-2016
24.	Tamil Nadu	NR	NA	29-2-2016
25.	Telangana	\$342	3	14-03-2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015	2016	Reported on
26.	Tripura	0	0	21-03-2016
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0		23-07-2015
28.	Uttarakhand	0		5-3-2016
29.	West Bengal	0	NR	10-02-2016
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	3/3/2016
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	02-03-2016
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0		17-02-2016
33.	Daman and Diu	0		03-08-2015
34.	NCT Delhi	0	0	26-02-2016
35.	Lakshadweep	NR		
36.	Puducherry	0	0	08-03-2016

NR - Not Reported.

#- Due to various reasons.

\$ - Including 2014.

#### Damage to crops due to unseasonal rains

1468. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether unseasonal rains in the month of March have damaged crops and orchards in Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi;
- (b) if so, the estimated loss caused to the farmers, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi have sought financial help from the Ministry to compensate the farmers for the losses; and
- (d) if so, the details of funds released to these States till the end of December, 2015?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per reports received, an area of 22490 hectare in Himachal Pradesh, 252519 hectare area in Uttar Pradesh and 5900 hectare area in Delhi was affected due to unseasonal rains in March, 2016.

- (c) Nil.
- (d) Does not arise.

**Interface of NAM with APMCS**

1469. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch National Agriculture Market (NAM) and integrate 21 mandis under the umbrella of NAM, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the interface this NAM will have with the existing Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs); and

(c) how Government proposes to reform wholesale market so that farmers are able to sell their produce without intermediaries resulting into distress sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Government has approved a scheme for setting up of National Agriculture Market (NAM) on 01.07.2015 with a budget of ₹ 200 crore, which is to be implemented during 2015-16 to 2017-18 by setting up of an appropriate common online market platform (e-NAM) to be deployed in 585 regulated wholesale markets in States/Union Territories (UTs) desirous of joining the e-platform. NAM has been launched on a pilot basis on 14.04.2016 integrating 21 Mandis across 8 States. The details of the mandis linked to NAM at the pilot stage is given in Statement. (*See below*)

(b) While NAM is an online trading platform, it has the physical mandis / Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) mandis at the back end and all material flow will take place through these mandis. As such to enable trade on e-NAM portal, the software is designed on functional requirements of the existing APMC mandis.

(c) The e-NAM envisages linking farmers with markets across the state / country. By reducing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, promoting real time price discovery, encouraging greater transparency in auction processes, better realization based on quality of produce and facilitating online and immediate payment to the farmers, e-NAM will reduce the role of intermediaries to the benefit of the farmers.

***Statement******Pilot Mandis in NAM***

State	APMC	District
Telangana	Hyderabad	Hyderabad
	Warangal	Warangal
	Tirumalgiri	Nalgonda



State	APMC	District
	Badepally	Mahboobnagar
	Nizamabad	Nizamabad
MP	Karond, Bhopal	Bhopal
Gujarat	Patan	Patan
	Botad	Bhavnagar
	Himmatnagar	Sabarkantha
Haryana	Ellanabad	Sirsa
	Karnal	Karnal
Uttar Pradesh	Mathura	Mathura
	Sultanpur	Sultanpur
	Lalitpur	Lalitpur
	Bahraich	Bahraich
	Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur Kheri
	Saharanpur	Saharanpur
Rajasthan	Ramganj Mandi	Kota
Jharkhand	Pandra, Ranchi	Ranchi
Himachal Pradesh	Fruit Mandi, Solan	Solan
	Dhalli, Shimla	Shimla

#### Availability of milk

1470. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is the largest producer of milk in the world;
- (b) if so, the details of production of milk in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the details of per-capita availability and consumption of milk in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to make milk available to all children and women especially those living below poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated milk production in the country was 146.31 million tonnes in 2014-15. The State-wise estimated milk production during 2014-15 is given in Statement (See below).

(c) The per-capita availability of milk in the country was 322 gram/day in 2014-15. The consumption of milk and milk products varies from place to place and within different sections of people in the country.

(d) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States/UTs to promote Animal Husbandry among farmersto enhance production of milk and improve per-capita availability, Government of India has initiated following Schemes:-

- (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD) aims to enhance milk production and productivity
- (ii) National Dairy Plan-I in 18 major States contributing 90% of the milk production of the country. The NDP-I aims to meet the demand of milk through genetic upgradation of bovines and strengthening village based procurement system.
- (iii) Advisories are also issued to major milk producing States and major State Milk Federations in 14 States by Government of India to make milk available through schools and Anganawari Centres for children.

***Statement***

*The State-wise Estimated milk production during 2014-15 (In 000'tonnes)*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15
1.	Andhra Pradesh#	9656.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	46.07
3.	Assam	829.47
4.	Bihar	7774.89
5.	Chhattisgarh	1231.57
6.	Goa	66.60
7.	Gujarat	11690.57
8.	Haryana	7901.35
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1172.16

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1950.93
11.	Jharkhand	1733.72
12.	Karnataka	6120.93
13.	Kerala	2711.13
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10779.07
15.	Maharashtra	9542.29
16.	Manipur	82.17
17.	Meghalaya	82.96
18.	Mizoram	20.49
19.	Nagaland	75.69
20.	Odisha	1903.14
21.	Punjab	10351.41
22.	Rajasthan	16934.31
23.	Sikkim	49.99
24.	Tamil Nadu	7132.47
25.	Telangana	4207.26
26.	Tripura	141.23
27.	Uttar Pradesh	25198.36
28.	Uttarakhand	1565.35
29.	West Bengal	4961.00
30.	Andamand and Nicobar Islands	15.56
31.	Chandigarh	44.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8.52
33.	Daman and Diu	0.82
34.	Delhi	280.06
35.	Lakshadweep	4.19
36.	Puducherry	47.64
ALL INDIA		146313.55

**Drought in Maharashtra and Bundelkhand**

1471. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that rural areas of Maharashtra and Bundelkhand are suffering from severe drought conditions and for the last three years farmers have been facing very critical conditions;

(b) if so, the kind of financial help provided to these farmers in severe drought hit areas;

(c) whether continuous growing of cane crop and other crops using excessive water are responsible for drain out of water in such areas; and

(d) whether any research has been conducted on cropping pattern in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) During Kharif-2015, the Government of Maharashtra declared drought in 21 districts and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India seeking financial assistance under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). Government of India considered the Memorandum and approved ₹ 3049.36 crore from NDRF to the Government of Maharashtra. On 25th April 2016, Government of Maharashtra has informed that 7 more districts have been declared as drought affected besides the earlier 21 districts. However, no additional memorandum has been submitted in this regard. Government of Uttar Pradesh also declared drought in 50 districts (covering 72014 villages) including Banda, Chitrakoot, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Lalitpur, Jalaun and Jhansi of the Bundelkhand region during Kharif-2015 and submitted Memorandum to the Government of India seeking financial assistance under the NDRF. Government of India considered the Memorandum and approved ₹ 1304.52 crore from NDRF to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Details of financial assistance approved for drought from NDRF to the states are as under:

Name of State	Calamity	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Maharashtra	Drought	#	1962.99	3049.36
Uttar Pradesh	Drought	#	777.34	1304.52

# No Memorandum on drought received from the States seeking financial assistance from NDRF.

The Central Government has also released the 1st installment of Central share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for 2016-17, amounting ₹ 583.875 crore, to Maharashtra and ₹ 265.875 crore to Uttar Pradesh in advance.

The State Governments are to take utmost care and ensure that all individual beneficiary-oriented assistance from SDRF/NDRF is necessarily/mandatorily disbursed through the bank account of the beneficiary.

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 during 2015-16.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also issued Standing Guidelines for Relief Measures to be provided by respective lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities which, *inter alia*, include identification of beneficiaries, restructuring of existing loans, extending fresh loans, relaxed security and margin norms, moratorium, etc. The Guidelines have been so designed that the moment calamity is declared by the concerned District Authorities they are automatically set in motion without any intervention of RBI, thus saving precious time. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

(c) and (d) Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) through its research institutes viz. Indian Institute of Farming System Research (IIFSR), Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA), All India Coordinated Research Project on Farming Systems (AICRPFS) and Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOP) is continuously engaged in developing, refining and demonstrating efficient and sustainable cropping patterns for Maharashtra State and Bundelkhand region. The recommended cropping pattern includes Maize-chickpea-green gram, Maize + black gram-chickpea; Soybean-chickpea-fodder maize and Soybean-safflower-fodder maize for water scarcity zone (Aurangabad); Soybean-onion and Soybean-Okra(summer) for Western Ghat; Rice-cowpea-Okra, Rice-groundnut +sweet corn and Rice-maize for North Konkan Coastal; and Sorghum-mustard-groundnut, Groundnut-wheat-maize (fodder), sorghum-safflower-cowpea and Green gram-safflower for Vidharbha regions of Maharashtra. Besides four organic farming based cropping patterns of Rice-groundnut, Rice-dolichos bean, Rice, cucumber and Rice-red pumpkin are recommend for Konkan region of Maharashtra. Similarly, Sesame-field pea, Sesame-wheat and Black gram-wheat are recommended cropping patterns for Bundelkhand region.

**Farmers leaving their occupation**

1472. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of farmers in Maharashtra and rest of the country are leaving farming due to climate change, increasing prices of inputs and unremunerative prices of their produce, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government has taken or proposes to take to retain farmers in their occupation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per the Census data, the total number of agricultural workers in the country increased from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011. Similarly, in Maharashtra the total number of agricultural workers has gone up from 22.63 million to 26.06 million during the same period. Therefore, it cannot be said categorically that farmers are leaving farming, including in Maharashtra.

(b) The Government, however, has taken various steps to retain farmers in their occupation. These include: Krishionnati Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card and Soil Health Management, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Organic Value Chain in North Eastern States, National Agriculture and Technology Mission, National Food Security Mission. Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India, Crop Diversification Programme.

A Central Scheme "Attracting Rural Youth in Agriculture", has been introduced by the Government to engage National Agricultural Research System in enthusing the rural youth towards farming occupation.

**Protection and preservation of genotype of Gir cows**

1473. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a recent livestock census report, the number of cows in the country is decreasing day-by-day;

(b) if so, the details thereof and an updated status of steps being taken/ contemplated to reverse this trend;

(c) whether Government is using new scientific methods to protect genotype of Gir cows, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount allocated and spent thereon during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the details of steps taken for preservation of genotype of Jaffarabadi buffaloes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) No, as per the 19th Livestock Census -2012, the number of female cattle in the country has increased to 122.98 million from 115.45 million as per 18th Livestock Census-2007.

(c) to (e) In order to compliment and supplement the efforts made by the States to protect genotype of indigenous bovine breeds including Gir cow using new scientific methods Government of India is implementing following schemes:

- 'Rashtriya Gokul Mission' as a part of National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD) is aimed for development and conservation of all indigenous bovine breeds including Gir breed of cattle and Jaffarabadi breed of buffalo in a scientific and holistic manner.
- National Dairy Plan-I (NDP-I) covers genetic upgradation of 12 indigenous bovine breeds including Gir breed of cattle and Jaffarabadi breed of buffalo.
- An amount of ₹ 25.00 crore each has been released to Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for establishment of National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre in northern region and southern region respectively.
- Gujarat is participating under Rashtriya Gokul Mission and implementing programmes for development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds of the State including Gir cows and Jaffarabadi buffaloes. Under the scheme State has initiated establishment of Gir cow sanctuary, strengthening of bull mother farms and induction of bulls for natural service and artificial insemination (AI). The details of the funds allocated and released to the State during the last three years is as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Total Project Cost Approved	Funds released and expenditure made by the State under Rashtriya Gokul Mission as part of NPBBDD		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
4182.34*	—	—	803.22**

\* Project initiated in the State from 2015-16,

\*\* Funds released during February 2016.

- Under National Dairy Plan-I pedigree selection (PS) programme for Gir cow and Jaffarabadi buffaloes have been initiated for production of high genetic merit bulls for frozen semen production. The Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala, Bidaj is implementing these projects. The details of fund released and utilized are as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Parameter	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
<b>PS Gir Sub project</b>					
Funds allocated	81.50	97.69	124.15	137.35	440.69
Funds released	45.00	6.10	76.00	113.00	240.10
Funds utilized	7.25	40.14	72.58	93.79	213.77
<b>PS Jaffarabadi Sub project</b>					
Funds allocated	81.50	97.69	124.15	137.35	440.69
Funds released	45.00	15.10	83.00	116.00	259.10
Funds utilized	6.57	48.74	75.29	111.43	242.03

#### Drought in the country

1474. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decline in production of foodgrains has been recorded in the current year, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has identified districts that are facing drought/heatwave currently, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;
- (c) the measures taken by Government to ensure food security and livelihood security to the drought/heatwave affected areas in the country; and
- (d) whether Government has extended/ plans to extend central assistance to State Governments' to combat the drought situation/heatwave, if so, the details thereof along with the time-line, identified States and quantum of funds, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. As compared to previous five years' (2010-11 to 2014-15) average foodgrains production



of 255.59 million tonnes in the country, their production during 2015-16 has been estimated at 253.16 million tonnes (2nd Advance Estimates). The decline in production of foodgrains during 2015-16 has been mainly on account of deficit/deficient monsoon rainfall in many parts of the country, leading to overall deficiency of 14% in the rainfall over the Long Period Average (LPA).

(b) Yes, Sir. The State Governments of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Rajasthan have declared drought in the affected districts in these States. The details of drought affected districts in the above States are given in the Statement-I. *[Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No.1444 part (b)]*

(c) In order to address the aberrant monsoon situations leading to drought and floods and extreme events (heat waves, cold waves, frost, hailstorms, cyclone etc.) adversely affecting crops, livestock and fisheries (including horticulture), the Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad has developed Contingency Plan for 600 districts to be used by States for the benefit of farmers.

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 Crops Insurance Schemes namely, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and National Crops Insurance Programme (NCIP).

These crop insurance schemes have recently been reviewed and a new scheme for farmer's welfare viz. 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).

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also issued standing guidelines for relief measures to be provided by respective lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities which, *inter alia*, include identification of beneficiaries, extending fresh loans and restructuring of existing loans, relaxed security and margin norms, moratorium etc. In order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, during 2015-16 the interest subvention of 2% is continuously available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount.

(d) The State Governments are 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 State Government in the form of State Disaster

Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance over and above 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 Governments in accordance with established procedure.

During 2015-16, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan, had submitted Memoranda on drought, seeking financial assistance from NDRF.

State-wise details of financial assistance from NDRF for Natural Calamities in the States during 2015-16 are given in Statement-II.

***Statement-II***

*State-wise assistance approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for Drought to the States (2015-16)*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Calamity	Central Assistance approved by GOI from NDRF
1.(a)	Karnataka	Drought-K	1540.20
1.(b)	Karnataka	Drought-R	723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought-K	1276.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought-K	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	Drought-K	3049.36
5.	Odisha	Drought-K	815.00
6.	Telengana	Drought-K	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought-K	1304.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought-K	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	Drought-K	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	Drought-K	1193.41
TOTAL			13496.57

K-Kharif

R-Rabi

**Suicide by farmers and Arthiyas**

1475. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicides committed by farmers in the country, including Punjab in the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether suicides by six Arthiyas/middlemen through whom Government procures wheat and paddy from farmers have come to the notice of Government, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the causes of stress of farmers and Arthiyas and the action taken by Government to reduce their debt burden; and

(d) the schemes announced by Government for their welfare and the impact of those schemes on the farmers, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides upto 2014, are available at its website. The Reports for the subsequent years (*i.e.* 2015 onwards) have not been published yet. As per ADSI Reports for the year 2014, the State-wise details of suicides have been given in the Statement-I [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No. 1467 part (a) to (c)]. As may be seen from this statement, during the year 2014, it was for the first time that the suicides of farmers were delineated as that of farmers and agricultural labourers. In so far as the year 2015, the data, as furnished by the State Governments in respect of farmer suicides, due to agrarian reasons, have been Computed and given in Statement-II [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No.1467 part (a) to (c)].

(b) and (c) The State/UT Governments have been requested to furnish the required information, which would be laid on the table of House.

(d) Agriculture, including agricultural indebtedness, being a State subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture in the State. 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. From the current year (*i.e.* 2016), the urea that is imported would also be neem coated.
- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- (iv) The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) is being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) A new crop Insurance scheme, namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is being implemented from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and is 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.
- (vi) The Government provides interest subvention @ 3% on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment. Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2015-16, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured

amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

**Losses to animal husbandry and dairy sectors due to drought**

1476. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of losses suffered by Animal Husbandry and Dairy sectors due to drought, especially in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of measures taken by Government to protect these sectors from drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) 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 sever 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 Karantaka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odhisa, Telegana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan had declared drought in several parts of these states.

The Government of Maharashtra has declared drought in 21 districts covering 15,747 villages and submitted memorandum to Government of India seeking financial assistance under the National Disaster Relief Funds (NDRF). Government of India, considering the recommendation, approved ₹ 3049.36 crores from NDRF including ₹ 23.00 crores for fodder.

Further, Department of Agriculture Co-operation and Farmers Welfare ois implementing Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to mitigate the adverse impacts of drought in drought affected States from 2014-15 which is continuing during the current year 2016-17 with a budgetary allocation of ₹ 100 crores.

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing, National Livestock Mission (NLM) with a budgetary allocation of ₹ 292 crores during the year 2016-17 with a sub-Mission on Feed and Fodder Development where financial assistance is also being provided to all States/UTs.

The Department is implementing following schemes for dairy development in the country which also help in earning livelihood to the farmers during drought:

- (i) National Programme on Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development.
- (ii) National Dairy Plan (Phase I)
- (iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme.

**Compensation to farmers for crop failure due to drought**

1477. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in the drought-hit region, after crop failure, immediate help/compensation to farmers for plantation of next crop or 'input subsidy' has been disbursed in time bound manner from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF);
- (b) if so, the details thereof State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh, since last two years;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor along with the reasons for delays in providing compensation to affected farmers; and
- (d) the additional steps being taken/ structural changes made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. 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.

The details regarding relief/assistance approved as agriculture input subsidy in 2014-15 and 2015-16 for drought affected States are given in Statement (*See* below). The main objective of the relief fund is to assist the affected persons to re-start their economic activities. The State Governments are to take utmost care and ensure that all individual beneficiary-oriented assistance from SDRF/NDRF is necessarily/mandatorily disbursed through the bank account of the beneficiary.

To deal with the situation, the following measures have been taken:

- Intervention made in drought affected areas during 2015-16 by Implementation of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy, Implementation of interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops, implementation of additional fodder development programme.
- 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 during 2015-16.
- In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016.
- The first installment of Central Share of SDRF for the year 2016-17 amounting to ₹ 2551.875 crore has been released in advance to the 10 drought affected States.

**Statement**

*Assistance for Agriculture Input Subsidy approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for Drought*

(₹ in crore)				
Sl. No.	States	Calamity	Amount approved in 2014-15	Amount approved in 2015-16
1.	Karnataka	Drought Drought-R	194.61	1525.31#
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought	—	1231.72
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought	—	2030.56
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	1962.99	2873.95
5.	Odisha	Drought	—	815.00
6.	Telangana	Drought	—	702.71
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	724.13	1244.52
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	214.46	316.93
9.	Jharkhand	Drought	—	253.28
10.	Rajasthan	Drought	—	1177.59
11.	Haryana	Drought	165.05	—
TOTAL:			3261.24	12171.57

# Government approved ₹723.23 crores from NDRF which includes for the drought during Rabi subsidy for agriculture inputs.

R: Rabi

**Implementation of PMKSY**

1478. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is under implementation in various States, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, along with the salient features and components of the scheme;



(b) whether big, medium and small irrigation projects have been included under PMKSY, if so, the details thereof and the initiatives taken by Government to bring more areas under irrigation and increase agricultural production; and

(c) the allocation made to various States under PMKSY during the current fiscal year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been operationalised from 1st July, 2015 with the objective of enhancing irrigation coverage and improving the delivery system at farm level. The programme aims at end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, distribution network and farm level applications. All the States and Union Territories are covered under the programme. The scheme envisages decentralized state level planning and projectised execution, allowing the states to draw their irrigation development plans based on district/blocks plans with a horizon of 5 to 7 years.

The scheme has four components which are as under:

- (i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP): To focus on faster completion of ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation including National Projects.
- (ii) Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP): Creation of new water sources through minor irrigation (both surface and ground water); repair, restoration and renovation of traditional water bodies; command area development; strengthening and creation of distribution network from sources to the farm etc.
- (iii) Per Drop More Crop (PDMC): Precision irrigation systems, efficient water conveyance and application, micro level storage structures, topping up of input cost beyond Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) permissible limits, secondary storage, water lifting devices, extension activities, coordination and management etc..
- (iv) Watershed Development (WD): Ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting and other watershed interventions.

(b) Major, medium and minor irrigation projects are covered under PMKSY to bring more areas under irrigation and increase agricultural production. Major and Medium irrigation projects are incorporated under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit

Programme (AIBP) and Minor irrigation along with Command Area Development (CAD) comes under Har Khet Ko Pani component of PMKSY both components being administered by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga rejuvenation.

(c) The State Wise details of funds allocated under various components of PMKSY during the current fiscal is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise Allocation (Tentative) for under various components  
of PMKSY for 2016-17*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Department of Agri. Coop & FW	Department of Land Resources	Ministry of Water Resources, RD&GR*	
		Per drop more crop	Watershed Development	AIBP	Har Khet Ko Pani
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	263.00	83.09		
2.	Bihar	61.00	19.19		
3.	Chhattisgarh	48.00	34.96		
4.	Goa	1.50	0.00		
5.	Gujarat	260.00	115.04		
6.	Haryana	45.00	12.82		
7.	Himachal Pradesh	18.25	35.40		
8.	Jharkhand	51.00	29.48		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.00	25.59		
10.	Karnataka	190.00	152.17		
11.	Kerala	30.00	11.37		
12.	Madhya Pradesh	202.00	89.27		
13.	Maharashtra	347.00	186.95		
14.	Odisha	47.00	63.38		
15.	Punjab	14.00	9.49		
16.	Rajasthan	215.00	199.35		

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Tamil Nadu	142.00	62.31		
18.	Telangana	139.00	55.02		
19.	Uttarakhand	23.00	11.23		
20.	Uttar Pradesh	69.00	97.31		
21.	West Bengal	38.50	28.33		
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.75	23.12		
23.	Assam	44.50	37.62		
24.	Manipur	9.75	18.81		
25.	Meghalaya	6.75	11.56		
26.	Mizoram	10.50	16.06		
27.	Nagaland	9.50	28.20		
28.	Sikkim	9.50	2.16		
29.	Tripura	10.50	12.47		
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.00	0.00		
31.	Puducherry	1.00	0.00		
GRAND TOTAL		2340.00	1471.75	1000.00	500.00

\*State-wise release of Central Assistance depends upon the Proposals received from the States.

### Monopoly of seed trade companies

†1479. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the monopoly of a few companies on seed trade is increasingly growing in the country due to which farmers are being provided seeds at a very high rate in the name of hybrid seeds;

(b) if so, the mechanism available in the country to control the prices of seeds of these companies to prevent them from overcharging the farmers for their seeds;

(c) the names of Government companies currently providing seeds to farmers in the country for preservation and enrichment of seeds of their crops; and

(d) details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research and National Seed Association of India have reported that, there is no monopoly of seed companies on seed trade as there are a large number of seed companies in India producing and distributing quality seeds including hybrids to the farmers in the country. Bt. Cotton is the only exception where 90% market share is held by BG II technology of one company and there is a near monopoly. However, this technology has also been licensed to about 50 domestic seed companies.

(b) In order to regulate the maximum sale price of Bt. Cotton seeds, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has issued the Cotton Seeds Price (Control) Order, 2015 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to ensure the availability of Bt. Cotton seeds to the farmers at reasonable prices.

(c) and (d) National Seeds Corporation, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Department, Cooperatives, etc., are supplying certified/quality seeds to the farmers at reasonable price.

#### **Insurance cover to all farmers**

†1480. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only less than 20 per cent farmers insure their crops despite of the fact that there are more than fourteen crore families of farmers in the country due to which their condition deteriorates by unfavourable weather;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to cover all farmers under crop insurance;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to make insurance cover necessary for farmers who are taking loan;

(d) if so, the number of farmers in the country including Maharashtra whose crops have been insured till now; and

(e) the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) About 20% of the farmers and 23% of total cropped area in country has been insured so far

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in the country. Improvement in crop insurance schemes to make them serve the interests of the farmers better, is a continuous process and steps are taken in this regard by the Government from time to time. Accordingly, Crop Insurance Schemes viz. National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with its three component schemes viz. Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) were comprehensively reviewed and Government of India has approved the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016. Premium rates under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) have also been reduced and brought at par with new scheme. The scheme envisages coverage of 50% of the total cropped area under Crop Insurance in the country within next 2-3 years. Salient features of the PMFBY are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

To enhance the coverage of farmers under Crop Insurance Schemes. Government is undertaking a comprehensive publicity and awareness programme to educate the farmers about the benefit of crop insurance schemes. Capacity building and training programmes for other stakeholders are also being organized. The salient activities under awareness campaign, involve the publicity of features & benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/gosti and organization of workshops / trainings and SMS through Kisan Portal etc. State Governments/UTs are also being regularly persuaded to increase the coverage including notifying more crops under crop Insurance schemes. Recently, one day seminar/kisan fair especially on the PMFBY has been organized at various Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) between 30th March to 5th April, 2016 throughout the country.

(c) to (e) All the crop insurance schemes including PMFBY, restructured WBCIS and erstwhile NAIS, NCIP component schemes of MNAIS and WBCIS are compulsory for loanee farmers availing crop loan/Kisan Credit Card for notified crops in notified areas. State-wise details of farmers covered under these schemes are given in Statement-II.

#### ***Statement-I***

##### ***Salient Features of PMFBY***

- (i) Provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks, thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers and encourage them for adoption of innovative practices.
- (ii) Increase the risk coverage of Crop cycle - pre-sowing to post-harvest losses.

- (iii) Area approach for settlement of claims for widespread damage. Notified Insurance unit has been reduced to Village/Village Panchayat for major crops.
- (iv) Uniform maximum premium of only 2%, 1.5% and 5% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops, Rabi Crops and Commercial/ horticultural crops respectively.
- (v) The difference between premium and the rate of Insurance charges payable by farmers shall be provided as subsidy and shared equally by the Centre and State.
- (vi) Uniform seasonality discipline and Sum Insured for both loanee & non-loanee farmers.
- (vii) Removal of the provision of capping on premium and reduction of sum insured to facilitate farmers to get claim against full sum insured without any reduction.
- (viii) Inundation has been incorporated as a localized calamity in addition to hailstorm and landslide for individual farm level assessment.
- (ix) Provision of individual farm level assessment for Post harvest losses against the cyclonic & unseasonal rains for the crops kept in the field for drying upto a period of 14 days, throughout the country.
- (x) Provision of claims upto 25% of sum insured for prevented sowing.
- (xi) "On-Account payment" upto 25% of sum insured for mid season adversity, if the crop damage is reported more than 50% in the insurance unit. Remaining claims based on Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) data.
- (xii) For more effective implementation, a cluster approach will be adopted under which a group of districts with variable risk profile will be allotted to an insurance company through bidding for a longer duration upto 3 years.
- (xiii) Use of Remote Sensing Technology, Smartphones and Drones for quick estimation of crop losses to ensure early settlement of claims.
- (xiv) Crop Insurance Portal has been launched. This will be used extensively for ensuring better administration, co-ordination, transparency and dissemination of information.
- (xv) Focused attention on increasing awareness about the schemes among all stakeholders and appropriate provisioning of resources for the same.
- (xvi) The claim amount will be credited electronically to the individual farmer's Bank Account.
- (xvii) Adequate publicity in all the villages of the notified districts/ areas.
- (xviii) Premium rates under Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) have also been reduced and brought at par with new scheme. Further, capping on Actuarial premium and reduction in sum insured has been removed in this scheme also.

- (xix) In addition, a Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) has also been approved for implementation on pilot basis in 45 districts of the country from Kharif 2016 season to cover the other assets/activities like machinery, life, accident, house and student-safety for farmers alongwith their notified crops (under PMFBY/ Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme - WBCIS).

**Statement-II**

*Number of Farmers Covered under various Crop Insurance Schemes since their inception*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Farmers covered			
		NAIS (from Rabi 1999-2000)	MNAIS (from Rabi 2012-13)	WBCIS (From Kharif 2007)	CPIS (From 2009-10)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30595596	1800212	3615118	2517
2.	Assam	422654	19929	72916	*
3.	Bihar	9899229	1382947	12889399	*
4.	Chhattisgarh	11769981	18	1287074	*
5.	Goa	8211	296	NP	240
6.	Gujarat	15496181	432	497661	*
7.	Haryana	635778	262687	359388	*
8.	Himachal Pradesh	363556	NP	369559	*
9.	Jharkhand	6888617	117472	585354	*
10.	Karnataka	14350755	1566088	984854	754
11.	Kerala	461282	42043	144214	52063
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41334834	218380	1440986	*
13.	Maharashtra	51777746	51964	2909134	14659
14.	Manipur	35645	NP	NP	*
15.	Meghalaya	36015	NP	NP	*
16.	Mizoram	121	512	NP	*
17.	Odisha	19927348	425024	315742	687
18.	Rajasthan	15058674	12621566	44415536	*
19.	Sikkim	1965	NP	133814	*

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Tamil Nadu	8206874	476483	161704	4746
21.	Telangana	1159712	766224	NP	*
22.	Tripura	21000	NP	NP	*
23.	Uttar Pradesh	23426012	5415831	1614087	*
24.	Uttarakhand	399156	187047	180702	*
25.	West Bengal	14808358	1943351	124549	692
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4424	783	NP	*
27.	Puducherry	42843	NP	NP	*
28.	Jammu and Kashmir	49065	NP	1364	*
29.	Punjab	NP	NP	67	*
GRAND TOTAL		267181632	27299289	72103222.00	76358.00

NP : Not Participated

\* Scheme is approved for Coconut growing States/UTs only.

### **Shelf life of fruits and vegetables**

1481. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are incurring losses due to short shelf life of some of the most popular vegetables like potatoes and onions;

(b) whether there is any proposal by Government to tie up with Bhabha Atomic Research Centre to work on the issue of extending shelf life of fruits and vegetables; and

(c) if so, the places where Government proposes to establish Research Centres for such purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Farmers incur post harvest loss due to short shelf life of many vegetables. However, potatoes and onions cannot be scientifically graded under vegetables having short shelf life.



(b) Regular scientific research on extending shelf life of fruits and vegetables do take place among BARC, ICAR and other organizations in this regard.

(c) Presently such proposals are not with ICAR.

**Providing importance to animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries sector**

1482. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to give more importance to animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has become necessary to take care of our cattle due to erratic rains and paucity of water in many parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken up by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Yes sir, Government is giving more importance to Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector. In order to improve productivity and enhance milk production, thereby making dairying more remunerative to the farmers, Government has announced four new Projects in the current financial year i.e. 2016-17 as under:

- (i) **Pashudhan Sanjivani** : an Animal Wellness Programme; encompassing setting up of Emergency Help Lines, provision of Animal Health cards ('Nakul Swasthya Patra') along with UID identification and a National Data Base;
- (ii) **Advanced breeding Technology**: including Assisted Reproductive Technique to improve availability of disease free female bovines;
- (iii) **Creation of "E- Pashudhan Haat"**: an e- market portal for bovine genoplasm for connecting breeders and farmers of indigenous bovine breeds and
- (iv) **National Genomic Centre (NGC)**: Establishment of National Genomic Centre for enhancing milk production and productivity of indigenous breeds.

In the Fisheries Sector, Government has restructured the fishery sector schemes by merging all the ongoing schemes under an umbrella of "Blue Revolution: Integrated

Development and Management of Fisheries". The restructured scheme provides for an integrated development and management of fisheries, covering inland fisheries, aquaculture, marine fisheries including deep sea fishing, mariculture and all activities undertaken by the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB).

1483. [Question was cancelled.]

#### **Separate Ministry for fisheries**

1484. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to form a separate Ministry for Fisheries; and

(b) if so, whether any time-frame has been kept for formation of such a Ministry?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Decline in production of foodgrains**

1485. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of foodgrains has declined during the last three years and the current year in the country, including West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and crop-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to increase the production of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The year

2013-14 being one of the best agricultural years, recorded highest ever production in many crops including foodgrains. However, on account of deficit/deficient rainfall during monsoon season and unseasonal rains/hailstorms during February-March, 2015, the production of foodgrains during 2014-15 declined. The year 2015-16 also suffered deficit/deficient rainfall situation in many parts of the country with higher rainfall deficiency of 14% as compared to 12% during 2014-15. Consequently, total production of foodgrains in the country during 2015-16 has also remained lower than their record production level achieved during 2013-14.

State-wise details of production of foodgrains in the country during last three years and the current year *i.e.* 2012-13 to 2015-16 are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to boost foodgrain production in the country, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Agriculture Extension & Technology (NMAET), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), 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 (LNM), 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, 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 major foodgrain crops during 2012-13 to 2015-16 (000' tonnes)*

States	Rice					Wheat					Coarse Cereals					Pulses					Foodgrains				
	2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16*					2012-13				
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Andhra Pradesh	11510.0	12724.7	7233.9	6940.0	10.0	4.0	NA	NA	5519.5	5385.4	2310.2	2081.0	1623.0	1551.0	950.0	1244.7	18662.5	19665.1	10494.2	10265.7					
Assam	5128.5	4927.1	5222.6	5123.0	44.2	40.4	28.8	38.0	23.5	25.0	96.4	67.0	84.4	104.3	111.0	132.0	5280.6	5096.8	5458.8	5360.01					
Bihar	7529.3	5505.8	6356.7	6106.3	5357.2	4738.0	3987.0	5251.1	2510.3	2139.9	2371.0	1651.4	542.8	522.0	493.8	483.5	15939.6	12905.8	13208.6	13492.4					
Chhattisgarh	6608.8	6716.4	6322.1	6294.7	141.3	134.0	135.3	138.8	244.7	263.1	267.2	245.5	648.7	482.1	736.5	548.7	7643.5	7595.6	7461.1	7227.7					
Gujarat	1541.0	1636.0	1830.9	1564.0	2944.0	4694.0	3059.0	2595.0	1999.0	2120.6	1644.9	1399.6	572.2	729.0	574.5	470.0	7056.2	9179.6	7109.3	6028.6					
Haryana	3976.0	3998.0	4006.0	4176.2	11117.0	11800.0	10354.0	11011.0	1003.0	1051.0	819.0	877.0	130.4	125.1	56.1	90.0	16226.4	16974.1	15235.1	16154.2					
Himachal Pradesh	125.3	120.8	125.2	98.6	608.6	670.7	646.5	677.9	700.8	685.9	622.1	685.7	46.1	51.0	38.3	49.4	1480.7	1528.4	1432.0	1511.5					
Jammu and Kashmir	818.1	610.9	517.2	416.1	462.4	601.9	314.3	491.9	537.3	551.3	379.5	498.2	14.2	13.9	9.2	8.9	1831.9	1777.9	1220.3	1415.1					
Jharkhand	3164.9	2810.6	3361.9	3456.4	319.5	370.4	330.4	320.2	463.8	526.1	487.7	435.0	609.3	578.6	597.1	521.8	4557.5	4285.7	4777.0	4733.4					
Karnataka	3364.0	3572.6	3541.0	3393.0	179.0	210.0	261.0	158.0	6061.0	6825.8	6946.0	5764.0	1259.3	1600.5	1390.0	1242.2	10863.3	12208.9	12138.0	10557.2					
Kerala	508.3	509.2	562.1	697.3	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	3.2	4.0	1.4	1.0	511.8	513.5	563.8	698.6					
Madhya Pradesh	2775.0	2844.8	3625.3	3487.3	13133.4	12937.0	17103.9	14880.0	2616.2	2551.8	3129.4	3650.0	5165.9	4644.3	4828.3	4820.9	23690.4	22978.0	28686.9	26838.2					

Maharashtra	3057.0	3120.0	2946.0	2614.0	1181.0	1602.0	1308.0	720.0	4429.3	5955.2	5004.9	3995.4	2306.0	3169.0	2053.0	1486.0	10973.3	13846.2	11311.9	8815.4
Odisha	7295.4	7613.4	8298.2	5795.1	2.0	1.1	0.7	2.0	287.0	325.7	242.3	160.2	424.4	419.3	439.3	454.1	8008.8	8359.4	8980.5	6411.4
Punjab	11374.0	11267.0	11107.0	11637.0	165910	17620.0	15050.0	16800.0	525.0	553.8	499.4	476.8	53.0	39.6	41.6	56.3	28543.0	29480.4	26698.0	28970.1
Rajasthan	222.5	312.6	366.7	353.7	9275.5	8663.2	9823.9	9887.0	6912.9	6432.9	7479.5	6747.6	1956.8	2490.9	1951.8	2369.5	18367.7	17899.5	19621.9	19357.7
Tamil Nadu	4049.9	5349.8	5727.8	5716.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	1333.0	2819.7	3142.7	2719.4	209.9	613.8	753.2	484.4	5592.8	8783.2	9623.8	8920.5
Telangana	NA	NA	4440.8	4194.9	NA	NA	7.0	3.0	NA	NA	2404.0	1981.3	NA	NA	263.0	259.3	NA	NA	7114.8	6438.5
Uttar Pradesh	14416.0	14636.0	12167.9	12509.0	30301.9	29890.9	22417.4	28894.5	3695.5	3803.2	3570.0	3561.1	2332.0	1697.4	1438.7	1583.4	50745.4	50027.5	39594.0	46547.9
Uttarakhand	579.8	578.6	603.7	630.0	858.2	842.4	654.2	890.0	338.4	298.9	313.6	296.0	51.3	56.5	54.6	58.0	1827.7	1776.5	1626.0	1874.0
West Bengal	15023.7	15370.7	14677.2	16100.0	895.9	927.8	939.3	945.0	434.6	538.6	678.9	691.7	192.3	241.7	236.5	326.8	16546.5	17078.9	16531.8	18063.5
Others	2173.9	2420.5	2441.7	2309.3	84.4	101.9	106.1	115.5	409.2	440.7	453.3	411.7	117.4	120.0	132.5	131.8	2784.9	3083.2	3133.6	2968.4
ALL INDIA	105241.4	106645.5	105482.1	103612.7	93506.5	95849.8	86526.5	93818.7	40044.2	43294.9	42862.3	38395.8	18342.5	19254.1	17150.3	17329.8	257134.6	265044.4	252021.2	253157.1

\* As per Second Advance Estimates 2015-16

NA: Not Available

**Availability and distribution of generic medicines**

†1486. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan during last two years to increase the availability and to streamline the distribution of generic medicines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) In order to provide relief to the common man in the area of healthcare, a country wide campaign for ensuring availability of generic medicines at affordable prices to all, in the name of "Jan Aushadhi Campaign", was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in November, 2008 in collaboration with the State Governments as a direct market intervention strategy. To ensure the quality of medicines procured from the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and private manufactures for supplying to Jan Aushadhi Stores, each batch of drug is tested at Bureau of Pharma of PSUs of India (BPPI) empanelled National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited laboratories. Covering almost all the therapeutic categories, 550 medicines 165 surgical and consumables have been identified for the basket of Jan Aushadhi Yojana.

In order to promote the campaign of Jan Aushadhi Scheme, a one-time financial assistance to the extent of ₹ 2.50 Lakh (Rs 1 Lakh for furnishing, ₹ 50000/- for computer and peripherals, Refrigerator etc. and another ₹ 1 Lakh worth medicines to commence operation) is provided to the applicants within Government hospitals premises. Till date, 286 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened across the country. To streamline the distribution of the Generic medicines four (4) Carrying and Forwarding (C&F) and 34 distributors have been appointed all over the country.

**Revival of closed urea units through SPV**

1487. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to constitute a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to revive the closed urea units in the country;

(b) if so, details of the three units that are going to be revived under SPV;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the status of revival of Ramagundam and other fertilizer units identified earlier for revival and whether work has already been started; and

(d) by when the production would start in Ramagundam unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The three units which are being considered for revival by SPV are as under:

(i) Gorakhpur unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL)

(ii) Sindri unit of the FCIL; and

(iii) Barauni unit of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL)

(c) **Ramagundam unit:** The consortium of nominated PSUs namely National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Engineers India Limited (EIL) and FCIL have been assigned to revive this unit. The licensor selection for supply of technology and Basic Engineering Design package for Urea and Ammonia plants has been completed. The zero date of the Ramagundam project is 25.09.2015. The work of site grading has been commenced.

**Talcher unit:** The consortium of nominated PSUs namely Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF), Coal India Limited (CIL), Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) and FCIL have been assigned to revive this unit. A Joint Venture Company (JV) of the nominated PSUs has been formed, the JV has undertaken the job of technology finalization for coal gasification and for preparation of detailed feasibility report (DFR).

(d) The Ammonia Urea Complex at Ramagundam has been tentatively scheduled for commissioning in September, 2018.

#### **Statutory code to curb unethical practices in pharma sector**

1488. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has postponed implementation of a statutory code of principles to curb unethical practices by pharmaceutical industry, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is preparing a set of binding principles to check practices such as gifting and facilitating overseas travels, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the new set of statutory code is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As various stakeholders are involved and the Department is also to examine as to whether there is no overlapping between the statutory code and the other Codes/ Acts, which are being implemented by various other Ministries, no time limit can be indicated.

**Capping on trade margins of costly drugs**

1489. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level committee has recommended for capping of trade margins for costly drugs with a view to bring down the MRP of medicines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the decision of Government on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has proposed graded trade margins with reference to the Price to Trade (PTT). The proposals of the Committee have been put on the Department's website with the request to the stakeholders to give their comments. The comments received are being examined and a final decision would be taken thereafter.

**Controlling prices of patented medicines**

1490. KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any mechanism to control the prices of exorbitantly high prices of patented medicines to make them more affordable, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the difference between the reference pricing system and the negotiated pricing model; and

(c) the further steps taken by Government in the matter?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) To address the issues of Price Negotiation mechanisms for patented drugs a Committee was setup. The Committee's report was put on the public domain for wider publicity for inviting comments from stakeholders. Observing the diverse opinion of different stakeholders received by the Government, an Inter-ministerial Committee of Joint Secretaries to look into the issues and to suggest ways and means to fix the prices of patented drugs in the country has been formed. The Committee has since completed stakeholders consultation and is now finalizing its recommendations.

**Modifying composition of chemical fertilizers to boost productivity**

1491. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be please to state:

- (a) whether some Government institutions are working on modifications in existing standard composition of chemical fertilizers. So as to enable farmers increase their produces with use of lesser quantity of chemical fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount of funds allocated by Government for this purpose and the names of institutions involved; and
- (c) if not, whether Government would initiate such a project so as to enable farmers increase their productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. There are 3 Fertilizer PSUs *i.e.* Fertilizer and Chemical Travancore Ltd. (FACT), National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) and Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) are working on modifications in existing standard composition of chemical fertilizers. The details are as under:-

- (i) FACT'S Research and Development (R&D) Centre is carrying out research in new fertilizer formulations for cost control and development of value added by-products to enable farmers increase their produces with use of lesser quantity of chemical fertilizers. FACT is manufacturing and marketing Zincated Factamfos by adding micro nutrient zinc to Factamfos (NP 20:20:0:13). FACT has also undertaken plant trials for making Boronated NP 20:20:0:13 (by adding micro nutrient Boron to NP 20:20:0:13) during 2015-16. Government has no scheme to provide funds for research in New Government Formulations.

- (ii) NFL has undertaken a project through Indian Agriculture Research institute (IARI), New Delhi on Agronomic evaluation of Nitrification inhibitors and coated urea materials for improving yield and nitrogen use efficiency of Rice and Sugarcane. The project will study the effect of different nitrification inhibitors and slow release of urea products developed by IARI on productivity and nitrogen use efficiency of rice and sugarcane.
- (iii) RCF has introduced product like Boronated Suphala (15:15:15:02) in market by adding Boron while manufacturing Suphala (15:15:15) which is a standard product of RCF. RCF is also making Neem coated Urea in line with the Gol policy. For the Neem coated urea and Boronated Suphala RCF is receiving support from Gol in the form of additional subsidy under Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme. Government has approved funds to the tune of ₹ 82.0 Lakh for a project for Nanotechnology based complex chemical fertilizer N:P:K, 15:15:15.

**Aadhaar card issued to transgender people**

1492. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a person can choose to register a gender as neither male nor female while getting Aadhaar card;
- (b) if so, State -wise details of number of such Aadhaar card holders, including district-wise details for West Bengal and if not, the reasons therefore;
- (c) the State-wise details of number of bank accounts linked with such above mentioned Aadhaar card holders, including district-wise details for West Bengal; and
- (d) the State-wise list of beneficiaries with such above mentioned Aadhaar card holders receiving Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) under various Central Government Schemes including district-wise details for West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) During enrolment for Aadhaar, an individual has three options for gender: i) Male ii) Female iii) Transgender. The individual can choose any of these options.

(b) The State/UT wise details of Aadhaar generated in respect of transgenders as on 26.04.2016 are given in Statement-I (*See below*). District wise details in respect of West Bengal are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) and (d) UIDAI only issues Aadhaar to the residents of India. It is up to the departments/organisations administering various services to leverage Aadhaar for delivery of these services, benefits or subsidies to the people. Such details are not maintained nor are the number of beneficiaries of such services monitored by UIDAI.

**Statement-I**

*State/U.T. wise details of Aadhaar generated in respect of transgenders*

State Name	Transgender count as on 26.04.16
1	2
Jammu and Kashmir	30
Himachal Pradesh	215
Punjab	903
Chandigarh	45
Uttarakhand	143
Haryana	423
Delhi	1,430
Rajasthan	1,048
Uttar Pradesh	3,040
Bihar	803
Sikkim	23
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Nagaland	81
Manipur	181
Mizoram	2
Tripura	294
Assam	4
West Bengal	4,930
Jharkhand	962
Odisha	2,608
Chhattisgarh	268

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	1,859
Gujarat	957
Daman and Diu	8
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	16
Maharashtra	3,622
Andhra Pradesh	7,681
Karnataka	2,635
Goa	132
Kerala	2,722
Tamil Nadu	3,572
Puducherry	112
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6
Telangana	275
GRAND TOTAL	41,033

***Statement-II***

*District-wise details of Aadhaar generated in respect of transgenders in West Bengal*

State Name	District name	Total
West Bengal	Bankura	126
West Bengal	Bardhaman	782
West Bengal	Birbhum	305
West Bengal	Dakshin Dinajpur	164
West Bengal	Darjeeling	66
West Bengal	East Midnapore	185
West Bengal	Hooghly	234
West Bengal	Howrah	292
West Bengal	Jalpaiguri	137
West Bengal	Cooch Behar	270

State Name	District name	Total
West Bengal	Kolkata	233
West Bengal	Malda	213
West Bengal	Medinipur	2
West Bengal	Murshidabad	226
West Bengal	Nadia	199
West Bengal	North 24 Parganas	626
West Bengal	Paschim Medinipur	317
West Bengal	Purulia	93
West Bengal	South DumDum(M)	1
West Bengal	South Twenty Four Parganas	368
West Bengal	Uttar Dinajpur	91
GRAND TOTAL		4,930

#### Alternative network in place of NOFN

1493. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes an alternative Wi-Fi-based network with high speed internet in place of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) to implement the Government rural broadband project;

(b) the reasons for replacing the NOFN; and

(c) the target and the time-frame for implementing the alternative Wi-Fi-based network to connect village panchayats in the country, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

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

#### Gram Panchayats covered under NOFN

1494. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of implementation of National Optical Fibre Network

(NOFN), project along with the number of Gram Panchayats provided with high speed rural broadband network so far, State-wise;

(b) whether establishment of Wi-Fi hotspots are proposed to provide Wi-Fi services at public places under the project, if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard so far; and

(c) the details of criteria for selection of Gram Panchayats, particularly those in remote, backward and hilly areas, along with the action taken for timely implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) State wise status of implementation of BharatNet/NOFN project along with number of Gram Panchayats provided with broadband connectivity, as on 02.05.2016, is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Telecom Commission has recently approved setting up of Outdoor Public Wi-Fi Access Point (OPAP) in each GP. This is to be implemented through viability gap funding (VGF) by reverse auction in Private Public Partnership (PPP) mode.

(c) All Gram Panchayats of the country are to be provided with network infrastructure for providing broadband connectivity under BharatNet/NOFN Project. The project is planned to be executed in phases. One lakh Gram Panchayats are to be connected under Phase-I of BharatNet/NOFN by March, 2017.

***Statement***

*State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 02.05.2016*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Gram Panchayats (GPs) Phase-I	Pipe laid (kms.)	Optical Fibre Cable (OFC laid (in kms)	No. of GPs where OFC laid	No. of GPs lit
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	624	184	167	91	0
2.	Himachal Pradesh	283	213	95	28	0
3.	Punjab	6128	5100	4529	3067	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Haryana	6090	5353	4935	4950	160
5.	Rajasthan	6967	13213	12078	3782	308
6.	Chandigarh	12	18	19	12	12
7.	Uttarakhand	1767	1554	1147	711	183
8.	UP (West)	8040	10203	5855	2721	131
9.	UP (East)	14474	18097	13032	5910	71
10.	Bihar	5202	7521	6536	2436	215
11.	West Bengal	2713	2244	2054	734	0
12.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Assam	1013	1955	1763	682	128
14.	Jharkhand	1388	2818	2507	991	136
15.	Odisha	3388	4903	3797	1670	104
16.	Andaman and Nicobar	69	0	0	0	0
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	256	436	100	22	0
18.	Nagaland	743	1698	740	163	0
19.	Manipur	24	71	73	24	0
20.	Meghalaya	638	1004	251	76	0
21.	Tripura	1021	1449	1180	536	76
22.	Mizoram	163	353	7	0	0
23.	Madhya Pradesh	10516	18160	15306	5256	150
24.	Chhattisgarh	2110	5009	4625	1574	514
25.	Gujarat	5735	6457	4707	2234	116
26.	Maharashtra	12055	14557	11444	4940	224
27.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Karnataka	5599	10215	10351	5057	2970

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1913	19	0	0
31.	Telangana	2097	4056	3510	1571	106
32.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Kerala	977	746	810	1129	1129
34.	Puducherry	98	82	92	98	101
35.	Lakshadweep	10	0	0	0	0
36.	Goa*	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL		100200	139582	111729	50465	6834

\* All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.

#### **Post offices in Uttarakhand**

†1495. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that post offices in Uttarakhand take more than 30 days to make payments to their customers as they do not have accounts in local branches of the banks;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by the Ministry to minimize the delay in withdrawal of money by the account holders;

(c) whether Government will grant permission to all post offices to open accounts in local branches of banks; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No Sir. No such case has been reported in Uttarakhand circle.

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

(c) The post offices are permitted to open accounts in local branches of the banks as per prescribed norms.

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



**Partnership with chinese companies in communication sector**

†1496. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that some Indian Companies have entered into partnerships with Chinese companies in the communications sector;
- (b) if so, the names of those companies;
- (c) whether partnerships by private companies with Chinese companies will not pose a danger to the secrecy of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are allowed to deploy telecom equipments in their network based on their techno-commercial considerations subject to compliance of terms and conditions of license. Accordingly, some foreign companies including Chinese companies have entered into Communications Sector and have supplied mobile and broadband equipments to TSPs. Foreign companies including Chinese companies are also supplying mobile handsets and set top boxes. However, as per information available with Department of Telecommunications, none of Telecom Service Providers have entered into partnership with Chinese Companies in the Communication Sector. However, M/s Huawei Telecommunications (India) Pvt. Ltd. has been given security clearance by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to set up a unit for Electronics/Telecom Hardware and support services at Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) Government is aware that in modern age, the telecom equipments and networks used for provisioning of telecom services are prone to spyware/malwares etc., if attempted by the outfits, antisocial or anti national elements. To ensure that such miscreants are not able to damage/hamper our telecom infrastructure, a comprehensive security guideline in the form of license Amendments have been issued to Telecom Service Providers on 31.05.2011 in Access Service Licenses and on 3rd June, 2011 for other licenses (later made part of Unified License also), in consultation with MHA and after due deliberations with Industry.

*Vide* these amendments, it is mandated that Telecom Service Providers are responsible for the security of their network. It is also mandated that only those

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

network elements shall be inducted into their Telecom Network, which have been tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security Standards.

Further, it has also been mandated under license term and conditions that the Chief Officer in charge of technical network operations and the Chief Security Officer/ Chief Information Security Officer, and in-charge of GMSC, MSC, Soft-Switch, Central Database, ILD Gateway, VSAT Hub, INSAT MSS-R Hub, PMRTS Central/Base Station, GMPCS Gateway, Switches and System Administrators shall be resident Indian citizen.

Thus, a framework has already been mandated to deal with potential threats by the induction of Chinese Telecom Equipment or from any other source. So far, no specific issue has arisen due to equipment originating from any specific country. However, Government continues to examine all new developments related to Telecom Security and regularly reviews the security arrangement in this regard in the light of such developments.

In order to increase the share of telecom equipment manufactured in the country, Department of Telecommunications has already issued the Notification *vide* No. 18-0712010 dated 5th October, 2012 regarding domestic telecom equipment for Government procurement and Government projects.

#### **Free roaming service**

†1497. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite instructions of Government the private telecom operator companies are not ready to provide free roaming facility;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the consumers would get free roaming facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Sir, "One Nation - Free Roaming" is one of the objectives of National Telecom Policy (NTP) 2012. Being a predominantly tariff related issue, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) floated a consultation paper on 'Review of Tariff for National Roaming' on 25.02.2013. As per the comments received from the stakeholders, majority of the stakeholders were not in favour of Home Price Rule (HPR) in the national roaming service. Stakeholders were strongly averse to a regime in which incoming calls while on national roaming would become free.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

After analyzing the comments received from the stakeholders, a view was taken by TRAI that fully free national roaming across all the tariff schemes may result in cross subsidization of roaming subscribers at the expense of non-roaming subscribers, and also it may create arbitrage opportunity.

Through the Telecommunication Tariff Order (60th Amendment), 2015 dated 09.04.2015, TRAI has made the following changes in the tariff regime for national roaming, which came into effect from 01.05.2015:-

- Reduced the ceilings tariff for voice calls and SMS while on national roaming.
- Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have been mandated to offer a Special Roaming Tariff Plan to its pre-paid and post-paid subscribers. In Special Roaming Tariff Plan, incoming voice calls while on national roaming shall be free, on payment of fixed charge, if any. All the wireless access service providers have at least one tariff plan in which the incoming calls, while roaming, are free.

#### **Greenfield EMC proposal from Government of Odisha**

1498. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Greenfield Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) proposal of Government of Odisha being pending with Department of Electronics and Information Technology (Deity) for which the State is unable to proceed further in attracting investment under Electronic System Design and Manufacturing; and

(b) by when the above stated proposal will be approved by Central Government to start the project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Department of Electronics and Information Technology (Deity), Government of India had received a final application for setting up of Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Cluster at Khurda, Bhubaneswar, Odisha submitted by M/s. Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.(IDCO). During the appraisal, the application was found deficient in compliance with the requirements laid down in Electronics Manufacturing Cluster Scheme and Guidelines thereof. Details relating to financial capability of the proposed units and Consent to Establish (CTE) from the concerned State Government authorities was found lacking. In this regard, IDCO has been informed *vide* this Department letters no. 36(8)/

2015-IPHW dated 6th May, 2015 and 30th June, 2015 and subsequent e-mails dated 10th September, 2015, 15th September, 2015, 21st September, 2015, 4th October, 2015, 23rd October, 2015, 8th December, 2015, 13th January, 2016, 3rd February, 2016, 16th February, 2016, 4th March 2016, 29th March 2016 and 18th April 2016 for providing the requisite documents. In spite of multiple reminders, the requisite documents have not been submitted by applicant.

**Concessions by BSNL and MTNL to senior citizens**

†1499. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any concession is granted to the senior citizens by Government companies, MTNL and BSNL;
- (b) if so, the details of concession being given;
- (c) whether concessions being granted by MTNL and BSNL are different, if so, the reasons behind the different concessions of these two companies;
- (d) whether Government is planning to formulate any policy in this regard, so that there should be uniformity in concessions being granted by these companies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has reported that senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above are exempted from payment of registration charges of ₹ 500/- for landline telephone connection under Non-OYT-Special category.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has reported that concession of 25% in installation charges and monthly fixed charges for landline connections under Plan-250 is given to senior citizens of the age of 65 years and above.

(c) to (e) BSNL and MTNL are different Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) having different managements and Board of Directors. Both PSUs take their decisions based on their commercial considerations. While Government would prefer the PSUs to provide greater concessions to senior citizens, it adheres to providing autonomy of the PSUs in taking commercial decisions.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Investment in India Post**

1500. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Public Investment Board has approved a ₹ 800 crore proposal of India Post;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Cabinet has approved the said investment and the proposal of the Department of Posts; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Department of Posts has made a presentation on the proposal of its Payments Bank, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir, the Public Investment Board has recommended the proposal of Department of Posts for setting up of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB). IPPB as per their recommendation is to be set up as a Public Limited Company with 100% GOI equity under the Department of Posts at a total project cost of ₹ 800 crore (₹ 400 crore equity and ₹ 400 crore grant).

(b) No Sir, the proposal has been submitted for Cabinet approval but is yet to be placed for decision before the Cabinet.

(c) Yes sir, a presentation was made to PMO on 14.04.2016 on the proposed Payments Bank. The observations of the PMO have been received on 21.04.2016 and replies thereto have been provided by Department of Posts. A decision on the date of the cabinet meeting is awaited.

**Child pornography websites**

1501. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has decided to approach the Interpol to gain access to websites that engage in child pornography, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the move to ban 857 pornographic websites was unsuccessful, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. International Organization, INTERPOL maintains an updated list of “Worst-of” websites containing most severe child sexual

abuse material. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is the nodal agency for INTERPOL in India. Action has been initiated by the Government to get the "Worst-of" list of child pornography websites from INTERPOL through CBI.

(b) Government notified Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to disable 857 websites on 31st July 2015. Government subsequently communicated in its orders on 4th August 2015 that the ISPs were free not to disable any of the 857 sites if the sites did not have child pornographic content.

**Expansion of information technology in the country**

1502. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has expanded business in the world under information technology industry on a large scale;

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that use of information technology is still negligible in some parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) According to National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), exports by Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Service (IT-ITES) industry is estimated to register a growth of 10 per cent in FY2015-16 to reach USD 108 billion (16.5 per cent Year on Year growth rate in ENR terms to reach ₹ 700,000 crore). India continues to be the world's No.1 sourcing destination with a share of 56 per cent in the total global outsourcing market in the year 2015.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**BPO promotion scheme**

1503. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's BPO promotion scheme has generated interest with more than 1,25,000 Expressions of Interest (EOI) having been received against a capacity of just 48,300 seats across the country confined to tier-II towns;

(b) whether Government has also launched a similar policy initiative in the North-East region with an outlay of ₹ 50 crore for creating 5000 seats to provide employment for local youths in BPO sector; and

(c) whether because of lack of response to its scheme meant for North-East, Government has planned to relax the norms for entrepreneurs from the region and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Madam. In the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage for India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS), 78 companies have shown interest to setup BPO/ITES operations at 190 cities/district including Tier-II towns across the country for about 1,25,000 seats against the projected 48,300 seats.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. The Government has launched North East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) under the Digital India Programme, to incentivize setting up 5,000 seats BPO/ITES operations in North East Region (NER), with an outlay of about ₹ 50 crores during the remaining period of Twelfth Five Year Plan *i.e.*, upto 31.03.2017. Based on the consultation with various stakeholders, certain eligibility criteria(s) and terms and conditions have been relaxed *vide* Administrative Approval dated 15.01.2016 to encourage participation of local entrepreneurs. Some of these relaxations include participation of local entrepreneurs through consortium with eligible Indian Company, condition to setup minimum 50 seats operation instead of 100 seats, minimum average annual turnover of last 3 financial years was reduced to 1 crore instead of 5 crore. Further, special incentives for promoting local entrepreneur, training incentives, incentive for employing women and persons with disability have been included. The details of the scheme are available at DeitY's website [www.deity.gov.in/nebps](http://www.deity.gov.in/nebps).

#### **Gender gap among internet users in rural and urban areas**

1504. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has carried out a study to quantitatively assess the prevalence of gender gap among internet users in rural and urban areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of steps taken by the Ministry to address this gender gap among internet users?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Department of Telecommunications has not carried out a study to quantitatively assess the prevalence of gender gap among internet users in rural and urban areas.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

**Providing internet access in rural areas**

†1505. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether one objective of Digital India is to provide internet in rural areas;

(b) if so, what Government proposes to do for the same;

(c) whether Government is aware that internet is being used in every village through mobiles;

(d) whether internet data plan rates have been increased recently by major service providers;

(e) if so, whether this is in accordance with the objectives of the Digital India programme of the Government; and

(f) whether Government would take steps to provide mobile internet data plans at lower rates in order to provide internet facility to every home in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) To provide broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats through National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)/BharatNet project is one of the objectives of Digital India. Under this project, it is planned to establish a network infrastructure by connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. As on 02.05.2016, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid to 50,465 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with a total length of 1,11,729 km.

(c) Out of 5,97,608 inhabited villages, there are about 55,000 villages which presently do not have mobile connectivity. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has informed that as on 31.12.2015, total number of mobile wireless internet subscribers in rural areas is 110.27 million.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(d) to (f) TRAI has informed that as per the present tariff framework in the country, the tariff for internet service is under forbearance. The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) have the flexibility to offer different tariff plans and schemes for Internet with multiple combinations of fixed charges, periods of validity, download/ upload speeds and usage charges. Different tariff combinations are being offered by the TSPs taking into account several factors including input costs, level of competition and other commercial consideration. Thus, the Internet tariffs differ from tariff plan to tariff plan and for different service areas.

With the implementation of NOFN/BharatNet project, which is one of the pillars of Digital India, non-discriminatory access to all categories of service providers including internet service providers will be available at Gram Panchayats with no investment to lay the optical fibre infrastructure. It is expected that it will promote internet and broadband usage in rural and remote areas at affordable rates.

#### **Market share of operators in telecom sector**

†1506. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of respective share of public and private telecom operators in the market providing mobile telephone services in the country;
- (b) whether market share of public sector operators is going down in comparison to private sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to provide quality service so that market share of public sector companies remain intact despite competition from private sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As on 29-02-2016 (the latest available data) the share of public sector telecom operators providing mobile telephone services stands at 8.66% as against 91.34% for the same of private telecom operators in the market.

(b) and (c) No. There was a declining trend in the share of the public sector in the number of mobile telephones. That continued till 2014-15. In 2013-14, the share was 10.84% and, in 2014-15, the same was 8.29%. But, due to various measures adopted by the public sector telecom operators, the trend has been arrested recently. Despite a stiff

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

competition from the private sector telecom operators, from the 2 quarter of current FY, the share has started going up. From 8.29% at the end of 1st quarter, it went upto 8.40% at the end of 2nd quarter and further to 8.53% at the end of 3rd quarter. And, finally, as on 29-02-2016, the share stands at 8.66%.

(d)

**BSNL:** In general the BSNL Telecom services are meeting the quality of service parameters prescribed by Telecom regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). However BSNL is strengthening its efforts/initiatives further to improve its quality of service so that the market share of BSNL remains intact in the given fiercely competitive India Telecom market by expanding and upgrading its network and also by taking Customer Centric Initiatives.

**MTNL:**

- To improve network capabilities and provide better speed/quality of service to its customers MTNL has planned to upgrade the existing 3G network of Mumbai with enhanced Downlink speed of 21.1 Mbps as against 3.6 Mbps speeds in the existing Network.
- The case for up-gradation / augmentation / expansion of existing 2G/3G network is being under consideration of MTNL Board.
- 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.

Because of the aforementioned measures taken by PSUs, the declining trend in the public sector's share of mobile telephones has been arrested, under effective supervision of the DoT.

#### **Delay in implementation of NOFN**

1507. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's rural broadband project—National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) is facing long delays, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government proposes an alternative plan to implement the rural broadband project in the country, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) /BharatNet is a project of mega nature widely dispersed across the country for taking optical fiber to the unreached areas especially the rural and remote. Due to its vastness in magnitude and time consuming survey work to ascertain the length of incremental fibre, locating the existing fibers, mobilisation of physical resources, supply constraints with a given set of suppliers to meet the vast demands of material requirements, challenges faced in awarding contracts in difficult areas (Hilly/Rocky/Left Wing Extremism), limited number of trenching and laying contractors, difficulty in getting Right of Way (RoW) permission from various agencies like NHAI, Forest, Oil and Gas companies etc., there has been delay in execution of the project.

Despite constraints, the work of laying optical fibre network has been speeded up manifold in the last 2 years. All efforts are being made to achieve the target of 1 lakh GPs under phase-I of the project by March, 2017 and the remaining 1.5 lakh GPs under phase-II by December, 2018. As on 02.05.2016, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid to 50,465 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with a total length of 1,11,729 km and 1,39,582 km pipe laid as against OFC laid to 59 GPs with total length of 250 km and about 2,000 km pipe laid in March, 2014. Out of 50,465 GPs, 6,834 GPs have been provided with broadband connectivity. In phase-II, broadband will be provided to GPs through an optimum combination of OFC, radio and satellite.

#### **Number of BSNL subscribers**

1508. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of BSNL wireline and wireless subscribers in the last five years;

(b) the number of complaints received in the last five years, State/UT-wise regarding inadequate/poor broadband speed delivered by BSNL; and

(c) the number of subscribers who have ceased using BSNL's services citing low/poor broadband speed delivery as a reason during the last five years, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Details of wireline and wireless subscribers of

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the last five years and the current year (upto 29.2.2016) are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Circle-wise detail of landline broadband faults registered in BSNL's network during the last five years is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Broadband over Internet Protocol is a best effort service and hence for any broadband plan offered to the customer, speed depends on so many factors such as customer end devices, the web-site and location of the web-site server that the customers are accessing over Internet. Internet service providers have no control over them.

However, the total number of Broadband connections disconnected which may be due to various reasons including low speed, during last five years is given in Statement-III.

***Statement-I***

*Details of wireline and wireless subscribers of BSNL during the last five years*

No. of Subscribers of BSNL (In Million)			
Sl.No.	As on	Wireline	Wireless
1.	31.03.2011	25.22	91.83
2.	31.03.2012	22.47	98.51
3.	31.03.2013	20.45	101.21
4.	31.03.2014	18.49	94.65
5.	31.03.2015	16.41	76.83
6.	29.02.2016	14.78	85.29

***Statement-II***

*Circle-wise details of landline broadband faults of BSNL during the last five years*

No. of landline broadband faults of BSNL					
Name of the Circle	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Andaman and Nicobar	1968	2190	3483	2096	2027
Andhra Pradesh	228163	246340	337931	320983	411856
Assam	20568	20175	23050	28503	39548
Bihar	25140	29028	71832	74056	96811
Chhattisgarh	15586	14986	14615	17615	16166

Name of the Circle	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Kolkata	229805	219139	281671	297029	298779
Chennai	239901	255414	542541	505582	489994
Gujarat	143271	171437	180487	152261	138794
Himachal Pradesh	17366	19467	19810	28527	27212
Haryana	45603	54541	48610	43313	42489
Jharkhand	31851	23176	35037	30164	31129
Jammu and Kashmir	28803	22895	24089	19742	19310
Kerala	205043	349201	468122	271834	689165
Karnataka	201409	342981	282534	174152	169378
Maharashtra	247776	153412	246134	247279	279030
Madhya Pradesh	36573	44084	50792	62775	79885
North East-I	12438	9689	9282	7391	8115
North East-II	2818	2669	3582	3085	5307
Odisha	41791	35928	45843	44292	48502
Punjab	100169	102593	106481	100063	93595
Rajasthan	143090	128864	107174	73601	150041
Tamil Nadu	122614	147441	185737	146194	157256
Uttarakhand	21737	21990	22346	21922	23270
Uttar Pradesh (East)	85347	119095	97231	95868	93494
Uttar Pradesh (West)	58696	63922	70205	65352	66172
West Bengal	51140	52291	59547	52273	55221

**Statement-III**

*Circle-wise details of disconnection of BSNL broadband connections during the last five years*

Circle	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Andaman and Nicobar	532	613	906	1060	985
Andhra Pradesh	96172	130494	151443	133267	115178
Assam	8995	7516	-10317	11037	11203

Circle	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Bihar	10100	8287	11617	12324	24629
Chhattisgarh	5190	8204	7901	8367	11605
Chennai	49263	56363	71554	64048	74913
Gujarat	56121	60696	70097	74258	76585
Haryana	26677	28829	30926	37708	33824
Himachal Pradesh	7759	8904	8820	9965	9744
Jammu and Kashmir	6158	6874	8598	12016	11990
Jharkhand	12066	8694	11536	12139	12640
Karnataka	84652	164442	124777	117537	108339
Kerala	73291	98318	118896	141608	136921
Kolkata	22762	32846	47858	41297	40662
Madhya Pradesh	19798	25166	23947	25061	47031
Maharashtra	62138	93739	105078	117278	113261
North East-I	4361	2734	3690	4797	4385
North East-II	1282	2246	2526	3256	2454
Odisha	17361	15744	24191	23553	23540
Punjab	60724	61257	72965	68713	71357
Rajasthan	33856	50254	48529	50654	43525
Tamil Nadu	87923	82446	102467	117132	100054
Uttar Pradesh (East)	23669	26979	47132	37886	28272
Uttar Pradesh (West)	18859	23100	42969	28729	31676
Uttarakhand	7662	8878	11688	10232	10378
West Bengal	16159	14867	19892	19840	28411

[1509. Question was cancelled]

#### **Encrypted messages of a data-sharing app**

1510. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how does the Ministry look at the move by Whatsapp which made all its photos, videos, files, voice and group messages serit using Whatsapp encrypted;

- (b) whether the move will hamper countries like India which is fighting terror;
- (c) whether switching to 256-bit encryption by Whatsapp accepted by US and Canada is legal in India; and
- (d) how the Ministry thinks of containing this encryption in the light of it not having regulation on Over-the-Top Messaging?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Mobile applications such as WhatsApp have extraordinary reach particularly in the field of information sharing and dissemination and these services are mostly availed by the citizens across world through Internet. Such applications make use of Encryption technology and proprietary authentication protocols to secure messages. Security/Law Enforcement Agencies face difficulty while dealing with encrypted communications by various application service providers including end to end encrypted communication message provided by WhatsApp. However, Security agencies are able to intercept these encrypted communication services through the lawful interception facilities provided by the Telecom Service Providers, but they are not able to decrypt some of encrypted intercepted communication to readable format as there are multifarious aspects including as technical, international relationship, legal and regulatory policy, commercial and security requirements etc. involved in getting such encrypted communication in readable format.

(c) and (d) It has have been *inter-alia* mandated under the License conditions that the Licensees shall ensure that Bulk Encryption is not deployed by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) connecting to Landing Station. Further, Individuals/ Groups/ Organizations are permitted to use encryption upto 40 bit key length in the symmetric key algorithms or its equivalent in other algorithms without having to obtain permission from the Licensor. However, if encryption equipments higher than this limit are to be deployed, individuals/groups/organizations shall do so with the prior written permission of the Licensor and deposit the decryption key, split into two parts, with the Licensor.

The Government regularly interacts with Telecom Service Providers and other stakeholders including Social Media Providers to address the issues and implement the solution to resolve the issues arising from time to time to the extent possible keeping in view security, service and developmental needs of the country.

Further, Section 69 of IT Act 2000 empowers the Central Government/State Government/its authorized agency to lawfully intercept, monitor or decrypt any information generated, transmitted, received or stored in any computer resource including through Over-the-Top Applications.

**Digital India targets**

1511. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets of Digital India would be achieved uniformly in all regions of the country keeping in view the topography, logistics, funds and management constraints;

(b) whether it will be preferable to confine optical fibre connectivity upto the Block level and satellite coverage through spectrum, and Wi-Fi across the lower echelons like Panchayats and villages; and

(c) the prevailing international preferences for the above options in countries abroad?

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

(b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)/ BharatNet project is being implemented under Pillar I- Broadband Highways of Digital India Programme. Under NOFN/BharatNet project, all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country are targeted to be connected 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 by laying incremental fiber, wherever necessary, to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks for providing broadband connectivity for utilization by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis including Internet Service Providers.

Progress of implementation is not uniformly distributed across the country due to topography, logistics constraints and prevailing local conditions. However, there are neither funds nor management constraints for implementation of the project.

(c) NOFN /BharatNet Project is of a mega nature widely dispersed across the country to take optical fiber to the unreached areas, which are rural and remote. For such a project of this magnitude, Optical fibre connectivity is a preferred option internationally.

**Call drops**

1512. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that call drops in mobile telephony is a serious problem in Delhi and other places, if so, the details thereof;



- (b) what are the provisions in this regard;
- (c) whether any penalty has been imposed on service providers for deficiency in service; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In the recent months, the incidences of call have been reported from different parts of the country including Delhi. In this regard, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of service providers, against the quality of service bench-marks for the various parameters laid down by the Authority through Quality of Service Regulations, through Performance Monitoring Reports submitted by service providers.

TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service standards for 2G & 3G services through "The Standards of Quality of Service for Basic Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations, 2009", which provide for 2 parameters for assessing performance of service providers relating to call drop, viz. "call drop rate / Circuit Switch Voice drop rate (benchmark  $\leq 2\%$  on monthly average basis)" and "worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) call drop (benchmark of 3% for worse performing pockets/spots)." The performance of service providers on these parameters should be within the benchmark.

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending December, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services 2G, for the parameter "Call Drop Rate" (benchmark  $< 2\%$  on monthly average basis) only M/s BSNL is not meeting this benchmark in North East service area. As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending December, 2015, for cellular mobile telephone services 3G, for the parameter "Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate" (benchmark  $< 2\%$  on monthly average basis) M/s Aircel and BSNL are not meeting this benchmark in one service area each. As regards performance in Delhi service area, all the service providers are meeting the benchmarks for both the parameters.

As reported by various service providers, in the period from July, 2015 to March 2016, around 64,763 Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) for 3G serviced have been added in various parts of the country. Out of total 64,763 BTS, around 20,313 BTS have been added in the months of February and March, 2016 itself. Similarly, around 29,516 BTS for 2G services have been added in various parts of the country. Out of total 29,516 BTS, around 10,145 BTS have been added in the months of February and March, 2016 itself.

Besides, BSNL has added 11,114 BTS for 3G services and 13,010 BTS for 2G services in the country in the years 2014 to 2016.

(c) and (d) Wherever the quality of service benchmarks are not met, TRAI has also been imposing financial disincentives on service providers for failure to comply with the benchmarks. So far, an amount ₹ 7,25,65,000/- (Rupees Seven Crores Twenty Five lakhs and Sixty five thousand) and 1,76,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Seventy Six lakhs) has been imposed on 2G & 3G service providers respectively for non-compliance with the Quality of Service Regulations.

#### **Legal challenges faced by TRAI**

1513. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken steps to address the lack of capacity in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to ensure that the regulator is able to tackle the challenges of a fast evolving, disruptive technology and innovation landscape;

(b) whether Government has taken note of the legal challenges faced by TRAI in regulating issues of consumer interest/protection and taken steps to amend the legislation to give more powers to TRAI to ensure consumer protection; 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) There is no lack of capacity in Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to tackle the challenges of a fast evolving, disruptive technology and innovation landscape.

(b) and (c) Proposal to amend TRAI Act is under consideration which also addresses issues of consumer interest/protection.

#### **Making Hindi language mandatory for mobile phones**

1514. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is likely to come out with regulations that will make it mandatory for mobile phones to support Hindi, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is also considering similar move for other regional languages, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) A Taskforce on 'Indian Language Support on Mobile phones' has been constituted by Deptt. Of Electronics and Information Technology (Deity) having objective to identify possible solutions for ensuring that all types of mobile phones support Indian Languages. The Taskforce has already submitted recommendations. Based on the recommendations, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is in process of evolving draft standard IS 16333 (Part-3) - "Indian Language support for Mobile Phones".

**Disparity between rural and urban areas for quality telecom services**

1515. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a great disparity between rural and urban areas in respect of quality telecom services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any initiative to cover the entire rural areas of the country with basic telecom facilities like internet, wi-fi, etc; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the present share of penetration of BSNL in comparison to private players in providing telecom services in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of service providers, against the quality of service benchmarks for the various parameters laid down by the Authority through Quality of Service Regulations, through performance monitoring reports submitted by service providers for the service area as a whole. No separate parameters are prescribed for rural and urban areas separately, except for Fault Repair in the case of Basic (wireline) Service. The performance of service providers against these parameters as per the PMR for the quarter ending December, 2015 is given below:

- (i) % fault repaired by next working day for urban areas (benchmark >85%):
  - all are meeting the benchmark;
- (ii) % fault repaired within 5 working days for urban areas (benchmark 100%):
  - MTNL is not meeting the benchmark in Delhi and Mumbai;

(iii) % Fault Repair by next working day for rural and hilly areas (benchmark >75%):

- all are meeting the benchmark

(iv) % Fault repaired within 7 days (for rural and hilly areas) working (benchmark 100%):

- all are meeting the benchmark.

In respect of the above parameters, TRAI has prescribed a lower benchmark for rural and hilly areas, as against urban areas, considering the fact that fault repairing in rural and hilly areas could take more time due to topology of the area and other constraints.

(c) and (d) As per TRAI's Performance Measurement Report for quarter ending on 31st December 2015, there are 331.66 million internet subscribers in the country, out of which, 112.16 million are Rural internet subscribers (including Public and Private Sector).

As per TRAI's Performance Indicator Report, the share of BSNL in comparison to private players in providing internet service in rural areas of the country as on 31st December, 2015 is as below:

	(Rural Subscribers in millions)
Total	112.16
BSNL	7.80
Private	104.35
Public Sector other than BSNL (MTNL, Power Grid, ERNET, Railtel & West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corp. Ltd.)	0.01

National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)/BharatNet project is planned to connect all Gram Panchayats (approximately 2.5 lakhs) in the country, including Chhattisgarh through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) utilizing existing fibres of public sector undertakings (PSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and RailTel and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks for providing broadband connectivity. The project is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and initial estimated cost of the project is ₹ 20,100/- crores (Rupees Twenty thousand One hundred crores).

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 100Mbps bandwidth has to be provided in all the estimated 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats for utilization by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis including Internet Service Providers. As on 02.05.2016, Optical Fibre Cable has been laid in 1,11,729 kms. And 50,465 Gram Panchayats have been connected with OFC. Out of these, 6834 Gram Panchayats have been provided with broadband connectivity.

The rural share of BSNL in comparison to private players as reported by telecom service provider (Wireless) as on 29th February 2016 is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*Wireless Telecom Subscribers (Rural) as on 29.02.2016*

Sl. No.	Companies	No. of Subscribers	Rural Subscribers	% age Rural Subscribers w.r.t. own subscribers	Market Share of each Company in rural subscribers
1.	Bharti	248690245	119761695	48.16%	27.27%
2.	Vodafone	196746283	104891356	53.31%	23.89%
3.	Idea	174627491	96252493	55.12%	21.92%
4.	Reliance	101905475	25014896	24.55%	5.70%
5.	BSNL	84826568	28210697	33.26%	6.42%
6.	Aircel	86677778	29655504	34.21%	6.75%
7.	Tata	60278625	15859517	26.31%	3.61%
8.	Telenor	51677533	15774923	30.53%	3.59%
9.	Sistema Shyam	7744765	1656234	21.39%	0.38%
10.	Videocon	6727985	1957482	29.09%	0.45%
11.	MTNL*	3634355	0	0.00%	0.00%
13.	Quadrant	3126765	76484	2.45%	0.02%
	TOTAL	1026663868	439111281	42.77%	100.00%

\*Note: M/s MTNL provides services in Delhi and Mumbai Service Areas only.

[Source: TRAI Performance Measurement Report]

**Graded penalty system for telecoms**

1516. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of graded penalty system proposed by Government for telecoms;
- (b) the existing penalty mechanism on telecoms for any wrongdoing;
- (c) whether it is a fact that DoT has so far served notices of penalty of nearly ₹ 10,000 crore against telecoms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and the amount realized so far; and
- (e) to what extent the graded penalty system help in quickly realizing penalties from telecoms?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Internet connectivity in the country**

1517. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide total internet connectivity in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the plan formulated for rural areas, State-wise, including Chhattisgarh; and
- (c) the funds released and spent by each of the States particularly Chhattisgarh, for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Licence granted to various Access Telecom Service Providers and Internet Service Providers allows them to provide internet facility within their service area.

National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)/BharatNet project is planned to connect all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Chhattisgarh, 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 RaifTel 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 funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and initial estimated cost of the project is ₹ 20,100 crores. 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.

State-wise plan of GPs, including Chhattisgarh, to be covered under BharatNet project Phase-I is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) No fund is released to the States under this project as the execution is done by Public Sector Undertakings.

#### Statement

*State-wise plan of Gram Panchayats (GPs) to be covered under NOFN/Bharat Net Project Phase-I*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total No. of Blocks	No. of Blocks in Phase-I	No. of Gram Panchayats (GPs)- Phase-I
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	143	22	624
2.	Himachal Pradesh	78	6	283
3.	Punjab	143	66	6128
4.	Haryana	122	122	6090
5.	Rajasthan	246	186	6967
6.	Chandigarh	1	1	12
7.	Uttarakhand	95	28	1767
8.	UP (West)	238	128	8040
9.	UP (East)	568	227	14474
10.	Bihar	534	315	5202

1	2	3	4	5
11.	West Bengal	341	273	2713
12.	Sikkim	27	0	0
13.	Assam	238	91	1013
14.	Jharkhand	259	74	1388
15.	Odisha	314	167	3388
16.	Andaman and Nicobar	9	7	69
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	155	26	256
18.	Nagaland	51	36	743
19.	Manipur	41	2	24
20.	Meghalaya	28	15	638
21.	Tripura	44	44	1021
22.	Mizoram	26	6	163
23.	Madhya Pradesh	313	140	10516
24.	Chhattisgarh	146	34	2110
25.	Gujarat	223	93	5735
26.	Maharashtra	352	169	12055
27.	Daman and Diu	1	0	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	0	0
29.	Karnataka	176	176	5599
30.	Andhra Pradesh	609	0	0
31.	Telangana	443	109	2097
32.	Tamil Nadu	385	0	0
33.	Kerala	152	152	977
34.	Pudducherry	3	3	98
35.	Lakshadweep	9	9	10
36.	Goa*	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL		6515	2727	100200

\*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.



**Feedback of communication facilities**

1518. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any review to know the feedback of communication facilities such as landline and mobile services being provided to the customers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether communication network has reached every nook and corner of the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including remotest areas of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) the percentage of communication network in the State of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) Telecom Services Performance Indicators issued on 16th February 2016, the overall status regarding availability of telecommunications services in terms of tele-density for different parts of the country is given in Statement (*See below*).

Further, TRAI has laid down the quality of service benchmarks for the various parameters for landline as well as mobile services. The service providers submit the performance report against the quality of service benchmarks to TRAI on quarterly basis. The customer perception of service is also assessed through surveys undertaken through independent agencies. The quarterly performance monitoring reports, and the reports submitted by independent agencies on surveys are made available for public use on quarterly basis through TRAI's website [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in).

For Andhra Pradesh, the overall tele-density as on 30th September, 2015 is 85.26 ' where urban and rural tele-density is 177.52 and 49.54 respectively.

For Maharashtra, the total tele-density as on 30th September, 2015 is 94.83 where urban and rural tele-density is 130.55 and 61.53 respectively.

**Statement***TRAI's Telecommunications Service Indicators issued on 16th February, 2016*

Service Area	As on 30th June, 2015			As on 30th September, 2015		
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Rural	Urban	Rural
	Teledensity	Teledensity	Teledensity	Teledensity	Teledensity	Teledensity
Andhra Pradesh	48.72	174.91	83.92	49.54	177.52	85.26
Assam	40.16	133.64	55.05	41.05	136.31	56.28
Bihar	34.52	172.07	53.47	34.95	173.32	54.02
Delhi	-	-	236.83	-	-	240.11
Gujarat	61.65	141.99	95.13	62.13	141.65	95.33
Haryana	58.94	124.63	82.45	57.51	127.98	82.83
H.P.	87.76	345.38	117.71	89.49	361.99	121.26
Jammu and Kashmir	57.02	136.47	79.05	58.17	137.05	80.08
Karnataka	50.55.	172.11	97.50	52.07	177.50	100.61
Kerala	68.29	180.70	96.80	60.77	212.00	99.11
Madhya Pradesh	37.92	122.24	60.93	37.45	126.72	61.85
Maharashtra* Mumbai*	60.74	127.41	92.84	61.53	130.55	94.83
North East	50.70	156.52	77.16	50.97	157.73	77.72
Odisha	45.51	173.39	68.00	46.36	177.70	69.52
Punjab	72.07	145.55	104.02	70.41	148.88	104.63
Rajasthan	54.30	153.46	78.23	54.95	156.26	79.42
T.N. (incl. Chennai)	82.46	140.55'	116.81	80.88	139.62	115.75
U.P.(E)* U.P. (W)*	39.40	134.87	61.16	39.13	136.52	61.37
Kolkata* (W.B.)*	51.54	144.22	78.12	52.15	147.80	79.60
ALL INDIA	48.66	149.70	79.98	48.66	152.76	80.98

\*Population data/projections are available State-wise only.

**E-Governance**

1519. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce a scheme for comprehensive e-governance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) the action taken by Government to create awareness among rural population regarding use of information technology; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to introduce a legislation for preventing misuse of information technology and if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The Government of India is implementing the Digital India 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 Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) and implemented by the entire Government.

The programme aims at pulling together many existing schemes. The schemes have been restructured and re-focused and are being 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 50,465 Gram Panchayats and optical fiber cable has been laid for 1,11,726 kms.

**Pillar 2: Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity**

- Rural tele-density has reached to more than 50.33%.
- Spectrum Sharing and Trading has been approved and guidelines issued on 24.09.2015 and 12.10.2015.

**Pillar 3: Public Internet Access Programme**

- 1,99,325 Common Services Centres have been set up under CSC 2.0 scheme in Gram Panchayats.
- 20,494 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 759 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: eKranti- 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 167 crore e-Transactions from 01 Jan, 2016 to 30 Apr, 2016.

**Pillar 6: Information for All**

- MyGov platform, a medium to seek ideas/ suggestions from Citizen, has been implemented. Till date, 43 Groups, 553 discussion themes, 414 tasks and 203 blogs have been published on MyGov platform.
- Weekly newsletters are being sent to more than 19 lakh registered users.
- Open Government Data platform has been implemented which exposes Government data to citizens. Currently 23,011 resources have contributed under 3,808 catalogs by 100 Departments. 25.7 lakhs downloads have been done by 69,298 users.

**Pillar 7: Electronics Manufacturing - Target NET ZERO Imports**

- 187 investment proposals under Modified Specific Incentive Programmes (MSIPs) having a proposed investment of ₹ 1.21 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 2.12 lakh persons so far in Telecom Training courses.
- Around 46.29 lakh candidates have been enrolled for training, more than 25 lakh candidates have been trained and more than 18.40 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 11.73 lakh residents have created their accounts on Digital Locker. More than 21.69 lakh documents have been uploaded on it.
- More than 9.81 lakh Life Certificates have been successfully processed through Jeevan Pramaan portal.

- Online Registration System (ORS) has been made operational in 37 hospitals and 21.62 lakh online appointments have been provided so far.
- 2.62 lakh documents have been digitized through Digitize India platform.
- Since 15th August 2014, over 58 crore mailers have been sent on 173 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.
- In Delhi NCR about 632 organisations in which 1,80,852 employees are registered. For central Government offices outside Delhi, about 2,621 organisations in which 2,61,569 employees have been registered. For state Government offices all over India, about 694 organisations are registered in which 4,77,485 employees have been registered.
- On the National Portal for Lost and Found children (Khoya-Paya), 4728 users have registered, 3254 are being sighted and 765 missing children have been reported.
- 1250 books (1242 pdf and 8 ePub) have been published on the portal by CBSE, State Boards and Private Publishers. Around 3000 books' information has been provided for the e-Basta portal, which are in various stages of getting uploaded/ published on portal. 17 private publishers have registered on the portal so far.
- 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.

(c) The Government of India is implementing several schemes under Digital India programme to create awareness and make Information Technology accessible to rural population. The following schemes/projects are specially targeted for rural and remote areas to enable people in these areas to participate in the Digital India programme:

- (i) Common Services Centres (CSCs): The CSCs are Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled kiosks with broadband connectivity to provide various Governments, private and social services at the doorstep of the citizen. As on date 1.99 lakh CSCs have been made operational in 36 States/UTs.

- (ii) Digital Literacy to the masses: DeitY is implementing following two Schemes namely (a) IT Mass Literacy (National Digital Literacy Mission) and (b) 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA) under 'Digital India' for providing Digital Literacy to the masses.

So far, under the NDLM/DISHA schemes, around 49.5 lakh candidates have been registered, a total of 37.4 lakh students have been trained and approximately 18.40 lakh students have been certified. A total of 1875 organizations are working as Training Partners under these schemes.

(d) No, Sir. The Information Technology Act, 2000 as amended in 2008 together with Indian Penal Code 1860 have inadequate provisions to deal with prevailing Cyber Crimes and misuse of Information Technology. It provides punishment in the form of imprisonment ranging from two years to life imprisonment and fine / penalty depending on the type of cyber crime/misuse.

#### **Issue of smart phone encryption**

1520. DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the dispute between the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation and Apple, Inc; and

(b) whether Government believes that smart phone encryptions should have a backdoor or a key which should be made available to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, Government has taken note of media reports about the dispute between the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation and Apple Inc. Smart phones including phones by Apple Inc. employ strong encryption to secure the data stored and to protect the communication. Such encryption technologies pose challenges to Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the world including India.

Considering the challenges involved, Government regularly interacts with all stakeholders to address the issues and implement the solution to resolve the issues arising from time to time to the extent possible keeping in view security, service and developmental needs of the country. Moreover, Research and Development activity is also being carried out on a continuous basis to upgrade tools and technologies with the emerging new devices and software, including Smart phones. As part of this programme, a tool for Mobile forensics has been developed, which handles Smart phones including Apple phones.

(b) Taking into account, privacy of the users, there is no proposal with the Government to introduce backdoor or a key for smart phone encryption.

**Internet subscribers in the country**

1521. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of internet subscribers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the fact that very less number of persons belonging to SC/ST community have access to internet services;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government during the last two years in this regard and the outcome thereof to reduce the digital divide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, as per information received from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), there are 331.66 million internet subscribers in the country as on 31st December, 2015. Telecom Service Area-wise details are given in Statement (*See below*).

However, as per the report of Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) on the subject "Internet in India 2015" published in November, 2015, there were 375 million ever internet users (users claiming to access the internet at least once in their lives) in the month of October 2015 and the same were expected to reach 402 million in December, 2015 and 462 Million in the month of June, 2016.

(b) to (d) Government is not maintaining the data about access to internet services by the SC/ST community, as Government is committed to provide internet access on non discriminatory basis to every citizen of the country.

***Statement***

*Telecom service area-wise internet subscriber base in the country as on 31st December 2015*

Telecom Service Area	No. of internet subscribers in millions
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	24.43
Assam	6.17
Bihar	18.44



1	2
Delhi	19.67
Gujarat	21.16
Haryana	7.46
Himachal Pradesh	2.88
Jammu and Kashmir	3.49
Karnataka	22.18
Kerala	14.38
Kolkata	9.03
Madhya Pradesh	19.46
Maharashtra	28.51
Mumbai	15.61
North East	3.70
Odisha	7.86
Punjab	13.01
Rajasthan	16.85
Tamil Nadu	27.27
Uttar Pradesh (East)	21.84
Uttar Pradesh (West)	15.63
West Bengal	12.63
TOTAL	331.66

### Implementation of NFSA

1522. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented the provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) in letter and spirit by creating networking with the retail outlets on real time basis; and

(b) if so, whether States like Tamil Nadu are also connected in such system even though they have not opted for the NFSA implementation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) For bringing transparency in distribution of foodgrains and real time monitoring of the distribution through the PDS portal, States/ Union Territories have been asked to install Point of Sale (PoS) devices at fair price shops (FPS) for authentication of beneficiaries and electronic capturing of transaction of foodgrains. As per reports received from States/UTs, there are about 1.11 lakh operational PoS devices in different States/UTs, including Tamil Nadu. However, transactions details in respect of all the PoS devices, including those installed in Tamil Nadu, are not available in real time in the public domain.

#### **Digitization of ration cards for DBT scheme**

1523. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has attained 100 per cent digitization of ration cards for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) as per the National Food Security Act;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the mandatory installation of e-Point of Sale machines has been done for the distribution of subsidy grains in all the States implementing DBT?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The entire ration card database in all the States/UTs has been digitised.

(c) For bringing transparency and to check leakages and diversion of foodgrains, States/UTs have been asked to opt for any of the two models of Direct Benefit Transfer - Cash transfer of food subsidy into the bank account of beneficiaries or fair price shop (FPS) automation, which involves installation of Point of Sale (PoS) device at FPS, for authentication of beneficiaries and electronic capturing of transactions. The cash transfer of food subsidy is being implemented in 3 UTs namely Chandigarh, Puducherry and partially in Dadra and Nagar Haveli. For remaining areas, States/UTs have been requested to expedite the pace of FPS automation. Out of 5.32 lakh FPSs across the country, about 1.11 lakh FPSs have been automated.

#### **Introduction of E-warranty system**

1524. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce e-warranty system to protect consumers for cases where they misplace warranties/guarantees in physical forms;

(b) if so, the details of the progress on the same and whether a deadline has been proposed for the functioning of such a set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Product warrantee/guarantee are provided by the companies as per their policy.

#### **Providing pulses through PDS**

1525. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans to provide pulses through PDS;

(b) how can Government do this when production of pulses is inadequate;

(c) to achieve (a) above, why cannot the Government import pulses on its own, either through MMTS or other agency;

(d) the import of various kinds of pulses, during the last five years, year-wise, variety-wise and country-wise; and

(e) the efforts being made by Government to stop cartelization of Indian pulses importers abroad to maintain price stability in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is also no plan to import pulses for its distribution through PDS.

(d) The details showing import of various kinds of pulses, during the last five years, year-wise, variety-wise and country-wise are given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(e) Preventing cartelization within India falls within the domain of State Governments/UT Administrations. Necessary advisories in this regard have been issued to them.

**Statement-I****Item-wise import of pulses during 2011-12 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 (Apr. to Feb.)**

Items	Item description	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (Apr. 15 to Feb'16)	
		qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	value (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)
07131000	PEAS (pisum sativum) dried and shld	2039441025	859561043	1370821551	620743911	1330425865	584961720	1951973897	810060432	2121700902	785123210
07132000	Chickpeas (garbanzos) dried and shld	206487280	154310874	697626848	514834858	276130685	136350800	418876536	217072305	992535711	646090587
07133100	Beans of the Spp vigna mungo, hepper or vigna radiata, wilczek dried and shld	429528741	379426851	642837077	463440018	624231788	458647803	622886681	596438309	534030217	630768241
07133200	Small red beans dried and shld	50000	56655	4825000	4048779	795000	694833				
07133300	Kidney beans Incl white pea beans dried and shld	63258840	56692835	83731520	97678950	88240273	108896458	116897527	113598364	103769088	82262538
07133990	Other dried leguminus vegetables	131045970	108299677	173937932	112104052	129082682	80920146	74621368	56976383	56229536	54541776
07134000	Lentils (mosur), dried and shld	117927835	77313338	506347387	295878115	708707757	444709560	816466864	558063380	1232773185	992143647
07135000	Broad beans and horse beans dried and shld			2184100	1683881	2200	507				
07136000	Pigeon peas (cajanus cajan)					465822192	291105716	575217793	428493919	422763554	457048686
07139010	Other dried and shld leguminous vegtbls. split	470937962	296517504	506387844	324422810			5000	10145	32954135	30781737

07139090	Other of Hdg. 071390			20266971	13032541	7895600	5392946	13734705	14001183
07139099	Other Dried & Shld Luminous Vegtbls, Othrtan Split	37166882	29158459	24540506	15152752				
GRAND TOTAL		3495844535	1961337236	4013239765	2449988126	3643705413	2119320084	4584841266	2786106183
								5510491033	3692761605

Note: Figures for 2015-16 (Apr to Feb) is provisional.

### Statement-II

#### Country-wise import of pulses during 2011-12 to 2014-15 and 2015-16 (Apr. to Feb.)

2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2013-16 (Apr. 15 to Feb. 16)		
country	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)	qty. (kg.)	val. (us \$)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Afghanistan	261000	245890	12937187	8613573	12447356	9320536	4355140	4667269	14352282	15862808
Argentina	10651050	5621232	39599790	23541893	4665500	4170286	9055730	6500474	20182240	16369679
Australia	299056597	174663087	721044791	486272231	342310978	189522747	332654884	188412685	872826300	598170538
Austria			24000	24250						
Bangladesh PR	12000	5852								
Benin									37000	36582
Bolivia									190000	193161
Brazil	5951109	6003194	26695810	21187004	6853000	4767321	603440	567866	9704000	5772363
Bulgaria			49000	57245					565000	200869

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Canada	146814549	641929483	1107458779	552084849	1504717063	758718755	2195555355	1074572673	2444230744	1377563251
China P RP	50012957	46843806	65584021	84389929	49519730	72561654	71105911	72343631	63719067	57266216
Costa Rica							110000	132637		
Cote D' Ivoire			23311	21504	18464	16964	19943	22308	210791	216649
Djibouti			210000	162129					140000	84920
Egypt ARP					88000	82630			985000	564641
Ethiopia	9917668	7130338	29736470	24943525	17355000	13915482	31027732	26361456	48156832	34261219
France	92095000	40740610	127498000	53573478	23275000	9003268			108236120	37695740
Indonesia	3496000	1908118	13255407	10992264	42000	37154	2661000	3260951	9352264	11385994
Iran	91000	111586	115000	103425	120000	117982	24000	27094	1273600	825906
Iraq			1376000	1204742						
Italy	450	1040	120000	154651	12044	9600				
Japan	1500000	643851								
Kazakhstan					386000	248691			3537000	1923743
Kenya	2334000	2172251	15429000	13099730	36140850	30810990	18082400	17115023	37811850	41111678
Korea RP					50	55			1000	574
Kyrghyzstan			24000	36093	135000	170018	284000	388798	1020000	1223176
Latvia									1214355	406029
Lithuania	49680	19242							82568220	27010277

Madagascar	10724571	8365292	15028000	11053700	5329625	3566394	1917000	1843912	6197000	5732112
Malawi	37318394	20780494	65744725	38056691	22428000	13732912	46015000	33423679	60518200	61172507
Malaysia	1697500	1211793	670596	604124	1007812	778676	312000	313534	24000	29252
Mexico	594000	1038520	10848000	14359507	910000	1104458	8190000	8918891	7479000	5029918
Moldova							2317000	877073	251000	92861
Mozambique	77493604	47131260	77108463	46123516	78904140	47900248	97068265	70415212	77475933	87591016
Myanmar	859879626	679249595	963649320	649126914	906484182	621207609	931328907	802997306	662243832	742102990
Nepal	2854792	2226539	57100	49973	30000	27419	1047025	1298891		
New Zealand			435000	287084						
Nicaragua					44000	38650				
Pakistan IR	150000	118376	856000	641416	3115500	2377072	2688500	2406764	716500	758136
Peru	789000	876143	739000	857272	427840	441035				
Philippines	199200	142108								
Poland									154000	219321
Portugal					70000	84323				
Romania					100000	37843				
Russia	272544213	113586713	324857630	168719912	215619810	90327418	236893084	103162896	470226670	204312103
Saudi Arab	88000	73700								
Singapore	613000	690091	48000	35021	239000	138515	72000	76483		
Somalia					196500	179368				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
South Africa					22000	33845	48000	56185	45000	23600
Sri Lanka DSR	136934	96209			529000	277979	738000	633828	43000	47129
Sudan			563000	412338			17088000	12565043	17182450	17357501
Suriname	168785	78329								
Taiwan			72000	95582						
Tanzania REP	93209880	61150013	146206198	100304653	181494427	110169410	179992893	138827161	135351347	140612174
Thailand	916000	963524	1791610	1695073	352000	265125	1157000	1344921	2516050	3208262
Turkey	5950000	3947734	3082620	1554845	221000	150859	2370000	1077131	2140785	1135681
U Arab EMTS	797093	542497	66000	59710	216000	241644	167175	122671	27000	26353
USA	111978615	58338729	178275486	102104683	195846260	112442918	312227506	168376469	251846873	146330946
Uganda			390000	334332	614000	517936	3008000	2517314	5158350	5347014
Ukraine	71054864	29371398	48535149	21094298	20314058	8538971	62067978	25404999	77024257	28205844
Unspecified	284000	304232	82302	99356	74020	62450				
Uzbekistan	2828459	3014367	12953000	11855611	10891154	11123371	12473398	14991358	13508121	15220121
Vatican City					139050	79503				
Venezuela									48000	60751
Yemen Republic							115000	81597		
GRAND TOTAL:	3495844535	1961337236	4013239765	2449988126	3643705413	2119320084	4584841266	2786106183	5510491033	3692761605

Note: Figures for 2015-16(April to Feb.) is provisional.



**Procurement of wheat by FCI**

†1526. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FCI approaches farmers in their villages in Haryana and Punjab for procurement of wheat at minimum support price;
- (b) whether farmers in States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh etc. have to go to the procurement centres of FCI for selling their wheat and have to bring it back in case of non-procurement;
- (c) if so, whether Government will introduce a similar procurement process in such States in the interest of small farmers on the lines of Haryana and Punjab; and
- (d) if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) does not approach farmers in their villages in Haryana and Punjab for procurement of Wheat at Minimum Support Price (MSP). Government agencies including FCI undertake MSP/procurement operation at mandis/temporary purchase centres/aggregation points.

(b) to (d) The policy for procurement is uniform for all the States 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 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 markets. Government of India (GOI) declares MSP for each season to incentivize the farmers.

**Eradication of hunger under MDG**

1527. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the hunger level in Asia, including India, is not decreasing as projected in accordance with the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto along with the number of hunger/starvation deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Jharkhand;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether India is projected to miss the Millennium Development Goal for eradication of hunger; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto along with the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) As per the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report 2015, the rate of hunger reduction in Asia varies widely by region. Central Asia, Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia have reached the hunger reduction target. In contrast, the pace of reduction in hunger level in Southern Asia has been too slow to achieve the target. Southern Asia faces greatest hunger burden, with about 281 million undernourished people.

As per the Millennium Development Goals India Country Report 2015, the proportion of underweight children below 3 years is estimated at 52% in 1990. In order to meet the MDG target, the proportion of under-weight children should decrease to 26% by 2015. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) shows that, the proportion of under-weight children below 3 year declined from 43% in 1998-99 to 40% in 2005-06. At this rate of decline the proportion of underweight children below 3 years is expected to reduce to 33% by 2015, which indicates India is falling short of the target.

No death due to hunger/starvation has been reported from any State/Union Territory during each of the last three years and the current year.

The Government of India has accorded high priority to the issue of hunger and malnutrition in the country and is implementing several schemes/programmes through State Governments/UT Administrations to improve food security situation in the country. These include Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) for providing Supplementary Nutrition, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme for pre-school children and pregnant and lactating mothers through the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDM) for primary and upper primary children through Ministry of Human Resource Development, Annapurna Scheme for the senior citizens, Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls, Emergency Feeding Programme, etc.

The Government is also implementing the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 to provide food security to the population. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population to receive highly subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. The Act also contains provisions for nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers or children below 14 years of age.

Foodgrains at highly subsidized prices are provided to the targeted population through State Governments/UT Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

**Identification of beneficiaries under NFSA**

1528. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beneficiaries identified for PDS rations under National Food Security Act, State/UT-wise and social category-wise;

(b) the number of people for whom Aadhaar-seeding is complete, for whom Aadhaar biometric authentication has failed and where machine malfunction has disallowed distribution of rations;

(c) whether those who do not have Aadhaar number are getting their rations regularly;

(d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons and remedial steps therefor; and

(e) the specific steps being taken by Government to address the problems of biometric authentication failures during grain disbursements to entitled beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is being implemented in 33 States/Union Territories. These States/UTs have reported identification of 72.45 crore beneficiaries under two categories, namely Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH), for which foodgrains under the Act are being allocated by the Central Government. Social category-wise data of beneficiaries is not maintained. State/UT-wise details of beneficiaries identified under NFSA are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (e) Aadhaar based biometric authentication is not mandatory for receiving foodgrains under NFSA. States/UTs have been advised to ensure that no beneficiary is denied benefits for not getting the Aadhaar, if entitled. However, for de-duplication of ration cards database and elimination of bogus cards, State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to seed Aadhaar number in the digitized database. At present, Aadhaar seeding in the ration cards stands at 54.7% as per reports received from States/UTs.

***Statement****State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries identified under NFSA*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of persons identified under AAY & PHH under NFSA (in lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	268.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.21
3.	Assam	240.59
4.	Bihar	857.12
5.	Chhattisgarh	200.77
6.	Delhi	72.36
7.	Goa	5.11
8.	Gujarat	338.47
9.	Haryana	126.49
10.	Himachal Pradesh	26.78
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	74.13
12.	Jharkhand	233.41
13.	Karnataka	401.93
14.	Madhya Pradesh	529.61
15.	Maharashtra	700.17
16.	Manipur	21.189
17.	Meghalaya	21.40
18.	Mizoram	6.45
19.	Odisha	312.01
20.	Punjab	141.45
21.	Rajasthan	446.62
22.	Sikkim	3.77
23.	Telangana	191.62
24.	Tripura	24.511

1	2	3
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1373.72
26.	Uttarakhand	61.94
27.	West Bengal	545.61
28.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.55
29.	Daman and Diu	0.97
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.77
31.	Lakshadweep	0.22
32.	Chandigarh	2.00
33.	Puduchery	5.88
TOTAL		7245.04

#### Monitoring of sharp variation in prices of essential commodities

1529. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up a body for monitoring and intervening in case of sharp variation in the prices of commodities;
- (b) whether the entity is going to engage in proper crop estimation to detect any possible shortfall and mapping of imports;
- (c) if so, the terms of reference of this entity; and
- (d) whether it is a continuous entity or any time-frame has been fixed for it to come up with recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) There is at present no such unified body in operation. However, both price trends and availability of select essential food items are monitored on a regular basis at the highest level, including by Committee of Secretaries, Inter-Ministerial Committee etc. for appropriate policy intervention.

#### Starvation deaths

†1530. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that despite production of foodgrains in excess of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

requirement in the country, a lot of incidents of deaths due to starvation are coming to light;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any steps to prevent such deaths; 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) No State Government/Union Territory Administration has reported any incident of death due to starvation so far.

However, to eradicate the problem of hunger/starvation and to provide food security to the people, the Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls, Annapurna Scheme etc. National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving foodgrains at highly subsidized prices of ₹ 3, 2 & 1 per Kg for rice, wheat and coarse grains respectively under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-third of the population. NFSA also has a special focus on nutritional support to women and children. Pregnant women and lactating mothers and children upto 14 years of age are entitled to meals, free of cost, as per nutritional standards prescribed in the Act.

During the year 2015-16, the Government of India allocated 611.10 lakh tons of foodgrains under TPDS/NFSA and OWS. This includes allocation of 496.77 lakh tons under TPDS, 50.01 lakh tons additional APL and BPL allocation, 11.70 lakh tons for natural calamities, additional TPDS requirements etc., and allocation of 52.62 lakh tons of foodgrains under OWS. During the current year 2016-17, the Government of India has so far allocated 573.41 lakh tons of foodgrains under TPDS and OWS.

#### **Supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS**

1531. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received several complaints and representations regarding supply of poor quality wheat and rice under PDS, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the quality of wheat and rice under PDS?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Details of complaints received during last one year and current year alongwith action taken by the Government are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Government has issued detailed instructions to all State Governments/UTs and FCI from time to time, to ensure good quality foodgrains are issued from FCI godowns to State Governments for distribution under PDS, which are as under:

- (i) Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to Food Safety Standards are to be issued under PDS.
- (ii) Ample opportunities are to be provided to the State Government to check the quality of foodgrains prior lifting of foodgrains stocks from FCI godowns.
- (iii) Samples of foodgrains are to be collected and sealed from the stocks of foodgrains to be issued under the PDS jointly by FCI and State Governments/UT Administrations.
- (iv) An officer not below the rank of Inspector is to be deputed from State Government to take the delivery of foodgrain stocks from FCI godowns.
- (v) Regular inspection to check the quality of foodgrains is to be carried out by the officers of State Government.
- (vi) It is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain the required quality specifications.
- (vii) The State Government, where decentralized procurement system is in operation, should ensure that the quality of foodgrains issued under PDS and other welfare schemes should meet the desired standards prescribed by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

**Statement**

*Details of the complaints about supply of poor quality foodgrains under PDS alongwith action taken by the Government during last one year and current year*

Year	State	Complaint	Action Taken by the Government
1	2	3	4
2016-17	Odisha	A press news appeared in "The Hindu" on dated 10.04.2016 titled "Odisha Villagers protest against poor quality rice". The report suggests that low grade rice has been supplied under PDS to Podampeta village in Ganjam District of Odisha. Besides, few other complaints about irregularities in supply of foodgrains weighing and misbehaving have also been <i>inter alia</i> reported.	The complaint was got investigated through Food Secretary, Government of Odisha, who informed that the consumers of Podampeta village who had received poor quality rice have been replaced with good quality rice.
2015-16	NCT, Delhi	A complaint received in February, 2016 from Hon'ble Minister of Food and Supply, Government of NCT regarding issue of lustre lost wheat under PDS.	A reply was sent to Hon'ble Minister of Food and Supply, Government of NCT apprising that due to unseasonal rains during harvesting of Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16, foodgrains including wheat in most of the wheat producing States of North India were affected and to mitigate the hardship of farmers, relaxations were allowed by the Department in lustre lost, shrivelled and broken grains in the uniform specifications. However, the quality of wheat is intact and good. FCI was directed to issue relaxed specification wheat on priority under PDS as to minimize its long term storage.



1	2	3	4
		A complaint was received from Indraprastha Welfare Association, New Delhi regarding supply of poor quality of foodgrain in Moti Nagar, Area of Delhi.	The complaint was got investigated by deputing an officer of the Ministry. The complaint was not found to be true.
	Maharashtra	A Complaint received from Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Government of Maharashtra—regarding supply of lustre lost wheat from FCI base depot, Jalgoan and MSWC, Nanded	Instructions were issued to all State Governments to accept the lustre lost wheat procured during RMS 2015-16 under the relaxed specifications as lustre lost wheat is as nutritious as sound wheat, only shining is lost and the quality of wheat is intact and good.
	Jammu and Kashmir	A Complaint was received from Director of Consumer Affair & P.D. Deptt. Kashmir—regarding Supply of below standard quality wheat under Wheat Relaxation Scheme.	Instructions were issued to all State Governments to accept the lustre lost wheat procured during RMS 2015-16 under the relaxed specifications as lustre lost wheat is as nutritious as sound wheat, only shining is lost and the quality of wheat is intact and good.
	Kerala	A complaint was received from Kerala Ration Wholesale Distributor Federation, Kottayam in FCI regarding five bags of damaged rice from FSD Valiathura to PDS.	The complaint was got investigated by Area Manager, Thiruvananthapuram and found that stock were lifted by State Government nominee after proper acknowledgement about their satisfaction on quality.

#### **Purchasing of colour changed rice**

1532. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has purchased/any proposal to purchase the colour changed rice due to rains and other reasons from farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Foodgrains under Central Pool are procured conforming to uniform specifications formulated by the Government. In case of any adverse climatic conditions like unseasonal rains or natural calamities, if the quality is not conforming to uniform specifications, based on the request of the State Government and analysis of field samples, relaxations are allowed in uniform specifications for procurement under Central Pool to help the farmers to avoid distress sale. Details of relaxation allowed in uniform specifications of rice including discoloured grains State-wise during the last three years and current year are given in Statement.

***Statement***

*Relaxations allowed in uniform specifications of rice including discoloured grains in affected areas in the States during the last three years and current year (Kharif Marketing Season)*

Sl. No	Year (Kharif Marketing Season)	State	Refractions		Uniform specifications (Limit %)	Relaxation allowed (Limit %)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2012-13	Andhra Pradesh	Broken grains	Raw	25.0	30.0
		Uttar Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains including pin point grains	Raw rice common	3.0	4.0
		Odisha	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	3.5
			Discoloured grains	Raw	3.0	5.0
			Broken grains	Raw	25.0	28.0
2.	2013-14	Andhra Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
			Broken	Raw	25.0	30.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Uttar Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
		Haryana	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
		Odisha	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
			Discoloured grains	Parboiled rice	5.0	7.0
3.	2014-15	Uttar Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
		Andhra Pradesh	Broken	Raw	25.0	30.0
			Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
4.	2015-16 (Current Year)	Andhra Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0
			Discoloured grains	Raw	3.0	5.0
			Broken grains	Raw	25.0	30.0
		Uttar Pradesh	Damaged/slightly damaged grains	Raw	3.0	4.0

#### Rice in food prices

1533. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sharp rise in food prices remained a major worry for families fretting over rising household budgets despite plunging inflation figures, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the corrective steps Government is taking to control food prices?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) While the overall rate of inflation declined during 2015-16, prices of essential food items like pulses, edible oils and sugar has shown a rise as shown below:

**Wholesale Price Index (WPI) during 2015-16**

Major Group/Sub Group	Per cent Change
All Commodities	-0.85
(a) Food Articles	3.73
Pulses	34.45
(b) Food Products	4.47
Edible Oils	3.59
Sugar	6.19

*Source:* Office of EA, DIPP

- (b) The requisite information is given in Statement.

***Statement***

*Steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items*

**General Measures:**

1. National Consultation Meeting of the minister of States/UTs in-charge of Consumer Affairs and Food held on 7th July, 2015 at New Delhi resolved to take steps to keep prices of essential commodities, especially pulses and onion under control.
2. Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
3. Regular review meeting on price and availability situation is being held at the highest level including at the level of Finance Minister, Committee of Secretaries, Inter Ministerial Committee, Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee and other Departmental level review meetings.
4. Higher MSP has been announced so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
5. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.

**Specific Measures:****Onion**

6. Export of onion were restricted through imposition of Minimum Export Price (MEP) when prices were ruling high and import is allowed at zero duty.

7. Retail sale of onion was undertaken from the stock held by SFAC and NAFED.
8. Imported 2000 MT of onion from Egypt and China through MMTC. As no demands from State were received, the onion were disposed off through tender in the open market.
9. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by one more year *i.e.* up to 2nd July 2016 under the Essential Commodities Act.
10. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.

**Pulses**

11. Export of all pulses is banned except Kabuli Channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic Pulses and Lentils.
12. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
13. Stock limit on Pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
14. Government imported 5000 MT of Tur from Malawi/Mozambique and allocated it to States for retail sale to consumers to improve availability and to moderate prices.
15. MSP (including bonus) raised for Kharif pulses for Tur and Urad and Moong. MSP also raised for Rabi pulses for Gram and Masoor.
16. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention.
17. Government has decided to immediately release 10,000 MT of pulses from the buffer stock (consisting of 8,000 MT of Tur and 2,000 MT of Urad) to States/UTs at subsidized rates for retailing by them at not more than ₹ 120/- per kg to improve availability and stabilise prices.
18. Regulatory measures by Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Chana contracts including increase in the margin requirement to discourage speculation and to moderate the price volatility in forward market and close monitoring by SEBI.
19. Strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.
20. Setting up of a Group of Officers for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc.

**Edible Oils**

21. 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.
22. MSP increased for various Rabi and Kharif oil seeds.

**Implementation of NFSA**

1534. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the norms and procedure followed to identify the beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA);

(b) the action plan formulated by Government to ensure proper and impartial implementation of the Act; and

(c) whether any improvement in the standard of nutrition of the poor people, particularly the children and women, have been noticed after implementation of the Act, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Coverage under the Act, for receiving subsidized foodgrains is under two categories —Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and persons belonging to priority households (PHH). As per provisions of the Act, within the State/UT-wise coverage, State Governments/UT Administrations are required to identify the households to be covered under the AAY in accordance with the guidelines applicable to the said scheme and the remaining households as priority households, in accordance with such guidelines as the State Government may specify. Accordingly, no guidelines for identification of priority households have been prescribed by the Central Government. States/UTs have evolved their own guidelines/criteria for this purpose. AAY is an ongoing scheme and such households are already identified.

(b) For proper implementation of the Act, stress is on correct identification of beneficiaries, digitization of their list and placing it on the Public Distribution System portal, ensuring delivery of foodgrains upto door-steps of fair price shops, setting up effective grievance redressal mechanism and Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System operations.

(c) No study has been conducted to assess the improvement in the standard of nutrition of children and women after the implementation of the Act.

**Allocation of foodgrains etc. to drought affected States under PDS**

1535. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the life taking drought situation in various parts of the country, the drought affected States were allocated and supplied foodgrains, sugar and kerosene under Public Distribution System (PDS) as per their demand/requirement, particularly for the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantity of aforesaid items allocated and lifted during the said period, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the criteria adopted for finalizing the per-capita and total allocation of various items under PDS for the States along with the basis for formulating the criteria?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c)

**Foodgrains:** Under National Food Security Act (NFSA) foodgrains are allocated to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to eligible households @ 5kg per person per month for priority households and @ 35kg per family per month for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at highly subsidized prices of ₹ 1/-; ₹ 2/- and ₹ 3/- per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. The Act is being implemented in 33 States/UTs and allocation is being made to these States under NFSA. The States which have not implemented NFSA are being allocated foodgrains under erstwhile TPDS.

During the year 2015-16 Government of India allocated a quantity of 546.79 lakh tons, which included 289.46 lakh tons of foodgrains under NFSA, 207.31 lakh tons of foodgrains under erstwhile TPDS, 50 lakh tons of foodgrains as additional APL and additional BPL allocation in the non NFSA States/UTs. For Maharashtra, 46.05 lakh tons of foodgrains has been allocated under NFSA during 2015-16. The State/UT-wise details of allocation and lifting of foodgrains under TPDS/NFSA for the year 2015-16 are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Government of India also makes allocation of foodgrains at Minimum Support Price (MSP)(MSP derived price in case of rice) for natural calamities, at the request of the State Government During 2015-16, 4.07 lakh tons of foodgrains was allocated to Maharashtra for drought relief as per the request of the State Government Upto March, 2016, State Government of Maharashtra has lifted a quantity of 1.06 lakh tons against this allocation. During current year, 5133 tons of foodgrains has been allocated to the State Government of Karnataka in April, 2016 for drought relief.

The NFSA provides for coverage of about 67% of the population of the country (75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population). Corresponding to the all India

coverage of 75% and 50% of the rural and urban population respectively, State/UT-wise coverage for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains was determined by the Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) on the basis of 2011-12 National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) Household Consumption Expenditure Survey. It is the responsibility of States/UTs to evolve criteria for identification of eligible households within the coverage determined for each State/UT, and do the actual identification. Under the erstwhile TPDS, allocation of foodgrains is based on 1993-94 poverty estimates and March 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India.

**Sugar** The Government of India has allocated sugar quantity based on 2001 census wherein it was targeted to distribute sugar through PDS to BPL population of all States and entire population in Hilly/Island Territories including drought affected areas of Maharashtra.

The State-wise annual sugar quota allocated and quantity distributed during 2015-16 is given in Statement-II (*See* below) The request of the State Government/UTs for allocation of additional quota of sugar are not being acceded as any increase in monthly or festival quota will have financial implication on the sanctioned budget on account of increased subsidy.

A minimum quantity of 500 gm per month per person to all the BPL population and quantity ranging for 500 gm to 1625 gm per month per person to all population of Hilly States/Island Territories were fixed.

**Kerosene :** The Government of India makes allocation of PDS Kerosene to States/UTs, including Maharashtra, on quarterly basis for the purpose of cooking and illumination only as provided under the SKO Control Order 1993. Further distribution under PDS, criterion for eligibility and scale of allocation to beneficiaries is in the domain of the respective State Governments. However, Government has allowed States/UTs to draw one month of quota of PDS Kerosene at non-subsidized rates during each financial year w.e.f. 2012-13 for special needs *viz.* floods, melas, exhibitions etc.

The variation in per capita allocation is on account of historical allocation, difference in LPG coverage, logistic constraints etc. State/UT-wise PDS Kerosene allocation, PDS Kerosene lifted by the States/UTs and Per Capita Allocation (PCA) for the year 2015-16 are given in Statement-III.



**Statement-I**

*Offtake of Rice + Wheat for 2015-16 as against the allocation upto  
the month of March, 2016 under TPDS*

Sl No.	States/UTs	Allocation							Offtake							% Offtake			
		(BPL)	AAV	APL	NFSA (Normal)	NFSA (Tide over)	Total	BPL	AAV	APL	NFSA (Normal)	NFSA (Tide over)	Total	BPL	AAV	APL	NFSA (Normal)	NFSA (Tide over)	Total
		3	4	5	6	7	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	Andhra Pradesh (NFSA)	409.048	254.384	822.872	616.567	7.383	2110.254	472.890	292.031	852.978	442.538	9.106	2069.543	115.6	114.8	103.7	71.8	123.3	98.1
2	Arunachal Pradesh (NFSA)	25.524	15.972	60.060	0.000	0.000	101.556	25.537	16.074	59.806	0.000	0.000	101.417	100.1	100.6	99.6	0.0	0.0	99.9
3	Assam (NFSA)	316.816	197.128	743.960	520.932	33.088	1811.924	320.853	198.271	741.371	362.557	31.227	1654.279	101.3	100.6	99.7	69.6	94.4	91.3
4	Bihar (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	5241.275	0.000	5241.275	0.000	0.000	0.000	5025.021	0.000	5025.021	0.0	0.0	0.0	95.9	0.0	95.9
5	Chhattisgarh (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1384.056	0.000	1384.056	0.000	0.000	0.000	1384.056	0.000	1384.056	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
6	Delhi (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	423.792	0.708	424.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	425.638	0.248	425.886	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.4	35.0	100.3
7	Goa (NFSA)	3.688	4.072	34.264	11.140	8.528	61.692	3.601	4.055	35.848	12.040	8.528	64.072	97.6	99.6	104.6	108.1	100.0	103.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8	Gujarat (NFSA)	564.156	326.292	1194.660	0.000	0.000	2085.108	564.337	326.169	1125.950	0.000	2016.456	100.0	100.0	94.2	0.0	0.0	96.7
9	Haryana (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	795.000	0.000	795.000	0.000	0.000	780.211	0.000	780.211	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.1	0.0	98.1
10	Himachal Pradesh (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	185.952	322.044	507.996	0.000	0.000	186.084	325.886	511.970	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.1	101.2	100.8
11	Jammu and Kashmir (NFSA)	168.080	89.490	373.100	73.660	51.522	755.852	196.043	116.662	427.879	6.494	0.550	747.628	116.6	130.4	114.7	8.8	98.9
12.	Jharkhand (NFSA)	309.984	192.762	176.580	780.822	0.000	1460.148	354.915	221.474	14.545	505.277	0.000	1096.211	114.5	114.9	8.2	64.7	75.1
13	Karnataka (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	2608.836	0.000	2608.836	0.000	0.000	0.000	2238.332	0.000	2238.332	0.0	0.0	0.0	85.8	85.8
14	Kerala	402.348	250.260	820.080	0.000	0.000	1472.688	400.314	247.394	817.330	0.000	0.000	1465.038	99.5	98.9	99.7	0.0	99.5
15	Madhya Pradesh (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	3390.015	0.000	3390.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	3182.270	0.000	3182.270	0.0	0.0	0.0	93.9	93.9
16	Maharashtra (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	4605.192	0.000	4605.192	0.000	0.000	0.000	4324.368	0.000	4324.368	0.0	0.0	0.0	93.9	93.9
17	Manipur	43.008	26.724	101.220	0.000	0.000	170.952	43.007	26.725	101.221	0.000	0.000	170.953	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
18	Meghalaya (NFSA)	39.480	24.570	93.100	21.602	7.732	186.484	43.794	27.026	101.747	0.000	1.311	173.878	110.9	110.0	109.3	0.0	93.2

19	Mizoram (NFSA)	16.170	10.010	38.115	3.711	1.768	69.774	18.333	11.098	42.073	0.000	0.000	71.504	113.4	110.9	110.4	0.0	0.0	102.5
20	Nagaland	32.112	19.968	74.796	0.000	0.000	126.876	33.731	20.991	78.479	0.773	0.046	134.020	105.0	105.1	104.9	0.0	0.0	105.6
21	Odisha (NFSA)	750.506	337.748	317.607	694.078	0.000	2099.939	743.408	334.301	236.977	535.843	0.000	1850.529	99.1	99.0	74.6	77.2	0.0	88.1
22	Punjab (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	870.120	0.000	870.120	0.000	0.000	0.000	890.317	0.000	890.317	0.0	0.0	0.0	102.3	0.0	102.3
23	Rajasthan (NFSA)	0.000	0.000	0.000	2791.572	0.000	2791.572	0.000	0.000	0.000	2681.131	0.000	2681.131	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.0	0.0	96.0
24	Sikkim (NFSA)	8.478	5.202	19.530	6.576	4.506	44.292	8.477	5.202	19.530	6.575	3.549	43.333	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.8	78.8	97.8
25	Tamil Nadu	1259.232	783.144	1680.456	0.000	0.000	3722.832	1273.144	782.662	1690.228	0.000	0.000	3746.034	101.1	99.9	100.6	0.0	0.0	100.6
26	Telangana (NFSA)	219.258	136.356	441.066	648.024	20.976	1465.680	221.816	133.203	372.248	535.145	16.808	1279.220	101.2	97.7	84.4	82.6	80.1	87.3
27	Tripura (NFSA)	31.825	19.800	74.725	86.849	71.232	284.431	31.825	23.760	84.088	81.169	53.968	274.810	100.0	120.0	112.5	93.5	75.8	96.6
28	Uttar Pradesh (NFSA)	2424.463	1509.370	2396.217	1142.313	0.000	7472.363	2470.561	1548.597	2270.203	993.055	0.000	7282.416	101.9	102.6	94.7	86.9	0.0	97.5
29	Uttarakhand (NFSA)	64.494	40.092	151.410	200.730	50.766	507.492	83.562	44.800	164.136	189.632	47.456	529.586	129.6	111.7	108.4	94.5	93.5	104.4
30	West Bengal (NFSA)	1206.581	362.579	809.043	1240.793	0.000	3618.996	1440.550	385.694	829.928	663.501	0.000	3319.673	119.4	106.4	102.6	53.5	0.0	91.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
31	Andaman and Nicobar Island (NFSA)	3,597	1,595	25,993	0,333	2,131	33,649	2,311	0,885	19,182	0,000	0,000	22,378	64.2	55.5	73.8	0.0	0.0	66.5
32	Chandigarh (NFSA/DBT)	0,000	0,000	0,000	6,145	6,860	13,005	0,000	0,000	0,000	6,529	8,233	14,762	0.0	0.0	0.0	106.2	120.0	113.5
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (NFSA)	4,609	2,013	2,970	0,749	0,000	10,341	4,609	2,013	2,610	0,988	0,000	10,220	100.0	100.0	87.9	131.9	0.0	98.8
34	Daman and Diu (NFSA)	0,609	0,371	2,317	2,495	0,000	5,792	0,520	0,391	1,304	2,221	0,000	4,436	85.4	105.4	56.3	89.0	0.0	76.6
35	Lakshadweep (NFSA)	0,252	0,168	1,120	1,016	2,064	4,620	0,000	0,000	1,040	1,016	1,664	3,720	0.0	0.0	92.9	100.0	80.6	80.5
36	Puducherry (NFSA/DBT)	8,985	5,645	10,500	0,000	0,000	25,130	1,119	2,600	0,807	0,000	0,000	4,526	12.5	461	7.7	0.0	0.0	18.0
Total		8,313,303	4,615,715	10,465,761	28,354,345	591,308	52,340,432	87,59,257	47,72,078	10,091,508	25,462,787	50,8,580	49,594,204	11,05.4	103.4	96.4	89.8	86.0	94.8

Figures revised *vide* FCI email dated 19.11.2015 against the allocation from the month of May to October, 2015. Above allocation and offtake includes addl. APL allocation and offtake also.

Figures revised *vide* FCI email dated 21.12.2015 against the allocation from the month of May to December, 2015 in r/o Gujarat, Daman and D&N Haveli. Note : Above allocation and offtake includes addl. APL allocation and offtake also.

**Statement-II**

*State-wise quantity of sugar distributed during the year 2015-16. (Provisional)*

(Quantity in MT)			
Sl. No.	State/UT	Annual Quota allocated	Quantity distributed
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	4742	0
2.	Chandigarh	856	0
3.	Chhattisgarh	56157	56157
4.	Delhi	33636	14254
5.	Goa	1590	1135
6.	Gujarat	74970	74970
7.	Haryana	31744	28243
8.	Himachal Pradesh	56984	27782
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	84412	41772
10.	Jharkhand **	85927	44239
11.	Karnataka	108982	76718
12.	Kerala	52836	40527
13.	Lakshadweep	1402	496
14.	Madhya Pradesh	154815	107780
15.	Maharashtra	176024	132462
16.	Manipur	21364	16075
17.	Meghalaya	20648	10224
18.	Mizoram	8070	0
19.	Nagaland	14276	14276
20.	Puducherry	3004	1862
21.	Punjab **	19012	0
22.	Rajasthan	93196	93196
23.	Sikkim	4742	3101

1	2	3	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	136630	68315
25.	Tripura	32066	20831
26.	Uttar Pradesh	411310	311601
27.	Uttarakhand	73178	73178
28.	West Bengal	176840	104928
29.	Andhra Pradesh	72751	55681
30.	Telangana	51143	39143
31.	Arunachal Pradesh *	10102	0
32.	Assam *	222940	0
33.	Bihar *	253719	0
34.	Daman and Diu *	144	0
35.	Dadra Nagar Haveli *	590	0
36.	Odisha *	108214	0
TOTAL		2659016	1458945

@ Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated to Telangana on 02.06.2014, hence quantity of sugar was also divided between AP and Telangana.

\*\* Participated recently during the year 2015-16 only.

\* Not participating in the sugar subsidy scheme.

### ***Statement-III***

*State-wise PDS SKO allocation and upliftment (in KL) and per allocation in liters for the year 2015-16*

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	PDS SKO Allocation (In KL)	PDS SKO Upliftment (In KL)	Per Capita Allocation (In Liter)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5772	5754	15.17
2.	Andhra Pradesh	266676	232034	5.40
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10320	10301	7.46
4.	Assam	321372	321037	10.30
5.	Bihar	796704	794700	7.65
6.	Chandigarh	2988	850	2.83
7.	Chhattisgarh	172272	159144	6.74

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1836	1831	5.34
9.	Daman and Diu	828	826	3.40
10.	Delhi	0	0	0.00
11.	Goa	5136	5034	3.52
12.	Gujarat	657336	657022	10.88
13.	Haryana	88344	70583	3.48
14.	Himachal Pradesh	24144	24091	3.52
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	81180	80072	6.47
16.	Jharkhand	262572	260463	7.96
17.	Karnataka	509832	484235	8.34
18.	Kerala	117780	117744	3.53
19.	Lakshadweep	984	984	15.26
20.	Madhya Pradesh	589824	580126	8.12
21.	Maharashtra	626256	614001	5.57
22.	Manipur	23388	23321	9.10
23.	Meghalaya	25428	25383	8.57
24.	Mizoram	6672	6640	6.08
25.	Nagaland	16752	16756	8.47
26.	Odisha	389724	385094	9.28
27.	Puducherry	4260	4201	3.41
28.	Punjab	85380	83249	3.08
29.	Rajasthan	495180	481542	7.22
30.	Sikkim	5712	5717	9.36
31.	Tamil Nadu	341724	341723	4.74
32.	Telangana	174480	170067	4.96
33.	Tripura	38400	38401	10.45
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1557600	1556675	7.80
35.	Uttarakhand	35196	35020	3.49
36.	West Bengal	943332	941877	10.33
TOTAL		8685384	8536499	7.28

**Growth potential of food processing sector**

1536. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has assessed the growth and potential of Food Processing sector of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Ministry to encourage the start-ups in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The average annual growth rate of Food Processing Industries was 3.93% during 2011-12 to 2014-15 at current prices. The growth potential of food processing sector is very high as the level of processing in perishable products in India is estimated only at 2.1% in fruits and vegetables, 35% in milk and milk products, 21% in meat, 6% in poultry and 23% in marine.

(b) To encourage industries, including the start-ups, in the food processing sector, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing schemes of Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Setting up of/ Modernization of Abattoirs and Strengthening of Institutions. Under these schemes, grant-in-aid is given for setting up projects. Further 100% FDI is allowed on automatic route in food processing in the country. Recently, Government also announced 100% FDI in marketing of food products produced and manufactured in India.

**Vacancies of Judges and disposal of pending Court cases**

†1537. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts would be filled up;

(b) the differences between the Supreme Court and the Government over their appointment;

(c) the initiatives taken so far by Government for speedy disposal of cases lying pending in the Courts; and

(d) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant in the lower Courts of the country, the State-wise details thereof?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) Filling of vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process of the Judiciary and Executive. In the aftermath of striking down the constitutional validity of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014, the Supreme Court passed an order regarding improving the Collegium system in December, 2015 by supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP). As the process was likely to take some time, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed, pending finalization of the revised MoP. 86 Additional Judges have been made permanent and 51 fresh appointments of Judges have been made in various High Courts in the last three months.

(c) Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

(d) The details showing the number of posts of Judges lying vacant in the District and Subordinate Courts of the country, State-wise as on 31.12.2015 is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*Sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	17	15	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	1034	785	249
3.	Assam	424	319	105
4.	Bihar	1727	1067	660
5.	Chandigarh	30	30	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	385	341	44
7.	Daman and Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli	7	6	1

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Delhi	793	490	303
9.	Goa	57	49	8
10.	Gujarat	1939	1170	769
11.	Haryana	644	474	170
12.	Himachal Pradesh	152	134	18
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	245	220	25
14.	Jharkhand	592	466	126
15.	Karnataka	1122	820	302
16.	Kerala	457	442	15
17.	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1350	1132	218
19.	Maharashtra	2251	1917	334
20.	Manipur	41	35	6
21.	Meghalaya	57	29	28
22.	Mizoram	63	30	33
23.	Nagaland	27	25	2
24.	Odisha	716	598	118
25.	Puducherry	26	14	12
26.	Punjab	672	490	182
27.	Rajasthan	1191	985	206
28.	Sikkim	18	14	4
29.	Tamil Nadu	1015	969	46
30.	Tripura	104	68	36
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2104	1827	277
32.	Uttarakhand	280	206	74
33.	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	959	900	59
TOTAL		20502	16070	4432

### Renaming Madras High Court

1538. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to rename the Madras High Court as Chennai High Court;

(b) whether Government has received many recommendations from various quarters in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The city of Madras has been renamed as Chennai. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for changing the name of "Madras High Court" as "Chennai High Court". This High Court was established under the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 and was named after the city where the court was located. Since, the Indian High Courts Act, 1861 has been repealed, central legislation is required for changing in the name of Madras High Court.

### Disposal of pending cases of High Court of Kerala

1539. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases lying pending in the High Court of Kerala which are more than five years old and cases in Subordinate Courts as well; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to clear the pendency of cases at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) As per information made available by High Court of Kerala, details of civil and criminal cases pending in High Court of Kerala and Subordinate Courts of Kerala for more than five years as on 31.03.2016 are as under:

Court	Pendency of cases which are more than 5 year old as on 31.03.2016		
	Civil	Criminal	Total
High Court of Kerala	31,005	16,836	47,841
Subordinate Courts of Kerala	33,551	37,166	70,717

The following methods are already in practice for clearance of backlog:

- (i) In the High Court grouping and classification of similar matters, constitution of special Benches for hearing old matters as well as categories demanding priority.
- (ii) In the Subordinate Courts close monitoring of work by the High Court, fixation of target for disposal in all Courts, implementation of Special list System and Units System.

Apart from these, a special drive has been launched in the High Court and Subordinate Courts aiming at elimination of pendency of over five year old cases by the end of 2016.

#### **Filling up of vacant posts of Judges**

1540. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 1056 posts of Judges sanctioned in the country out of which only 591 Judges have been appointed so far resulting in pendency of huge number of cases in the Courts across the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the necessary steps taken by Government to fill up these vacancies to fully meet the aspirations of countrymen for speedy and affordable justice?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) As on 1.5.2016, out of an approved strength of 1065 in the High Courts, there is a working strength of 632 Judges, leaving vacancies of 433 Judges. The details showing the Approved strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 *w.e.f.* 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in Supreme Court. While the case was being heard and till the Judgement was pronounced, only those Additional Judges whose terms were expiring were given extensions of three months as per the Supreme Court Orders dated 12.05.2015 and 15.07.2015. No other appointments were made. The Supreme Court struck down the

Constitutional Amendment Act and the National Judicial Appointments Act in October 2015 and passed an order regarding improving the Collegium system in December 2015. In view of the large number of vacancies and the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for improvement in the "Collegium System" as per Supreme court Order dated 16.12.2015 was likely to take some time, on the initiative of Government of India, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed. As on 01.05.2016, 86 Additional Judges have been made permanent and 51 fresh appointments of Judges in various High Courts have been made in the last three months.

**Statement**

*Approved strength, working strength and vacancies of  
Judges in the High Courts*

(As on 01.05.2016)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
		Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
A.	High Court									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	63	17	80	13	67	80
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	46	15	61	26	0	26	20	15	35
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	55	09	64	16	14	30
4.	Calcutta	45	13	58	34	09	43	11	04	15
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	09	--	09	08	05	13
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	33	04	37	12	11	23
7.	Gauhati	18	06	24	07	07	14	11	-01	10
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	07	34	12	06	18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	09	02	11	01	01	02
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	04	17	08	01	09	05	03	08
11.	Jharkhand	19	06	25	09	06	15	10	0	10
12.	Karnataka	47	15	62	27	04	31	20	11	31
13.	Kerala	35	12	47	25	09	34	10	03	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	26	13	39	14	0	14
15.	Madras	56	19	75	41	0	41	15	19	34
16.	Manipur	04	01	05	04	01	05	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	03	01	04	02	0	02	01	01	02
18.	Orissa	20	07	27	14	06	20	06	01	07
19.	Patna	40	13	53	29	0	29	11	13	24
20.	Punjab and Haryana	64	21	85	36	11	47	28	10	38
21.	Rajasthan	38	12	50	20	10	30	18	02	20
22.	Sikkim	03	0	03	02	0	02	01	0	01
23.	Tripura	04	0	04	04	0	04	0	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	06	0	06	03	02	05
TOTAL		762	303	1065	516	116	632	246	187	433

#### **Setting up of Morning/Evening/Special Courts**

1541. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various types of Judicial Magistrate Courts, particularly of Morning/Evening and Special Courts functioning in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the total number of cases disposed of by these Courts during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has issued any direction to State Governments for setting up of more such Courts in their respective State, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) Setting up and functioning of Judicial Magistrate Courts particularly Morning /Evening and Special Courts is within the domain of the State Governments and the High Courts. The 13th Finance Commission had made a provision of funds for the States for increasing the working hours of Courts through setting up such Courts utilising the existing infrastructure. As per the reports received, 2739 such Courts have

been set up in various States in the country. The details indicating State-wise number of these Courts set up and the cases disposed, as reported by the State Governments, is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*Number of Judicial Magistrate Courts particularly Morning/Evening and Special Courts set up and number of cases disposed by these courts*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Judicial Magistrate Courts particularly Morning/Evening and Special Courts set up	Number of cases disposed by these courts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	592	31436
2.	Telangana		
3.	Assam	270	181016
4.	Bihar	38	845
5.	Gujarat	252	375330
6.	Haryana	154	487536
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	Not available
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	31	Not available
9.	Kerala	5	40033
10.	Maharashtra	394	1255607
11.	Odisha	249	894
12.	Punjab	148	816695
13.	Tamil Nadu	59	23319
14.	Tripura	177	143116
15.	Uttar Pradesh	343	60188
16.	Uttarakhand	25	3748
TOTAL		2739	3419763

**Government's action plan post quashing of NJAC Act by Supreme Court**

1542. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) in the light of Five Judge Supreme Court Bench quashing the NJAC Act, what the Government is thinking about the same; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring in a Constitutional Amendment to set aside the judgement of the Supreme Court, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 16.10.2015 in Writ petition (Civil) No. 13 of 2015 filed by the Supreme Court Advocate-on-Record Association and another Vs. Union of India, had, *inter alia*, declared the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 as unconstitutional and void. Simultaneously, the Supreme Court sought suggestions for improvement in the "Collegium System". The Government while submitting its suggestions in the matter placed on record its reservations about correctness of the judgement and reserved its liberty to take further action as it may deem fit. The Government also reiterated its stand that the Parliament has the power within the parameters of the Constitution to govern the criteria and process for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court and the High Courts. At present, there is no proposal to bring any Constitutional amendment in this regard.

**Admission of degree holders from Open Universities in Law Courses**

1543. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons behind Bar Council refusing to accept candidates to take admission in law courses who pursued graduation or PG through Open University recognized by UGC;

(b) how the Ministry looks at the justification of Bar Council that 15 years of regular education (10+2+3) cannot be equated with degree from Open University and such candidate cannot be expected to have a mature understanding when compared to 15 years of learner;

(c) whether it is not a violation of equality to education and earn livelihood; and

(d) the efforts Ministry will make to ensure that all graduates are entitled to study law?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Sir, the Bar Council of India have informed that it never refused the qualification of 10+2 and under graduate degree obtained through open school/university for the



admission in law courses. The relevant Rule amended for the year 2009-10 by the Bar Council of India in Legal Education Rules, 2008 is given below for ready reference:

**"Eligibility for admission**

- (i) **Three Year Law Degree Course:** An applicant who has graduated in any discipline of knowledge from a University established by an Act of Parliament or by a State Legislature or an equivalent national institution recognized as a Deemed-to-be University or foreign University recognized as equivalent to the status of an Indian University by an authority competent to declare equivalence, may apply for three years degree program in law leading to conferment of LL.B degree on successful completion of the regular program conducted by a University whose degree in law is recognized by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of enrolment.
- (ii) **Integrated Degree Program:** An applicant who has successfully completed Senior Secondary School course (+2) or equivalent (such as 11+1,'A' level in Senior School Leaving certificate course) from a recognized University of India or outside or from a Senior Secondary Board or equivalent, constituted or recognized by the Union or by a State Government or from any equivalent institution from a foreign country recognized by the Government of that country for purpose of issue of qualifying certificate on successful completion of the course, may apply for and be admitted into the program of the Centers of Legal Education to obtain the integrated degree in law with a degree in any other subject as the first degree from the University whose such a degree in law is recognized by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of enrolment.

Provided that applicants who have obtained +2 Higher Secondary Pass Certificate or First Degree Certificate after prosecuting studies in distance or correspondence method shall also be considered as eligible for admission in the Integrated Five Years Course or three years' LL.B course, as the case may be.

**Explanation:** The applicants who have obtained 10+2 or graduation/post graduation through open Universities system directly without having any basic qualification for prosecuting such studies are not eligible for admission in the law courses."

(b) to (d) The issue to allow all the students who have pursued 10+2 and graduation through open University system to take admission in Law Courses irrespective of the fact whether he/she has basic qualification or not, by appropriate amendment in relevant rules, shall be finalized after consulting the stakeholders (State Bar Councils and Universities in India imparting Legal Education) as per Section 7(1) (h) of the Advocates Act, 1961.

**Vetting of Rules/Regulations of Central PSUs/Autonomous Bodies**

1544. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the Central PSUs, Autonomous Bodies, etc. are required to get their Regulations vetted by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, whether all of them are following this procedure; and
- (c) whether the Regulations should come through the respective Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) No Sir. As per Allocation of Business Rules, 1961 Legislative Department is only concerned with the drafting and vetting of the Bills, Ordinance, statutory rules and regulations, etc., as per the policy decision of the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

(b) and (c) The proposals relating to the all subordinate legislations are received in the Legislative Department through the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments. Chapter XI of the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in the Government of India prescribes the detailed procedure to be followed by the Ministries/Departments relating to the Subordinate Legislations.

**Disposal of vetting work of Rules/Regulations of Ministries/Departments**

1545. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is enormous pressure of vetting of Rules/Regulations of various Ministries/Departments and other Bodies on the Ministry;
- (b) if so, how is this work prioritized and disposed of;
- (c) the current pendency at vetting work; and
- (d) the steps being taken to increase the manpower for doing this work effectively?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes Sir, The Legislative Department has only 22 Officers belonging to Indian Legal Service working at present. Every year, Legislative Department is receiving about 3000 files relating to subordinate legislation for scrutiny and vetting from various Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

(b) The work relating to the Subordinate Legislation has been allocated Ministry-wise among the Officers of the Department and each group headed by Joint Secretary and above level Officer. Legislative Department has prioritized and the following periodical instructions have been issued in the Department for disposal of proposals relating to the Subordinate Legislations received from various Ministries/Departments for vetting:

- (i) Proposals having deficiencies such as incomplete files sent without approval of competent authority; non-enclosures of up-to-date copies of Gazette notifications and papers; or where further information/discussion is required to settle the drafting issues with the referring Ministry/Department. These proposals are to be returned within three working days from the date of receipt of the proposal by recording a small note pointing out the above deficiencies or information required by the concerned officer.
- (ii) Proposal where no further information/document is required from the referring Ministry/Department: Such proposals depending upon the quantum of work involved be scrutinised and vetted within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of proposals.
- (iii) Subordinate Legislation proposals containing detailed rules/regulations/bye laws, etc., are to be cleared in any case within three weeks from the date of receipt of the proposals. Any proposal requiring time beyond three weeks will invariably be shown to the Additional Secretary for approval.
- (iv) Further, a special group of officers also has been constituted to deal with and dispose of the Subordinate Legislation of certain Ministries/Departments on priority.

(c) As on 2nd May, 2016 total 60 Subordinate Legislative proposals are under examination for vetting.

(d) On the request made by the Legislative Department, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure *vide* their I.D. Note dated 10/03/2016 has approved 10 posts in various grades of Indian Legal Service.

**Vacant posts of Judges and pending Court cases**

1546. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Judges in the country per million population;
- (b) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant now in Supreme Court, High Courts and lower Courts;
- (c) the number of cases pending in all Courts in the country;
- (d) the latest recommendation of the Law Commission with regard to the number of Judges as a whole; and
- (e) the steps Government intends to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (e) Based on the Population as per Census 2011 and sanctioned strength of Judges/Judicial Officers in Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015, the judge-population ratio in the country works out to be around 18 Judges/Judicial Officers per million population.

6 posts of Judges in Supreme Court and 433 posts of Judges in various High Courts are lying vacant as on 01.05.2016. In District and Subordinate Courts, 4432 posts of judicial officers were vacant as on 31.12.2015.

As per information made available by Supreme Court of India, 59,468 cases were pending in the Supreme Court of India as on 19.02.2016. As per information made available by High Courts, 38.70 lakh cases in High Courts and 2.70 crore cases in District and Subordinate Courts were pending as on 31.12.2015.

The Supreme Court, in the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed versus State of Uttar Pradesh & Others*, *inter alia*, asked the Law Commission of India to evolve a method for scientific assessment of the number of additional courts to clear the backlog of cases. The Law Commission in its 245th Report, recommended 'Rate of Disposal Method' for calculating adequate judge strength for District and Subordinate Courts. The matter is *sub-judice*.

**Appointment of new Judges after annulment of NJAC**

1547. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise and position-wise details of existing vacancies of Judges in High Courts along with District Court-wise details for West Bengal; and

(b) the details of new Judges appointed after the annulment of NJAC Act High Court-wise along with similar details for the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) The details indicating the approved strength, working strength and existing vacancies High Court-wise as on 1.5.2016 is given in Statement-I [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No. 1540 part (c)]. Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary vests with the concerned High Court and State Government. Thus, District court-wise details including those of West Bengal is not maintained by the Government of India.

(b) As on 1.5.2016, 51 fresh appointments of Judges in various High Courts have been made after the Supreme Court Order dated 16.10.2015 and 16.12.2015 in W.P. (Civil) No. 13 of 2015. The High court-wise details of fresh appointments of Judges is given in Statement-II (*See* below). No new appointments have been made in the Supreme Court.

**Statement-II**

*High Court-wise details of fresh appointments of Judges*

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Number of Fresh appointments made during January, 2016 to April, 2016
1.	Allahabad	09
2.	Bombay	06
3.	Gujarat	05
4.	Himachal Pradesh	04
5.	Jharkhand	02
6.	Madhya Pradesh	11
7.	Madras	06
8.	Manipur	01
9.	Rajasthan	07
	TOTAL	51

**Pending cases in District Courts of Tamil Nadu**

1548. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending before the District Courts in Tamil Nadu, district-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to expedite the final settlement of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) Data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by the High Court of Madras, details of district-wise pendency of cases in the State of Tamil Nadu as on 31.03.2016 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

***Statement***

*Number of pending cases in District and Subordinate Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu as on 31.03.2016.*

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total Pendency
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chennai	74,543	42,277	1,16,820
2.	Ariyalur	8,723	3,481	12,204
3.	Coimbatore	39,981	26,703	66,684
4.	Cuddalore	29,745	12,908	42,653
5.	Dharamapuri	9,590	6,768	16,358
6.	Dindigul	21,120	15,713	36,833
7.	Erode	17,691	14,062	31,753

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Kancheepuram	32,969	22,646	55,615
9.	Kanniyakumari	14,185	20,168	34,353
10.	Karur	9,286	6,416	15,702
11.	Krishnagiri	13,481	9,523	23,004
12.	Madurai	39,515	24,657	64,172
13.	Nagapattinam	7,484	7,844	15,328
14.	Namakkal	17,083	6,792	23,875
15.	Nilgiris	3,747	4,864	8,611
16.	Perambalur	7,288	3,232	10,520
17.	Pudukkottai	11,050	7,786	18,836
18.	Ramanathapuram	5,419	5,792	11,211
19.	Salem	34,965	15,332	50,297
20.	Sivaganga	9,103	9,933	19,036
21.	Thanjavur	16,300	15,758	32,058
22.	Theni	9,430	8,570	18,000
23.	Tiruchirapalli	32,431	10,846	43,277
24.	Tiruneiveli	24,427	26,007	50,434
25.	Tiruppur	26,718	17,321	44,039
26.	Tiruvallur	28,085	16,425	44,510
27.	Tiruvannamalai	18,551	10,612	29,163
28.	Tiruvarur	5,310	6,572	11,882
29.	Tuticorin	10,906	16,629	27,535
30.	Vellore	28,621	11,299	39,920
31.	Villupuram	28,184	12,577	40,761
32.	Virudhunagar	13,929	12,403	26,332
TOTAL		6,49,860	4,31,916	10,81,776

**Age of voting right**

1549. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether citizens become eligible for voting rights on completion of 18 years of age;

(b) whether there is a flaw in the relevant provision of the RP Act which compels all who complete 18 years of age in a particular year, barring those who were born on 1st January, to wait for one more year to become eligible for voting; and

(c) if so, whether an amendment will be legislated to cure this flaw in the Act?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) As per the section 14 (b) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, a person becomes eligible to enroll his/her name in the electoral roll as on 1st day of January of the year in which it is so prepared or revised. A proposal to fix more than one qualifying date on a year for enrolment in electoral roll is under consideration of the Government.

**Criteria for selecting cases and Judges of Fast Track Courts**

1550. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided upon the criteria for selecting cases that will receive the benefit of being fast tracked, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government has decided upon the criteria or the mechanism through which Judges for Fast Track Courts would be selected, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Need for setting up Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for certain specified categories of cases pending in Courts has been expressed frequently by various stakeholders. The Government proposed FTCs as a component of its Memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission. The proposal suggested setting up of 1800 FTCs to dispose of the following types of cases:



- (i) Cases of heinous crimes;
  - (ii) Civil cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants afflicted with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments;
  - (iii) Civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than 5 years.
- (b) There is no separate criteria for selection of judges for Fast Track Courts. The High Courts depute them from the State Judicial Service.

#### **Law Commission's Reports**

1551. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has considered only 106 Reports of the Law Commission out of 256 Reports submitted so far;
- (b) if so, the reasons for very slow pace of considering Reports of the Law Commission; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to take decision on the recommendations of the Law Commission in a time-bound manner and also to make the Law Commission a permanent statutory body?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes Sir, the Law Commission of India has submitted 262 reports as on date, out of which 108 reports have been considered.

(b) Government has to deal with varied views and other nuances before taking decision to implement the reports. Also, the reports of the Law Commission of India relate to different Ministries/Departments and also to subjects mentioned in the Seventh Schedule- List II- State List and List III- Concurrent List. Therefore, comments/views, before taking final decision to implement that report, are to be obtained from the State Governments and Union Territories and from various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government.

(c) Before taking a final decision to implement the recommendations made in the reports of the Law Commission, comments/views of all the State Governments/Union Territories are to be obtained. Response from the State Governments is still awaited in respect of more than 60 reports of Law Commission till date. Therefore, it is not possible

to fix any time-limit to implement the Law Commission's reports in a time bound manner. From time to time matter is pursued with various Ministries/Departments to expedite the decision to implement the reports. To make Law Commission of India as a permanent body, a proposal was moved in August, 2015. However, it was decided to re-constitute the Law Commission of India for a period of three years. Accordingly, 21st Law Commission of India has been constituted *vide* Gazette Notification dated 14.09.2015 for a period of three years w.e.f. 01.09.2015 to 31.08.2018.

### **Family Courts**

1552. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Family Courts in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number of cases pending in these Courts, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of cases disposed of in these Courts in the last three years *viz.*, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) As per information available, a statement indicating the State-wise number of Family Courts functioning in the country and cases pending in these Courts is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Regarding disposal of cases in these courts during 2012, 2013 and 2014, information available for 12 States is available which is given in Statement-II.

### ***Statement-I***

#### *Number of family courts functional*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Family Courts functional in the State	No of cases Pending
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh + Telangana	23	25862
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	NA
3.	Assam	04	5858
4.	Bihar	39	42980
5.	Chhattisgarh	20	10558

1	2	3	4
6.	Delhi	15	29122
7.	Goa	-	NA
8.	Gujarat	19	29445
9.	Haryana	07	15040
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	NA
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	NA
12.	Jharkhand	21	14252
13.	Karnataka	27	24612
14.	Kerala	28	55050
15.	Madhya Pradesh	50	34165
16.	Maharashtra	25	32361
17.	Manipur	05	434
18.	Meghalaya	-	NA
19.	Mizoram	04	NA
20.	Nagaland	02	NA
21.	Odisha	17	21856
22.	Punjab	5	4366
23.	Puducherry	01	862
24.	Rajasthan	28	21974
25.	Sikkim	04	163
26.	Tamil Nadu	20	20592
27.	Chandigarh	-	NA
28.	Tripura	03	1764
29.	Uttar Pradesh	76	271708
30.	Uttarakhand	8	7960
31.	West Bengal	02	1091
TOTAL		439	6,72,075

**Statement-II***Number of cases disposed of in these Courts during 2012-2014*

Sl. No.	State	Cases disposed of during the Year		
		2012	2013	2014
1.	Sikkim	194	300	245
2.	Himachal Pradesh	3461	5021	2803
3.	Kerala	40499	54215	47525
4.	Odisha	3816	5692	8926
5.	Maharashtra	22469	23022	22812
6..	Karnataka	12541	15480	16690
7.	Haryana	8233	9130	9151
8.	Madhya Pradesh	11782	13196	21569
9.	Bihar	12537	5192	N.A.*
10.	Chhattisgarh	8015	8448	6481
11.	Uttarakhand	4990	6531	2714
12.	Tripura	1376	1709	1722

\* Information for the year yet to be received from the State of Bihar

**Simultaneous elections at Centre and State level**

1553. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to undertake a feasibility study on holding simultaneous elections at the Centre and State level; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time line by which such a study is proposed to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):  
(a) and (b) The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations for holding of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. The issue involved requires wide consultation with various stake holders and hence, no specific time-frame can be indicated.

**Fast Track Courts**

1554. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Fast Track Courts set up during 2014 and 2015, the State-wise details thereof;
- (b) the total number of vacancies in the Fast Track Courts in the country; and
- (c) by when these vacancies would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):  
(a) to (c) The number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) set up during 2014 and 2015, State-wise is not maintained centrally. However, as per available information, a total of 281 FTCs are functional. The details indicating the number of Fast Track Courts functional State-wise in the country is given in Statement (*See below*).

Setting up of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts and filling of the vacancies thereof, is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the 14th Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in the States which includes, *inter alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years.

**Statement***Number of Fast Track Courts functional, State-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of FTCs functioning	As on
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	34	August, 15
2.	Telangana	38	August, 15
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	March, 14
4.	Assam	0	July, 15
5.	Bihar	0	July, 15
6.	Chhattisgarh	0	Sept., 15
7.	Goa	3	Jan., 16
8.	Gujarat	0	August, 15

1	2	3	4
9.	Haryana	0	July, 15
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0	August, 15
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	June, 14
12.	Jharkhand	11	August, 15
13.	Karnataka	0	July, 15
14.	Kerala	0	July, 15
15.	Lakshadweep	0	October, 15
16.	Madhya Pradesh	0	July, 15
17.	Maharashtra	80	July, 15
18.	Manipur	2	July, 15
19.	Meghalaya	0	July, 15
20.	Mizoram	0	July, 15
21.	Nagaland	2	August, 15
22.	Odisha	0	Feb., 16
23.	Punjab	2	October, 15
24.	Puducherry	0	July, 15
25.	Rajasthan	0	Sept., 15
26.	Sikkim	1	July, 15*
27.	Tamil Nadu	0	Oct, 15
28.	Tripura	0	July, 15
29.	Uttar Pradesh	0	Sept., 15
30.	Uttarakhand	0	July, 15
31.	West Bengal	88	Nov.15
32.	Delhi	15	Nov.15
TOTAL		281	

\* Not notified but functional

**Steps to fill up vacant posts of Judges and clear pending cases**

†1555. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases in the country's Courts are continuously on the rise;
- (b) the details of shortage of Judges, Magistrates and other employees in hearing of pending cases in the country;
- (c) whether victims who go to Courts seeking justice get justice in true sense given excessive delay in hearing of cases; and
- (d) the details of steps taken to fill the vacant posts in judiciary so that much time is not taken in disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (d) Data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by the Supreme Court of India, pendency in the Supreme Court of India has declined from 66,692 cases at the end of the year 2012 to 59,468 cases as on 19.02.2016.

As per the information made available by the High Courts, the pendency in High Courts has declined from 42.49 lakh cases at the end to the year 2010 to 38.70 lakh cases at the end of 2015. Pendency in District and Subordinate Courts has declined from 2.77 crore cases at the end of year 2010 to 2.70 crore cases at the end of 2015.

6 posts of Judges in Supreme Court and 433 posts of Judges in various High Courts are lying vacant as on 01.05.2016. In District and Subordinate Courts, 4432 posts of judicial officers were vacant as on 31.12.2015.

Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

The Central Government has been pursuing the matter with the High Courts for timely filling of the vacancies of Judges/Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Courts. This matter is also being monitored by Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Scheme to bring IT to poor farmers**

1556. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to bring Information Technology (IT) to poor farmers in their own languages to help them keep in tune with market, weather forecast and new techniques of farming; and

(b) if so, the complete details in this regard, including apps, distribution of such devices, cost and numbers, if not, the reasons for keeping a large segment out of IT and whether there is any plan to do so in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing a Mission Mode Project - National e-Governance Plan-Agriculture (NeGP-A) for helping farmers access information related to latest technology. This project has been approved at a total cost of ₹ 858.79 crore for implementation of this scheme over the entire country. 12 clusters of services have been identified for the project. Dissemination of information to the farmers has been aimed through various delivery channels including Common Service Centres, Web Portals, SMSs and Kisan Call Centres, Mobile Apps etc.

Web Portals: The following portals have been developed under NeGP-A such as:

- (i) Kisan Portal ([www.mkisan.gov.in](http://www.mkisan.gov.in)) to enable Officers, Scientists and Experts from all Organizations and Departments of the Gol and State Governments (including State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Agro-Meteorological Field Units (AMFUs) all over the country for disseminating information (giving topical and seasonal advisories and providing services through SMSs to farmers in their local languages) on various agricultural activities to registered farmers. Around 11 Crore SMS are being sent by Ministry of Agriculture to the farmers. In the Financial Year 2014-15, number of e-Transactions for projects under Agriculture was 141.25 crores, which has increased to 161.88 crores in the Financial Year 2015-16.
- (ii) Farmers' Portal ([www.farmer.gov.in](http://www.farmer.gov.in)) has been developed to serve as One Stop Shop for all the farmers for accessing information on agricultural activities.

Mobile Applications: As part of multiple channels of delivery of information to the farmers, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has launched the following mobile applications:



- (i) Kisan Suvidha
- (ii) Pusa Krishi
- (iii) Crop Insurance
- (iv) Agrimarket
- (v) Bhuwan Hail storm

**Future network growth of Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor**

1557. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether feasibility studies have been completed for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor, if so, the details thereof, including time-line for undertaking construction and expected time of completion;
- (b) whether the financial viability and operation cost of the train has been evaluated, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the future network growth of the corridor has been evaluated, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The joint feasibility study by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Government of India on Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed corridor has been completed in July, 2015.

The salient features of feasibility report on Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed corridor are:

- Total length of corridor - 508 kms.
  - 12 stations between Mumbai and Sabarmati (Mumbai, Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad, Sabarmati).
  - The total journey time of 2.07 hrs for a fast train and of 2.58 hrs for trains stopping at each station.
  - Total completion cost estimated at approximately ₹ 97,636 crore (including price escalation, Interest During Construction (IDC) and import duties).
  - Project implementation time of approximately seven years from commencement of construction.
- (b) According to the report the Internal Rate of Return of the project is estimated as 4% and Economic Internal Rate of Return as 11.8%.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

**MoU with ISRO**

1558. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have sought ISRO's help for apps, aiming at effective use of space technology in remote sensing and graphic information system based applications, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways have entered into an MoU with ISRO in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway plans to use the capability and capacity of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in remote sensing and Geographic Information System based applications.

Indian Railways has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Space Research Organisation for effective use of Space Technology for following applications:

- (i) Mapping of Indian Railway assets through Geospatial technology.
- (ii) Developing Real Time Train Information System by using Communication Satellite Services.
- (iii) Setting up of "BHUVAN" node in Indian Railways to internalize the use of BHUVAN geospatial solutions by Railways.
- (iv) Meet Indian Railways satellite based communication requirements.

The MoU has been signed on March 17th, 2016 and has come into force, which will be effective for 05 years.

**MoU with foreign countries**

1559. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have signed MoU with any foreign country on developing high speed corridors in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have also sought technical assistance for certain station redevelopment projects from some foreign countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to set up Railway University in collaboration with technical institutions for introducing railway-oriented subjects for graduation and skill development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) A Memorandum of Cooperation has been signed with Government of Japan for development of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail on 12.12.2015 with Japanese financial and technical assistance. Japanese Yen loan of upto 81% of the total Project cost will be provided at 0.1% interest rate, repayment in 50 years with 15 years moratorium.

(b) Ministry of Railways have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the following countries for technical cooperation in Railway Sector wherein Station Development/Modernisation is one of the cooperation areas: (i) Slovak Republic; (ii) United Kingdom; (iii) Japan; (iv) China; (v) Russia; (vi) Czech Republic; (vii) France; (viii) Germany; (ix) Spain and (x) Korea.

Technical and Execution Study for renovation/development of Ludhiana and Ambala railway stations has been entrusted to France.

Pre-feasibility study for redevelopment of New Bhubaneswar and Baiyyappanahalli (Bengaluru) stations has been offered to China.

(c) Detailed Project Report for establishing a Railway University by upgrading the National Academy of Indian Railways at Vadodara and using the existing Centralized Training Institutes of Indian Railways as Constituent Schools of Study has been completed.

**Formation of a company to fast-track pending projects in Maharashtra**

1560. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are going to form a company which will enable it to fast-track pending projects in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of the pending railway projects to be covered by the said company;

(c) whether Railways have fixed any target for their completion; and

(d) how Railways propose to arrange finance for completion of the projects, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding for formation of Joint Venture Company Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Company (MRIDC) between Government of Maharashtra and Ministry of Railways has been signed on 28.06.2015. The company will undertake projects development, funding and monitoring of Railway Infrastructure projects in the State of Maharashtra and for coordinating the resolution of allied issues.

Ministry of Railways have included 2 projects in Railway Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals which are proposed to be taken up on Joint Venture model falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra. The details of the projects are:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Railway	Plan Head	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)
1.	Indore-Manmad <i>via</i> Malegaon	Central Railway	New Line	368	9968
2.	Pune-Nashik	Central Railway	New Line	265	2425

Further, in anticipation of State Government of Maharashtra coming forward to take up projects through Joint Venture, 4 New Line projects have been included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 (incorporated as annexure to the 'Pink Book' of sanctioned works) falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra at an anticipated cost of ₹ 9160 crore. Details of these 4 projects are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Railway	Plan Head	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)
1.	Gadchandur-Adilabad	South Central Railway	New Line	70	1500
2.	Latur-Nanded <i>via</i> Loha & Ahmedpur	Central Railway	New Line	155	3100
3.	Jeur-Ashti	Central Railway	New Line	78	1560
4.	Jalna-Khamgaon	Central Railway	New Line	155	3000

The role of Joint Venture Company, *inter-alia*, is to choose projects, identify and collaborate with its stakeholders, mobilize resources, form project specific Special Purpose Vehicle (if required).

(c) Completion of projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, construction of road over and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, law and order situation etc. in addition to availability of funds. As many of these factors are not within the control of Railways, it is not feasible to fix timelines for all the projects. However, Railways have taken various measures to expedite completion of projects including substantial increase in allocation of funds, prioritization of projects, delegation of powers at field level, inviting the State Governments to participate with Railways for resource mobilization for projects, nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments etc.

(d) The Joint Venture can mobilize resources in the form of debt from banks/multi-lateral agencies/Financial Institutions as debt funding by leveraging the equity or in the form of financial support from various stakeholders of the projects through the formation of project specific Special Purpose Vehicle. The project specific Special Purpose Vehicle will have equity participation of Ministry of Railways and the State Government through the Joint Venture. The Special Purpose Vehicle shall be at the liberty to arrange investment from other Stakeholders, Public Sector Undertakings, raise debt from Banks or Financial Institutions for undertaking a project.

**Proposed railway station to reduce burden on Dehradun railway station**

1561. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of railway projects in Uttarakhand, including laying new line upto Karanprayag and surveys for new rail lines; and

(b) whether there is any plan to have a satellite railway station to reduce burden on Dehradun station, which is a heritage station and unable to bear the increasing railway traffic, if so, the details thereof along with the cost and timeline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At present, there are six major ongoing projects consisting of three new lines, two gauge conversion and one doubling falling fully/partly in State of Uttarakhand. The details are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Latest Anticipated cost	Expenditure incurred upto March, 2016	Outlay for 2016-17	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>New lines</b>					
1.	Deoband (Muzzafar Nagar-Roorkee) (27.45 km.)	700	51	20	State Government of Uttarakhand is sharing 50% cost of the project. The project has been suffering due to abnormal increase in land rates and State Government's refusal to bear the increased cost of land.
2.	Kichha-Khatima (57.45 km.)	583	1	20	Khatima-Kichha new line project was sanctioned with a commitment from Government of Uttarakhand to provide land free of cost. Subsequently, State Government did not agree to provide land free of cost. Further, Uttarakhand Government has proposed a change in alignment between Khatima and Lalkuan. Details of the proposed new alignment were made available to the State Government in February, 2011. The project could not be taken forward due to absence of response from the State Government.
3.	Rishikesh-Karayanprayag (125 km.)	4295	18	160	Staking of alignment, geological and geophysical investigations completed. Geotechnical investigation, land acquisition, forest clearance has been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---

**Gauge Conversion**

1.	Bhojipura-Tanakpur via Pilibhit. (102km.)	313	85	110	Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply work has been taken up.
2.	Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura & Lalkaun incl. Bareilly to Lalkuan & Mandhana-Brahmavart (553 km.)	1819	1701.86	20	Main gauge conversion project has been completed and subsequently sanctioned material modification of Mandhana-Brahmavart (8 km.) has been taken up.

**Doubling**

1.	Haridwar-Lakshar (27 km.)	386	41	125	Geotechnical investigation completed. Tender for earthwork, minor bridges and substructure of major bridges awarded.
----	---------------------------	-----	----	-----	--

Besides survey for 12 new lines projects falling fully/partly in the State of Uttarakhand have been taken up. The details are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Proposal	Km.	Status
1.	Haldwani-Chorgaliya	20	Announced in Budget 2012-13.
2.	Haldwani-Ritha Sahib	35	Announced in Budget 2012-13.
3.	Nainital-Kathgodam	36	Announced in Budget 2010-11.
4.	Updating Ramnagar-Chaukhutia & extension upto Gairsen	230	Announced in Budget 2015-16.
5.	Dehradun-Uttarkashi	90	Sanctioned in Feb., 2011 as Defence Strategic Project.
6.	Dehradun and Purola alongwith banks of River Yamuna	75	Announced in Budget 2012-13.
7.	Dehradun-Kalsi	47	Announced in Budget 2015-16.
8.	Dehradun-Saharanpur	69	Announced in Budget 2012-13.

Sl. No.	Name of Proposal	Km.	Status
9.	Pilkhani-Kalsi	80	Announced in Budget 2013-14. Survey completed recently and as per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 1800 crore with rate of return of (-) 5.93%.
10.	Rail connectivity to Char Dham	660	Announced in Budget 2014-15.
11.	Rishikesh-Dehradun	20	Announced in Budget 2015-16.
12.	Nagina-Afjalgarh-Thakurdwara-Kashipur	67	Announced in Budget 2016-17.

(b) At present, there is no proposal for additional railway station at Dehradun. However, to ease the terminal capacity of Dehradun station presently constrained by 13 coaches length platform, the work of extension of platform to accommodate 18 coaches have been sanctioned.

#### **Fire accidents in railways**

1562. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loss of human lives in fire accidents in passenger coaches has steeply increased;

(b) if so, the number of human lives lost in fire accidents in Railways during last three years;

(c) whether Audit and Railway officials have conducted any joint survey of railway stations, etc., to ascertain fire prone activities and if so, the details of the findings thereof;

(d) the norms for providing fire extinguishers in sleeper coaches and whether those norms are being followed by Railways; and

(e) the measures taken to check fire accidents by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Fire accidents in trains have shown a reducing trend in the last three years. Details of fire accidents in trains and human lives lost are indicated below:



Year	No. of Fire Accidents on trains	No. of human lives lost in fire accidents	No. of passengers grievously injured
2013-14	7	35	05
2014-15	6	Nil	Nil
2015-16	Nil	Nil	Nil

(c) Audit and Railway officials have not conducted any joint survey of railway stations to ascertain fire prone activities.

(d) and (e) As per norms two portable fire extinguishers have to be provided in Air-Conditioned (AC) sleeper coaches and the same is being followed by Zonal Railways.

Followings steps are being taken on Indian Railways to prevent fire accident in trains:

- Indian Railways have always endeavoured to enhance fire worthiness of coaches by using fire retardant furnishing materials to mitigate effect of fire. Specifications for such furnishing materials have been periodically reviewed to incorporate fire retardant parameters in line with UIC (International Union of Railways) and other international norms.
- Fire extinguishers are being provided in all Air-Conditioned coaches, Second class-cum-guard and luggage vans, pantry cars and train locomotives. Portable fire extinguishers were provided in 100 Non-AC passenger coaches on trial.
- Improved materials for electrical fittings and fixtures such as MCB (Miniature Circuit Breaker), light fittings, terminal boards, connectors etc., are being used progressively.
- Railways are providing 3 tier and 4 tier electrical fuse protection system in train lighting and air-conditioned coaches respectively.
- A pilot project for provision of Comprehensive Fire and Smoke Detection System has been taken up in one rake of New Delhi-Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express on East Coast Railway. Besides, one LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) rake in New Delhi-Jammu Tawi Rajdhani train and one AC Double Decker rake running between Kachiguda-Tirupati/Guntur have also been provided with such a system. Based on the feedback from initial trials, Board has sanctioned for extended field trials in 2750 coaches.

- Water mist type fire suppression system is being provided on power cars in a phased manner.
- Detailed instructions have been issued to Zonal Railways for observance of safe practices in handling of pantry cars and for ensuring periodical inspection of electrical and LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) fittings in the pantry cars.
- Intensive publicity campaigns to prevent the travelling public from carrying inflammable goods are regularly undertaken.
- Frequent drives against carrying of inflammable/dangerous articles in trains as well as station premises are undertaken.

#### **HOR quota**

1563. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would post all berths confirmed under HOR quota along with the details of requisitions, against which berths are being confirmed, online, on daily basis for each train in view of alleged rampant corruption and irregularities in release of HOR quota and to ensure transparency; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official Requisition (HOR) holders, which includes Central Government Ministers, Judges of Hon'ble Supreme Court/High Courts of various States, Members of Parliament and other emergent demands, who are on the waiting list, a limited number of berths have been earmarked as Emergency Quota in different trains and in different classes. This accommodation is released by nominated Railway officials in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long. Detailed instructions for streamlining the procedure of releasing accommodation from Emergency Quota are available. Further, surprise checks are conducted by the Commercial branch and by the Vigilance Department to prevent and check irregularities in the allotment of reserved accommodation under this Quota. Since a large number of requisitions are received daily, it is not considered desirable to compile this data and make it available on the website as the voluminous work and manpower involved in this exercise is not likely to give any gainful managerial input commensurate with the work involved.

**Executive lounges for 1st class passengers**

1564. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering a proposal to set up Executive Lounges at railway stations for 1st class passengers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the facilities Railways would provide at those lounges and the cost of using them by passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been entrusted with the task of setting up Executive Lounges at 49 locations. The Executive Lounges provide value added services at a charge, offering facilities such as Wifi internet, buffet services, wash and change, concierge services for pre-departure and post-arrival assistance to passengers of all classes of travel. Executive Lounge at New Delhi, Jaipur and Agra Cantt. railway stations are operational. The charge for using the lounge at New Delhi station is ₹150/- for first 2 hours, and for Jaipur and Agra Cantt. stations is ₹ 100/- for first 2 hours; and ₹ 50/- per hour thereafter for all stations. Additional charges are collected for optional services like meals, wash and change, business centre etc.

**Replacement of old coaches**

1565. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that old coaches that have outlived their utility, are widely deployed in express trains across the country, posing a major safety issue;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of coaches which are more than twenty years old and are still being deployed in trains, zone-wise;
- (c) the reasons for delay in replacement of old coaches; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Passenger coaches are withdrawn from service after completion of their permitted service life.

- (b) Does not arise. The number of passenger coaches, which are between 21-25 years of age and deployed in trains, are listed zone-wise as under:

Zonal Railway	Number of passenger coaches aged 21-25 years (as on 31.03.15)
Central Railway	705
Eastern Railway	812
East Central Railway	365
East Coast Railway	217
Northern Railway	876
North Central Railway	178
North Eastern Railway	290
Northeast Frontier Railway	178
North Western Railway	236
Southern Railway	699
South Central Railway	596
South Eastern Railway	432
South East Central Railway	129
South Western Railway	397
Western Railway	643
West Central Railway	120
<b>TOTAL (INDIAN RAILWAYS)</b>	<b>6873</b>

These coaches are within permitted service life. Most of the coaches are also given 'Mid-life' rehabilitation after 12-15 years of age.

(c) and (d) There is no delay in replacement of old coaches. Replacement of old coaches is carried out timely and no coach is allowed to remain in service beyond its permitted service life.

#### **Flash strike by railway employees**

1566. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have chargesheeted many of its employees for going on flash strike, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways have taken steps to address the concerns of the said employees, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of 96 chargesheeted employees pursuant to illegal flash strike are as under:

- (i) 56 employees of Trivandrum division have been chargesheeted pursuant to an illegal flash strike on 05.02.2016 against an alleged assault of one employee. A Police case has been registered on the incident of assault and the matter is under investigation.
- (ii) 09 employees of Trivandrum division were chargesheeted for refusing to work train in connection with arrest of an employee by RPF (Railway Protection Force) on 07.06.2012.
- (iii) 31 employees of Trivandrum division were chargesheeted for refusing to perform Breath Analyser Test before joining for duty on 04.05.2015 and 05.05.2015.

(b) The employees have been chargesheeted under the Statutory Rules which provides due opportunity to such employees to raise their concern/defence and the prescribed Disciplinary Authority is empowered to take a decision in exercise of its *quasi judicial* powers thereunder. The said Statutory Rules also prescribe the mechanism of 'appeal'/'revision'/'review' etc. for redressal of grievances of such employees against the decisions taken by the Disciplinary/Appellate Authorities etc.

#### **Damage to railway property**

1567. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of damages caused to railway properties during the last five years;
- (b) the details of loss incurred to Railways due to damages of railway properties during this period;
- (c) whether human factor is also involved in causing damage to railway properties; and
- (d) if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The details of damages caused to railway properties and loss incurred to Railways due to damages of railway properties during the last five years are as under:-

Year	The number of cases of damage to railway properties registered	Loss incurred to Railways due to damages of railway properties (₹ in crore)
2011	1602	38.52
2012	1747	16.36
2013	1552	04.40
2014	1533	41.05
2015	1570	14.91

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 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, therefore, the statutory responsibility of State Governments which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). In addition, Railway Protection Force (RPF) also registers the cases of damage of railway properties such as damage to level crossings etc. under the provisions of the Railways Act, 1989.

Besides, the following actions are taken by Railways in this regard:

- (i) Close liaison is maintained with GRP, Civil Police and Intelligence agencies for collection of intelligence inputs well in advance to take preventive measures.
- (ii) RPF/RPSF is deployed in coordination with GRP and Civil Police at railway stations, sensitive locations, trains and vital installations, whenever information is received regarding public agitations, Bandhs, railroko, etc. in anticipation of damage of railway properties.
- (iii) Pilot specials or goods trains are run ahead of Rajdhani Express and important trains during Bandh by LWE on receipt of intelligence inputs on vulnerable sections.
- (iv) Track patrolling by engineering department is introduced in the vulnerable sections.

(v) The details of persons arrested during the last five years are as under:

Year	The number of persons arrested in the cases of damage of railway properties
2011	1770
2012	1633
2013	1730
2014	1399
2015	1469

#### **Solar panels atop roofs of railway platforms**

1568. DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway stations may be able to save considerable amount of electricity by switching to powering themselves by installing solar panels atop roofs of platforms;

(b) the amount of money that can be saved by Railways annually by implementing such a scheme and the cost of installing the panels; and

(c) if no such proposal is being considered, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, solar power plants are being set up on Railway/private land and on rooftop of Railway buildings with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support from Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) through developer mode, wherein Railways will sign Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the lowest bidder. The amount of savings will depend upon the determination of price of electricity through market forces.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **JV between Railways and State Governments**

1569. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have signed MoUs with some State Governments, including Odisha, for undertaking railway projects in the respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objective behind the move;

(c) the details of the projects taken up/identified for development in the States under Joint Venture (JV);

(d) the details of the fund sharing pattern between Railways and the State Governments under the JV; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue to Railways and the States as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In order to meet the growing demands for new projects and also to expedite ongoing projects, Ministry of Railways initiated the scheme of project development, financing and monitoring through formation of Joint Ventures/SPVs with State Governments. This, *inter-alia*, involves surveys, preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and getting requisite approvals, processing for sanctioning and monitoring of identified projects including last mile connectivity, capacity enhancement and station redevelopment projects. Many State Governments were requested for signing of MoUs in this regard. Consequently, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up JV (Joint Venture) companies have been signed with Maharashtra, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Chhattisgarh and Telangana. A similar JV company is already in place for Karnataka State.

(c) Ministry of Railways has included 13 projects in Railway Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals which are proposed to be taken up on Joint Venture model. The details of the projects are:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Rly	PH	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)	State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Vikramshila-Katareah (Pirpanthi-Naugachia)	ECR	NL	18	1601	Bihar, Jharkhand
2.	Dongargarh-Kharigarh- Kawardha-Bilaspur	SECR	NL	270	2500	Chhattisgarh
3.	Jeypore-Malkangiri	ECoR	NL	130	1277	Odisha
4.	Jeypore-Navarangpur	ECoR	NL	38	485	Odisha
5.	Chitra-Basukinath	ER	NL	37	859	Jharkhand
6.	Meerut-Panipat	NR	NL	104	2200	Uttar Pradesh
7.	Godda-Pakur	ER	NL	80	1723	Bihar, Jharkhand
8.	Bahraich-Shravasti- Balrampur (Tulsipur)	NER	NL	80	1600	Uttar Pradesh



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Morappur and Dharmapuri new line	SR	NL	36	134	Tamil Nadu
10.	Indore-Manmad via Malegaon	CR	NL	368	9968	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra
11.	Indore-Jabalpur	WCR	NL	342	4320	Madhya Pradesh
12.	Pune-Nashik	CR	NL	265	2425	Maharashtra
13.	Guntakal-Guntur	SCR	DL	443	4000	Andhra Pradesh

Further, in anticipation of various State Governments coming forward to take up projects through Joint Venture, 30 projects (25 New Line, 2 Doubling and 3 Gauge Conversion) have been included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 (incorporated as annexure to the 'Pink Book' of sanctioned works) at an anticipated cost of ₹ 58,274 crores. Details of these 30 projects are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Rly	PH	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)	State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Daboi-Chandod GC with extn. to Rajpipla new line	WR	GC	37	1500	Gujarat
2.	Chuchapura-Navsari-Tanakhala	WR	GC	38	500	Gujarat
3.	Gadchandur-Adilabad	SCR	NL	70	1500	Maharashtra, Telangana
4.	Behrampur-Sambalpur	ECOR	NL	270	5000	Odisha
5.	Junagarh-Ambaguda via Navrangpur	ECOR	NL	145	2900	Odisha
6.	Banspani-Barbil	ECOR	NL	17.5	350	Odisha
7.	Gadwal-Macherla	SCR	NL	184	3500	Telangana, Andhra Pradesh
8.	Kannur-Mattannur	SR	NL	23	400	Kerala
9.	Nanjangod-Nilambur	SR	NL	236	6000	Kerala, Karnataka
10.	Lumding-Dibrugarh	NFR	DL	340	5000	Assam
11.	Mysore-Kushalnagar	SWR	NL	85	667	Karnataka

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Barson-Banspani/ Narayangarh	ECoR	NL	52	1400	Odisha
13.	Jaisalmer-Bhabar	NWR	NL	339	5000	Rajasthan
14.	Kashipur-Dhampur	NR	NL	58	1200	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand
15.	Latur-Nanded <i>via</i> Loha & Ahmedpur	CR	NL	155	3100	Maharashtra
16.	Parbatsar to Kishangarh	NWR	NL	45	900	Rajasthan
17.	Bhiwani-Loharu	NR	NL	64	1280	Haryana
18.	Dehradun-Vikasnagar	NR	NL	38	628	Uttarakhand
19.	Ujjain-Fatehabad	WR	GC	20	120	Madhya Pradesh
20.	Urai-Mahoba	NCR	NL	90	1800	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Bhind-Lahar-Konch	NCR	NL	80	1600	Madhya Pradesh
22.	Jeur-Ashti	CR	NL	78	1560	Maharashtra
23.	Talaguppa-Siddhapura	SWR	NL	16	320	Karnataka
24.	Bangarpet-Mulbagal	SWR	NL	40	800	Karnataka
25.	Sakleshpur- Subramaniam Rd.	SWR	DL	60	500	Karnataka
26.	Secunderabad- Zaheerabad	SCR	NL	70	1400	Telangana
27.	Bodan-Bidar	SCR	NL	100	2000	Telangana
28.	Jalna-Khamgaon	CR	NL	155	3000	Maharashtra
29.	Talguppa-Honavar	SWR	NL	82	2500	Karnataka
30.	Dharwad-Belgaum	SWR	NL	91	1850	Karnataka

The role of Joint Venture company, *inter-alia*, is to choose projects, identify and collaborate with its stakeholders, mobilize resources, form project specific Special Purpose Vehicle (if required). The Joint Venture can mobilize resources in the form of debt from banks/multi-lateral agencies/Financial Institutions as debt funding by leveraging the equity or in the form of financial support from various stakeholders of the projects

through the formation of project specific Special Purpose Vehicle. The project specific Special Purpose Vehicle will have equity participation of Ministry of Railways and the State Government through the Joint Venture. The Special Purpose Vehicle shall be at the liberty to arrange investment from other Stakeholders, Public Sector Undertakings, raise debt from Banks or Financial Institutions for undertaking a project.

(d) As per the Shareholding Pattern approved by Cabinet, Ministry of Railways can have the equity participation upto 50% in the Joint Venture and State Government to have the balance equity participation.

(e) Formation of JV company will help in mobilization of additional resources for execution of railway projects resulting in expansion of Railway Network in the country. A railway line in any area is an engine of growth for the entire economy. It will enhance economic/commercial activities and help generate large quantum of direct & indirect employment.

#### **Survey for new railway route from Solapur to Jalgaon**

1570. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for a new railway line from Solapur to Jalgaon (454 kms.) covering Tuljapur, Osmanabad, Kunthalgiri, Beed, Paithan, Aurangabad, Verul, Sillod and Ajanta Caves has been completed, if so, the salient features thereof;

(b) whether Railways are seriously considering this project for better connectivity between western Maharashtra and Marathwada region; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the time-frame set for implementation of the said project, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Survey for a new line from Solapur to Jalgaon (454 km. *via* Tuljapur, Osmanabad, Beed, Paithan, Aurangabad, Verul, Sillod and Ajanta Caves has been completed. The cost of this line has been assessed as ₹ 3238 crore with a negative Rate of Return of (-) 5.69%. Due to its unremunerative nature, huge throwforward of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for new lines and other competing priorities, this project could not be taken forward.

However, to reassess viability of the Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (80 km.) leg, an updating survey has been taken up.

**New Railway Zone at Vizag**

1571. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Ministry has been drawn to the growing demand for a Railway Zone with Vizag as headquarters and a local political leader even sitting on fast unto death; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As per Item 8 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, Indian Railways is required to examine establishing a new Railway Zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh and take expeditious decision thereon. To, *inter-alia*, examine the feasibility of creation of the new Railway Zone, a committee of Senior Officers from Railways had been constituted by the Ministry of Railways. In this context, proposals from different sources have been received in this Ministry suggesting various locations, including Visakhapatnam, as the head-quarters of the new Railway Zone. The Ministry had asked the Committee to consult the various stakeholders also, including the Members of Parliament, State Governments, etc. before a final decision is taken.

**Mishaps at railway stations**

1572. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether deaths caused by mishaps at railway platforms are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the number of deaths caused by such mishaps during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to contain the number of mishaps on railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There was only one incident of mishap/stampede which resulted in 37 deaths at Allahabad railway station reported in the year, 2013 in North Central Railway.

(c) Deployment of additional Railway Protection Force/Railway Protection Special Force personnel is done at station/platforms for crowd management and to handle extra

rush of passengers during festival seasons, Melas, during summer and other peak seasons, to prevent any mishap. Regular coordination meetings are also held with local police and local administration to prevent any mishap.

### Linking the capitals of North Eastern States by Railway

1573. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to link all the capitals of NE States by Railway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this is proposed to be executed under Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time-frame within which it is proposed to be initiated and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Rail connectivity already exists for capital cities of Assam (Guwahati), Tripura (Agartala) and Arunachal Pradesh (Itanagar). To provide connectivity to capitals of Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram, following new line projects have been taken up:

(₹ in crores)

State	Capital	Name of project (length)	Anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March, 2016	Outlay 2016-17
Meghalaya	Shillong	Byrnihat-Shillong (108 km.)	5308	21	300
Manipur	Imphal	Jiribam-Imphal (125 km.)	6571	4891	1000
Nagaland	Kohima	Dimapur-Kohima (88 km.)	2973	150	350
Mizoram	Aizawl	Bhairabi-Sairang (51 km.)	2820	544	500
Sikkim	Gangtok	Sivok-Rangpo (44 km.)*	4190	281	250

\* Sivok-Rangpo New Line has been taken up to connect Sikkim but the proposal to extend this line upto its capital *i.e.* Gangtok has not been taken up.

Agartala, the capital of Tripura, has been brought on Broad Gauge network with introduction of goods trains in February, 2016.

- (c) No, Sir. These projects are being funded through Railway Budget.

(d) Completion of projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, construction of road over and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, law and order situation etc. in addition to availability of funds. As many of these factors are not within the control of Railways, it is not feasible to fix timelines for all the projects. However, Railways have taken various measures to expedite completion of projects including substantial increase in allocation of funds, prioritization of projects, delegation of powers at field level, inviting the State Governments to participate with Railways for resource mobilization for projects, nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments etc.

#### **Deaths of animals in train accidents**

1574. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of wild and other animals, especially elephants, that get killed in train accidents, has increased enormously;

(b) if so, the details of such animals killed during the last three years;

(c) whether officials of both Railways and Environment Ministries have worked out some effective action plan to control this loss;

(d) the status of this loss under the North East Frontier Railway in the country; and

(e) how far has it been controlled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The numbers of wild animals and elephants killed under train accidents are as under:

Year	Total Nos. of wild animals killed		Total Nos. of elephants killed out of total wild animals	
	On Indian Railway	On North-east Frontier Railway	On Indian Railway	On North-east Frontier Railway
2013	26	19	26	19
2014	9	5	5	5
2015	15	9	10	9
2016 (upto March)	0	0	0	0

The measures worked out by Railways in coordination with Ministry of Environment and Forest include imposition of speed restrictions in identified locations, provision of signage board, sensitization of train crew and station masters on a regular basis, Need based clearance of vegetation on the sides of the track within railway land, Construction of underpasses and ramps for the movement of elephants at identified locations and provision of fencing at isolated locations. The above measures have helped in controlling death of wild animals.

#### **Trains announced during Railway Budgets**

1575. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new trains announced during the last four Railway Budgets and not introduced so far;
- (b) the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when the same are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The detailed status of new trains announced during the last four Railway Budgets *viz.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Number of introduction announced (A)	Number of introduction implemented (B)	Pending Introduction (A-B)
1.	2012-13	113	110	3
2.	2013-14	126	123	3
3.	2014-15	138	121	17
4.	2015-16	Nil	-	-

Some trains announced in the Railway Budgets 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are pending introduction owing to various constraints like non-completion of gauge conversion of concerned sections, non-receipt of necessary clearance from the Commissioner of Railway Safety, etc. No definite dates for their introduction can be indicated as works are in progress.

1576. [Question was cancelled.]

**Introduction of dynamic and special fares by railways**

1577. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to introduce dynamic fares in all trains or special fares for tickets booked closure to the departure date;
- (b) if so, the rationale and reason behind such measures; and
- (c) the revenue that Railways expect to generate through any of the above proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**RO water dispensing booths at railway stations of Maharashtra**

1578. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to install RO water dispensing booths at all railway stations of Maharashtra within a time-frame; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) With a view to augment availability of purified drinking water to passengers at affordable rates conforming to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been entrusted with the task of providing Water Vending Machines (WVMs) at all Railway stations, in a phased manner. At present, one Water Vending Machine based on Reverse Osmosis System (RO) has been installed at Khar Mumbai (BCT) Division. Further, it has been decided to install about 250 more WVMs at different stations in Maharashtra. The time-frame set for commissioning of all the above WVMs in Maharashtra is March, 2017.

**Doubling of railway lines in Bihar**

†1579. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is going to soon start the work on doubling of railway lines in Bihar, which are lying incomplete for years, if so, the details thereof;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(b) the amount provided in the 2016-17 Budget for the projects- Hajipur to Muzaffarpur, Hajipur to Barauni *via* Bachhwara, Smastipur to Darbhanga, Darbhanga to Jaynagar and from Sakri to Kosi Mahasetu *via* Nirmali, project-wise;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to complete all these projects; and

(d) the details of amount provided for all the incomplete railway projects in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) There are total 13 ongoing doubling projects falling partly/fully in Bihar. Out of these, nine doubling projects have been included in the Budget 2015-16 and 2016-17. The oldest ongoing doubling project in the State, *viz.* Pirpainti-Bhagalpur was sanctioned in 2011-12. To fast track doubling projects in Bihar, fund allotment has been substantially enhanced in 2015-16 and 2016-17.

(b) The amount provided in the Budget 2016-17 for the desired projects are given as under:-

- (i) Hajipur-Muzaffarpur section: double line exists between Muzaffarpur-Ramdayalu Nagar. For doubling between Ramdayalu Nagar-Hajipur, an outlay of ₹160 crore has been provided in 2016-17.
- (ii) Hajipur-Bachwara-Barauni section: double line exists on Bachwara-Barauni part. For doubling between Bachwara-Hajipur, an outlay of ₹ 70 crore has been provided in 2016-17.
- (iii) For doubling of Samastipur-Darbhanga, an outlay of ₹ 45 crore has been provided in 2016-17.
- (iv) For gauge conversion project of Jaynagar-Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj, an amount of ₹ 60 crore has been earmarked in 2016-17.
- (v) For Sakri-Laukaha Bazar-Nirmali and Saharsa-Forbesganj gauge conversion project, an outlay of ₹ 100 crore has been provided in 2016-17.
- (vi) For new line project of Kosi Bridge, an outlay of ₹ 60 has been provided in 2016-17.

Completion of project depends upon several factors including availability of funds, complete handing over of encumbrance-free land by the State Government forestry clearances, shifting of utilities, etc. Since most of these factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, no time-frame has been fixed for completion of the projects.

(d) Allotment of funds are not done State-wise, but project-wise. An outlay of ₹ 3274 crore has been provided in 2016-17 for new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects falling partly/fully in Bihar.

#### **Investment in additional routes**

1580. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are looking to invest in additional routes in the coming months; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that priority would be given to some short routes where the viability is already established, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Ministry of Railways has included 59 projects (18 New Line, 2 Gauge Conversion and 39 Doubling) covering a length of 5339 km in Railway Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals.

Further, in anticipation of various State Governments coming forward to take up projects through Joint Venture, 30 projects (25 New Line, 2 Doubling and 3 Gauge Conversion) covering a length of 3078 km have been included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17 (incorporated as annexure to the 'Pink Book' of sanctioned works) which was presented before the House in February, 2016 alongwith Railway Budget.

(b) No such decision to accord priority to short routes has been taken.

#### **Cross-subsidising passenger fares**

1581. SHRI S.THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways incur a loss of ₹ 30,000 crore every year in cross-subsidising passenger fares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on an average, Railways bear 43 per cent cost of travel, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the decision not to increase the passenger fare has prevented the transporter from tinkering with tariffs over the years, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. During the year 2014-15, the overall losses in Passenger and other coaching services was ₹ 33490.95 crore.

(b) On an average in 2014-15 in passenger services, Railways had borne 43 percent cost of travel. Approximate cost of passenger services in (Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge) was ₹ 76298 crore and the loss in passenger services was approximately Rs.32458 crore which is 43 percent of costs.

(c) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalisation of Passenger Fare structure is an on-going process. During last five years, the Passenger fares were increased four times and Freight rates were increased five times. With effect from 25.06.2014, the Passenger fares of all classes, including Monthly Season Tickets were increased by 14.2%, whereas the freight rates were increased by 6.5%.

#### **Surveillance for avoiding malpractices**

1582. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have stepped up surveillance to ensure that touts do not lure away passengers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways are trying to ensure that a sufficient number of its Vigilance Inspectors and Railway Protection Force personnel are deployed at reservation offices to crack down on any fraud, including those involving travel on transfer tickets; and

(c) whether squads of commercial and ticket checking inspectors will also be formed to conduct surprise checks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. The following steps are being taken by the Railways to ensure that touts do not lure away passengers:

- (i) Regular drives are conducted by Commercial, Vigilance and Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel against touts at Passenger Reservation System (PRS) offices, Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) locations and on trains to detect fraud and touting activities. These checks are intensified during peak rush/festival periods. Crime intelligence is also collected by RPF to check malpractices. Touts are apprehended and prosecuted as per Section 143 of Railways Act. Besides, to keep surveillance on possible activities of touts and to monitor the working of reservation counter, Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) have been installed at important computerised PRS locations.
- (ii) Token system has been introduced at Reservation Counters at some Major railway stations.

- (iii) For undertaking journey in any reserved class, any one of the passenger has to produce any one of the prescribed original proof of identity failing which all the passengers booked on the ticket are treated as travelling without ticket.

(b) Yes, Sir. RPF staff are deployed at PRS centers from time to time to assist Commercial and Vigilance departments of Railways to prevent touting/undesirable activities at PRS centers.

**Projects on cost sharing basis with Maharashtra**

1583. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has been implementing three projects on cost sharing basis with Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the provision for these projects in the Railway Budget 2016-17 and whether these funds are adequate;

(c) whether the Ministry has received three more proposals from Government of Maharashtra for development on cost sharing basis; and

(d) if so, the stand of the Ministry on the same and if the Ministry has not taken a stand yet, by when it is likely to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Three New Line projects falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra viz. Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajjnath (261 km), Wardha-Nanded *via* Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km) and Wadsa-Gadchiroli (50 km) have been taken up on cost sharing basis with the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) Outlay provided for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 for these projects are as under:-

	(₹ in crore)		
Name of project	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajjnath	40	144	402
Wardha-Nanded <i>via</i> Yavatmal-Pusood	15	135	150
Wadsa-Gadchiroli	20	80	90

Funds are allocated on year to year basis depending upon overall availability of funds, relative priority, status of land acquisition and other clearances, stages of projects, etc. However, outlays for these projects have been substantially enhanced in 2015-16 and 2016-17.

Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra *vide* his letter dated 14.12.2015 has requested to take up 3 New Lines *viz.* Manmad-Indore, Pune-Nashik and Gadchandur-Adilabad on cost sharing basis for socio-economic development of the State. These works, have been included in Budget 2016-17 subject to requisite approvals. The details are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of project	Length (Km)	Cost (₹ in crore)	Remarks
1.	Manmad-Indore	368	9968	Included in Pink Book.
2.	Pune-Nashik	265	2425	Included in Pink Book.
3.	Gadchandur-Adilabad	70	1500	Included in Capital Investment Programme of 2016-17

#### Survey for new railway lines

†1584. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending railway line surveys for laying new railway lines in the country, including Madhya Pradesh, during the last year and current year, State-wise/ Zone-wise;

(b) the amount spent so far on the pending railway line surveys;

(c) whether Railways have fixed any time-limit for completing the pending surveys; and

(d) if so, the details of time-limit and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As most of the railway lines straddle across one or more States, State-wise data is not maintained. However, Zone-wise break-up of details of new line surveys taken up as on 31.03.2016 and new Survey sanctioned in 2016-17 that

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

*inter-alia* includes surveys conducted falling fully/partly in the State of Madhya Pradesh is as under:

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	ongoing new line surveys (as on 31.03.2016)	New Surveys sanctioned in 2016-17
1.	Central	19	8
2.	Eastern	19	0
3.	East Central	25	3
4.	East Coast	2	0
5.	Northern	11	11
6.	North Central	16	5
7.	North Eastern	4	4
8.	Northeast Frontier	31	3
9.	North Western	9	6
10.	Southern	13	1
11.	South Central	37	8
12.	South Eastern	4	1
13.	South East Central	14	0
14.	South Western	20	2
15.	Western	12	4
16.	West Central	25	2

That amount spent on survey during last three years (excluding the current year) is ₹ 67.65 crore.

(c) and (d) Surveys require investigation of one or more routes, in consultation with State Governments and forest department, to decide the most technically feasible alignment, interaction with State Government, trade and industries for assessment of traffic projections, preparation of plans and drawings for calculation of costs etc. Since this is an extensive exercise, hence it is not possible to fix time lines for both completion of all these surveys and the lines being made functional.

**Increasing incidents of thefts in trains**

1585. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing incidents of thefts in trains in recent days, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of thefts that took place during last two years;
- (c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by Railways in mitigating such incidents in future;
- (d) whether Railways are putting all the responsibilities on State Governments in this matter;
- (e) whether Railways have any plan for combating this menace, collectively, in collaboration with State Governments; and
- (f) the stand of Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway has taken note of the increasing incidents of theft of passengers' belongings in trains. The details for the year 2014 and 2015 are as under:

Year	Number of cases of theft of passengers' belongings in trains registered
2014	12161
2015	16180

The reasons for increase in reporting/registration of cases of theft in trains are enhanced public awareness/facility created by the Railways by providing toll free Security Helpline Number, acceptance of complaints over E-Mail, Twitter, etc. including increase in the number of passengers travelling in trains.

(c) to (f) Prevention and detection of crime, registration of cases, its investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned.

The primary responsibility in mitigating incidents of crime lies with the State GRP. Railway Protection Force (RPF) is not empowered to register and investigate the passenger related offences in passenger area.

However, the following steps are taken by RPF for security of passengers and their belongings:

- (i) 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.
- (ii) An integrated Security System consisting of surveillance of vulnerable, stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. have been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 railway stations.
- (iii) Security Helpline number 182 is made operational over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
- (iv) Regular drives are conducted against unauthorized passengers entering Railway premises/ trains by RPF under provisions of the Railways Act.
- (v) Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police/GRP authorities at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP.

**Making railway infrastructure accessible to specially-abled people**

1586. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that railway stations and railway bogies are inaccessible to the specially-abled people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether steps have been taken by Railways to make railway infrastructure accessible to the specially-abled people, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of trains and railway stations presently having infrastructure to suit the needs of the specially-abled people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Improvement/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for differently-abled passengers is a continuous process. In order to provide better accessibility to passengers with disabilities, short term facilities as detailed below have



been planned depending upon categories of the stations, beginning with 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations:

- Standard ramp for barrier free entry.
- Earmarking at least two parking lots.
- Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building.
- Signages of appropriate visibility.
- At least one toilet (on the ground floor).
- At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons.
- 'May I help you' booth:

In addition, long term facilities, as detailed below, have been planned at 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations:

- Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer.
- Engraving on edges of platform.

Further, as per the existing guidelines, 'A-1' category stations qualify for provision of escalators/elevators while 'A' category, 'C' category and stations of tourist importance qualify for provision of escalators under desirable amenities. 277 escalators and 224 lifts have been provided at various stations so far. The details of stations provided with facilities for differently-abled persons are given in Statement (*See* below).

Instructions also exist for provision of Wheel Chair at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Moreover, Zonal Railways have been authorized to introduce 'Battery Operated Vehicles' at major Railway Stations for Disabled, Old Aged and sick passengers on first come first served basis through sponsorship from individuals, NGOs, trusts, charitable institutions and Corporates/PSUs under their Corporate Social Responsibility with no charge to passenger or to the Railway.

Disabled-friendly coaches *viz.* Second Class cum luggage and brake van with PWD (Persons with Disabilities) Compartment coaches and Power Cars for Garib Rath trains having provisions for PWD Compartment with air-conditioning are already in service. Presently, around 3300 such coaches are in services.

Besides manufacture of above coaches, for assistance to visually impaired travellers, Braille signages are being provided on newly manufactured coaches. Retrofitment on existing coaches has also been taken up in a phased manner.

It is endeavoured to provide at least one disabled friendly coach in Mail and Express trains.

***Statement***

*Details of stations provided with facilities for differently abled*

Sl. No.	Amenity for differently-abled persons	Approximate number of stations provided with the facility
1.	Standard ramp for barrier free entry	1450
2.	Earmarking at least two parking lots	990
3.	Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to station building	1100
4.	Signages of appropriate visibility	1130
5.	At least one toilet (on the ground floor)	1380
6.	At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons	1230
7.	May I help you booth	860
8.	Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer	1040
9.	Engraving of edges of platforms	1400

**Commercial viability of gatimaan express**

1587. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways, in an attempt to project its technological prowess, has put on track Gatimaan, its prototype version of bullet train between Delhi and Agra, covering the distance in flat 100 minutes;

(b) whether, with two superfast trains, Taj Express and Shatabdi Express already catering to the tourist traffic on this route, Gatimaan Express will turn out to be commercially viable; and

(c) whether during the last two years, the prestigious Palace on Wheels train, catering to international tourists, is running with much less occupancy, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Technology involved in running Gatimaan Express is already available with Indian Railways and the same is entirely different from the technology of Bullet Trains. Increasing the speed of trains by upgrading of infrastructure is a continuous process and introduction of Gatimaan Express is a step in this direction.

(b) Patronisation of Gatimaan Express so far has been encouraging.

(c) The occupancy of Palace on Wheels train for the financial years 2014-15 and 2015-16 was 56 and 48 percent respectively.

**Absorption of volunteer TCs in East Central Railway**

†1588. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Calcutta High Court and Central Administrative Tribunal have issued any direction to absorb Volunteer Ticket Collectors (TCs) who had worked for eight hours a day for 240 days, in East Central Railway;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard till date;

(c) whether correspondence has also been made by public representative (Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha) on many occasions for examination of the said matter and for absorbing Volunteer TCs; and

(d) by when rest of the TCs will be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. However, CAT/Calcutta in OA No. 118/2008 as well as Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta in Writ Petition, WPCT No. 311/2010 had directed East Central Railway to consider the representation of the candidates for regularization.

(b) The claim of applicants for regularization was given due consideration and rejected on merits by passing of a Speaking Order by General Manager, East Central Railway. The same was conveyed to the candidates also separately.

(c) Yes, Sir. A representation from General Secretary, National Union of Backward Classes, SCs and Minorities, West Bengal State Committee was received first on 17.8.2005. The same was disposed as per merit.

(d) Does not arise.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**New Catering Policy**

1589. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has finalized new Catering Policy for Railway trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether meals provided in Rajdhani, Duronto and Shatabdi trains will be made optional, if so, the details thereof, including overall passenger fare; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that hygienic and quality food is served in running trains at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As announced in Rail Budget 2016-17, Railways have decided to explore the possibility of making mandatory catering services optional in Rajdhani, Duronto and Shatabdi trains. At present, no detailed instructions have been issued in this regard.

(d) The steps taken to improve the quality of food in Railways *inter-alia* include: (i) Phased introduction of station based e-catering at all A1 and A category stations for widening the range of options available to passengers for ordering food of their choice, (ii) Introduction of precooked food ('ready to eat' meals), (iii) Operation of centralized Catering Service Monitoring Cell (CSMC) (toll free number 1800-111-321) for prompt redressal of passenger grievances relating to the catering activities and real time assistance to travelling public, (iv) Imposition of penalties in case of deficiencies detected in services, (v) Operation of all India Helpline (No. 138) for rail-users to lodge complaints/suggestions regarding food and catering services (vi) A Twitter handle with the address @IRCATERING has also been made operational to cater to the complaints/suggestions with regard to catering services.

**Construction of flyover at Gar Ali, Jorhat in Assam**

1590. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Assam has submitted a proposal for construction of a flyover at Gar Ali in Jorhat town to ease traffic congestion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Bypass at Mariani near Jorhat**

1591. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Assam has submitted a proposal for construction of a bypass at Mariani near Jorhat to enable important trains like Rajdhani Express to come upto Jorhat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No proposal for construction of a bypass at Mariani near Jorhat has been received from the Government of Assam.

#### **Procurement of EMU train sets**

1592. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to procure Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) train sets for use in its network;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the procurement process;

(c) the specialities of these train sets when compared to the present ones;

(d) how much funds would be required for procuring these train sets; and

(e) the time by which the same would be procured and put into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways has decided to enter into a

procurement - cum - maintenance contract with a selected bidder for 15 Train Sets, comprising about 315 Rail Cars. Bidders have been shortlisted after finalization of Request for Qualification (RFQ) for receipt of financial bids.

(c) These EMU Train Sets have distributed power unlike loco hauled long distance trains currently in operation over Indian Railways network. Also, these Train Sets would be energy efficient, provide better passenger comfort and reduce journey time.

(d) The sanctioned cost of the project is ₹ 2500 Crore.

(e) The first Train Set would be delivered after 2 years of Award.

**Improving condition of railway stations under PPP mode**

†1593. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had taken a decision to improve the condition of railway stations through PPP mode;

(b) if so, the names of railway stations in the country being improved through PPP mode; and

(c) if not, the plan Government is working on to provide security, cleanliness and other facilities at railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) 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 developers with their designs and business ideas. The list of 'A-1' and 'A' category stations is given in Statement (*See* below).

In addition, eight stations *viz.*, Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, Chandigarh, Gandhinagar, Habibganj (Bhopal), Shivaji Nagar (Pune), Surat and SAS Nagar (Mohali) have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. for redevelopment.

(c) Does not arise.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement***'A-1' and 'A' category stations*

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
1.	CST Mumbai	Central	30.	Lonavala	Central
2.	Lokmanya Tilak(T)	-Do-	31.	Ballarshah	-Do-
3.	Pune	-Do-	32.	Betul	-Do-
4.	Nagpur	-Do-	33.	Chandrapur	-Do-
5.	Dadar	-Do-	34.	Wardha	-Do-
6.	Kalyan	-Do-	35.	Visakhapatnam	East Coast
7.	Solapur	-Do-	36.	Bhubaneswar	-Do-
8.	Thane	-Do-	37.	Puri	-Do-
9.	Akola	-Do-	38.	Bhadrak	-Do-
10.	Amravati	-Do-	39.	Brahmpur	-Do-
11.	Badnera	-Do-	40.	Cuttack	-Do-
12.	Bhusawal	-Do-	41.	Jajpur-Keonjhar Rd.	-Do-
13.	Burhanpur	-Do-	42.	Khurda Road	-Do-
14.	Chalisgaon	-Do-	43.	Palasa	-Do-
15.	Jalgaon	-Do-	44.	Rayagada	-Do-
16.	Khandwa	-Do-	45.	Sambalpur	-Do-
17.	Khurduwadi	-Do-	46.	Srikakulam Road	-Do-
18.	Latur	-Do-	47.	Vizianagaram	-Do-
19.	Manmad	-Do-	48.	Darbhangha Jn.	East Central
20.	Miraj	-Do-	49.	Dhanbad	-Do-
21.	Nasik Road	-Do-	50.	Gaya Jn.	-Do-
22.	Panvel	-Do-	51.	Mughalsarai Jn.	-Do-
23.	Sainagar Shirdi	-Do-	52.	Muzaffarpur Jn.	-Do-
24.	Shegaon	-Do-	53.	Patna Jn.	-Do-
25.	Ahmednagar	-Do-	54.	Anugraha Narain Rd.	-Do-
26.	Daund	-Do-	55.	Ara Jn.	-Do-
27.	Gulbarga	-Do-	56.	Bhaktiarpur Jn.	-Do-
28.	Kolhapur	-Do-	57.	Barauni Jn.	-Do-
29.	Kopergaon	-Do-	58.	Betiah	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
59.	Buxar	East Central	90.	Jamalpur	Eastern
60.	Daltonganj	-Do-	91.	Jasidih	-Do-
61.	Danapur	-Do-	92.	Kolkata (T)	-Do-
62.	Dehri-on-Sone	-Do-	93.	Madhupur	-Do-
63.	Gomoh Jn.	-Do-	94.	Malda Town	-Do-
64.	Hajipur Jn.	-Do-	95.	Naihati Jn.	-Do-
65.	Jamui	-Do-	96.	New Farakka	-Do-
66.	Jaynagar	-Do-	97.	Rampurhat	-Do-
67.	Khagaria Jn.	-Do-	98.	Allahabad	North Central
68.	Kiul Jn.	-Do-	99.	Kanpur Central	-Do-
69.	Koderma	-Do-	100.	Jhansi	-Do-
70.	Madhubani	-Do-	101.	Gwalior	-Do-
71.	Mokama	-Do-	102.	Agra Cantt.	-Do-
72.	Bapudham Motihari	-Do-	103.	Mathura Jn.	-Do-
73.	Narkatiaganj Jn.	-Do-	104.	Agra Fort	-Do-
74.	Parasnath	-Do-	105.	Aligarh	-Do-
75.	Patna Sahib Jn.	-Do-	106.	Banda	-Do-
76.	Rajendra Nagar (T)	-Do-	107.	Chitrakut Dham	-Do-
77.	Raxaul Jn.	-Do-	108.	Etawah	-Do-
78.	Sagauli Jn.	-Do-	109.	Fatehpur	-Do-
79.	Saharsa Jn.	-Do-	110.	Lalitpur	-Do-
80.	Samastipur Jn.	-Do-	111.	Mohoba	-Do-
81.	Sasaram Jn.	-Do-	112.	Morena	-Do-
82.	Singrauli	-Do-	113.	Oral	-Do-
83.	Howrah	Eastern	114.	Phaphund	-Do-
84.	Bhagalpur	-Do-	115.	Raja Ki Mandi	-Do-
85.	Sealdah	-Do-	116.	Tundla	-Do-
86.	Asansol	-Do-	117.	Mirzapur	-Do-
87.	Bandel	-Do-	118.	Gorakhpur Jn.	North Eastern
88.	Bardhaman	-Do-	119.	Lucknow Jn.	-Do-
89.	Durgapur	-Do-	120.	Chhapra Jn.	-Do-



Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
121.	Azamgarh	North Eastern	151.	Tinsukia	Northeast Frontier
122.	Ballia	-Do-	152.	Dimapur	-Do-
123.	Basti	-Do-	153.	Silchar	-Do-
124.	Belthara Road	-Do-	154.	Jammu Tawi	Northern
125.	Deorea Sadar	-Do-	155.	Lucknow	-Do-
126.	Gonda Jn.	-Do-	156.	Varanasi	-Do-
127.	Kathgodam	-Do-	157.	Delhi Jn.	-Do-
128.	Khalilabad	-Do-	158.	New Delhi	-Do-
129.	Mau Jn.	-Do-	159.	Amritsar	-Do-
130.	Rudrapur City	-Do-	160.	Ludhiana	-Do-
131.	Siwan Jn.	-Do-	161.	Ambala Cantt.	-Do-
132.	Guwahati	Northeast Frontier	162.	Haridwar	-Do-
133.	New Jalpaiguri	-Do-	163.	Chandigarh	-Do-
134.	Alipurduar Jn.	-Do-	164.	H. Nizamuddin	-Do-
135.	Barpeta Road	-Do-	165.	Anand Vihar (T)	-Do-
136.	Bongaigaon	-Do-	166.	Bareilly	-Do-
137.	Coochbehar	-Do-	167.	Dehradun	-Do-
138.	Dibrugarh Town	-Do-	168.	Adarsh Nagar (Delhi)	-Do-
139.	Jogbani	-Do-	169.	Akbarpur	-Do-
140.	Jorhat Town	-Do-	170.	Ayodhya	-Do-
141.	Kamakhya	-Do-	171.	Ballabgarh	-Do-
142.	Katihar Jn.	-Do-	172.	Barabanki	-Do-
143.	Kishanganj	-Do-	173.	Bhatinda Jn.	-Do-
144.	Lumding	-Do-	174.	Beas	-Do-
145.	New Alipurduar	-Do-	175.	Bhadohi	-Do-
146.	New Coochbhar	-Do-	176.	Chakkibank	-Do-
147.	Purnea Jn.	-Do-	177.	Chandausi	-Do-
148.	Raiganj	-Do-	178.	Delhi Cantt.	-Do-
149.	Rangiya Jn.	-Do-	179.	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	-Do-
150.	Siliguri Jn.	-Do-	180.	Delhi Shahdara	-Do-
			181.	Faizabad	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
182.	Faridabad	Northern	214.	Sultanpur	Northern
183.	Ferozepur Cantt.	-Do-	215.	Udhampur	-Do-
184.	Ghaziabad	-Do-	216.	Unnao	-Do-
185.	Gurgaon	-Do-	217.	Jaipur	North Western
186.	Hapur	-Do-	218.	Jodhpur	-Do-
187.	Hardoi	-Do-	219.	Ajmer	-Do-
188.	Jagadhri	-Do-	220.	Abu Road	-Do-
189.	Jalandhar Cantt.	-Do-	221.	Alwar	-Do-
190.	Jaladhar City	-Do-	222.	Bandikui	-Do-
191.	Janghai	-Do-	223.	Barmer	-Do-
192.	Jaunpur	-Do-	224.	Bhilwara	-Do-
193.	Kalka	-Do-	225.	Bhiwani	-Do-
194.	Karnal	-Do-	226.	Bikaner	-Do-
195.	Meerut Cantt.	-Do-	227.	Falna	-Do-
196.	Meerut City	-Do-	228.	Gandhinagar (JP)	-Do-
197.	Moradabad	-Do-	229.	Hanumangarh Jn.	-Do-
198.	Muzaffarnagar	-Do-	230.	Hissar	-Do-
199.	Panipat	-Do-	231.	Lalgarh	-Do-
200.	Pratapgarh	-Do-	232.	Marwar Jn.	-Do-
201.	Pathankot	-Do-	233.	Nagore	-Do-
202.	Patiala	-Do-	234.	Palimarwar	-Do-
203.	Phagwara	-Do-	235.	Phulera	-Do-
204.	Rae Bareilly Jn.	-Do-	236.	Rani	-Do-
205.	Rajpura Jn.	-Do-	237.	Rewari	-Do-
206.	Rampur	-Do-	238.	Sri Ganganagar	-Do-
207.	Rohtak	-Do-	239.	Suratgarh	-Do-
208.	Roorkee	-Do-	240.	Udaipur City	-Do-
209.	Saharanpur Jn.	-Do-	241.	Jaisalmer	-Do-
210.	Shahganj	-Do-	242.	Secunderabad Jn.	South Central
211.	Shahjahanpur	-Do-	243.	Vijayawada	-Do-
212.	Sirhind Jn.	-Do-	244.	Tirupati	-Do-
213.	Sonepat	-Do-			

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
245.	Hyderabad	South Central	276.	Warangal	South Central
246.	Kachiguda	-Do-	277.	Yadgir	-Do-
247.	Anantpur	-Do-	278.	Raipur	Southeast Central
248.	Nanded	-Do-	279.	Bilaspur Jn.	-Do-
249.	Anakapalle	-Do-	280.	Bhilai Powerhouse	-Do-
250.	Aurangabad	-Do-	281.	Champa Jn.	-Do-
251.	Bhimavaram	-Do-	282.	Durg	-Do-
252.	Chirala	-Do-	283.	Gondia	-Do-
253.	Cuddapah	-Do-	284.	Raigarh	-Do-
254.	Eluru	-Do-	285.	Rajnandgaon	-Do-
255.	Gudur Jn.	-Do-	286.	Tatanagar	South Eastern
256.	Guntakal Jn.	-Do-	287.	Kharagpur	-Do-
257.	Guntur Jn.	-Do-	288.	Balasore	-Do-
258.	Jalna	-Do-	289.	Bokaro Steel City	-Do-
259.	Kakinada Town	-Do-	290.	Digha	-Do-
260.	Kazipet Jn.	-Do-	291.	Hatia	-Do-
261.	Khammam	-Do-	292.	Jharsuguda	-Do-
262.	Kurnool Town	-Do-	293.	Ranchi	-Do-
263.	Manchiryal	-Do-	294.	Rourkela	-Do-
264.	Nagarsol	-Do-	295.	Shalimar	-Do-
265.	Nellore	-Do-	296.	Chennai Central	Southern
266.	Nizamabad	-Do-	297.	Chennai Egmore	-Do-
267.	Ongole	-Do-	298.	Coimbatore Jn.	-Do-
268.	Parbhani Jn.	-Do-	299.	Trivandrum Central	-Do-
269.	Raichur	-Do-	300.	Ernakulam Jn.	-Do-
270.	Rajahmundry	-Do-	301.	Madurai Jn.	-Do-
271.	Renigunta	-Do-	302.	Trichur	-Do-
272.	Samalkot Jn.	-Do-	303.	Kozhikode	-Do-
273.	Tadepalligudam	-Do-	304.	Alappuzha	-Do-
274.	Tenali Jn.	-Do-			
275.	Tuni	-Do-			

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
305.	Aluva	Southern	336.	Thanjavur Jn.	Southern
306.	Arakkonam Jn.	-Do-	337.	Tiruchirappalli Jn.	-Do-
307.	Chengalpattu Jn.	-Do-	338.	Tirunelveli Jn.	-Do-
308.	Chengannur	-Do-	339.	Tiruppur	-Do-
309.	Didigul Jn.	-Do-	340.	Tirur	-Do-
310.	Ernakulam Town	-Do-	341.	Tiruvalla	-Do-
311.	Erode Jn.	-Do-	342.	Tuticorin	-Do-
312.	Jolarpettai Jn.	-Do-	343.	Vadakara	-Do-
313.	Kanhangad	-Do-	344.	Villupuram Jn.	-Do-
314.	Kanyakumari	-Do-	345.	Virudunagar Jn.	-Do-
315.	Kannur	-Do-	346.	Bangalore City	South Western
316.	Karur Jn.	-Do-	347.	Yashwantpur	-Do-
317.	Kasargod	-Do-	348.	Bangalore Cantt.	-Do-
318.	Katpadi	-Do-	349.	Bangarpet	-Do-
319.	Kayankulam	-Do-	350.	Belgaum	-Do-
320.	Kollam Jn.	-Do-	351.	Bellary	-Do-
321.	Kottayam	-Do-	352.	Bijapur	-Do-
322.	Kovilpatti	-Do-	353.	Davangere	-Do-
323.	Kumbakonam	-Do-	354.	Dharwad	-Do-
324.	Mangalore Central	-Do-	355.	Hospet	-Do-
325.	Mangalore Jn.	-Do-	356.	Hubli	-Do-
326.	Mayiladuthurai Jn.	-Do-	357.	Kengeri	-Do-
327.	Mettupalayam	-Do-	358.	Krishnarajapuram	-Do-
328.	Nagercoil Jn.	-Do-	359.	Mysore	-Do-
329.	Palakkad Jn.	-Do-	360.	Shimoga Town	-Do-
330.	Payyannur	-Do-	361.	SSP Nilayam	-Do-
331.	Rameshwaram	-Do-	362.	Vasco-Da-Gama	-Do-
332.	Salem Jn.	-Do-	363.	Bhopal	West Central
333.	Shoranur Jn.	-Do-	364.	Jabalpur	-Do-
334.	Tambaram	-Do-	365.	Bharatpur	-Do-
335.	Thalassery	-Do-			

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
366.	Beena	West Central	387.	Ankleshwar	Western
367.	Damoh	-Do-	388.	Baruch	-Do-
368.	Habibganj	-Do-	389.	Bhavnagar (T)	-Do-
369.	Hoshangabad	-Do-	390.	Chittorgarh Jn.	-Do-
370.	Itarsi	-Do-	391.	Gandhidham	-Do-
371.	Katni	-Do-	392.	Indore	-Do-
372.	Kota	-Do-	393.	Jamnagar	-Do-
373.	Maihar	-Do-	394.	Mehsana	-Do-
374.	Pipariya	-Do-	395.	Nadiad	-Do-
375.	Rewa	-Do-	396.	Nagda	-Do-
376.	Satna	-Do-	397.	Navsari	-Do-
377.	Saugor	-Do-	398.	New Bhuj	-Do-
378.	Sawai Madhopur	-Do-	399.	Palanpur	-Do-
379.	Vidisha	-Do-	400.	Ratlam	-Do-
380.	Ahmedabad	Western	401.	Surendranagar	-Do-
381.	Mumbai Central	-Do-	402.	Udhana	-Do-
382.	Bandra Terminus	-Do-	403.	Ujjain	-Do-
383.	Surat	-Do-	404.	Valsad	-Do-
384.	Vadodara	-Do-	405.	Vapi	-Do-
386.	Anand	-Do-	406.	Veraval	-Do-
			407.	Viramgam	-Do-

#### Railway land under encroachment

1594. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway land, which are under encroachment; and
- (b) the steps taken proposed to be taken by Railways to remove encroachment from railway land and retain its ownership without and encumbrances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As on 31.03.2016, approximately 879.48 hectares of land is under encroachment. Most of these encroachments are in the approaches of the Stations in Metros and big cities. For these encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys

and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters, the same is got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPE Act, 1971), as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and police. During the last three years, 89 hectares encroached land has been retrieved.

In order to safeguard Railway land, regular inspections are carried out at various levels. In case, any trespass is noticed which may eventually lead to encroachment, it is removed there and then. The land records are regularly updated and got verified from revenue authorities. Besides these regular measures, keeping in view the seriousness of the issue, the digitized mapping of land records has been initiated and it has been decided to fix responsibility on officials for any encroachments. To protect Railway land, Railways also takes measures like provision of boundary wall, tree plantation at vulnerable locations, Grow More Food Scheme etc.

#### **Electrification of railway route**

1595. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Karaikal Port-Thiruvapur-Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli and Nagapattinam-Velankanni route has been identified for electrification;
- (b) if so, the progress made so far on the above line; and
- (c) the amount that has been allocated since its identification, year-wise and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Electrification of Tiruchirappalli - Nagapattinam - Karaikkal Port rail line (153 Route Kilometres) has been included in Rail Budget 2015-16 at an estimated cost of ₹224.11 crore. The work has been entrusted to Central Organisation for Railway Electrification (CORE), Allahabad for execution.

- (c) ₹ 20.01 crore has been allocated for 2016-17. Depending upon the overall availability of resources, the targets for commissioning of Railway Electrification projects are fixed on yearly basis.

**Financial support for conduct of census of artisans**

1596. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would provide financial support to Government of Odisha for conducting census of handicraft artisans of Odisha in Handloom, Textile and Handicraft Sectors and also to all other States in the country; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The scheme of the Government does not envisage providing financial supports to the State Government including the State of Odisha for conducting Census of Handicrafts Artisans in their State. Census for Handicraft Artisans is being conducted by office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) through different Implementing Agencies.

**Imparting training to weavers**

1597. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of training imparted to weavers to upgrade their skill and increase productivity in the Handloom sector in various States, including Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of funds spent for undertaking various training programmes in the Handloom sector during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The handloom weavers/workers are being provided training 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 trend with increased productivity.

(b) The details of funds spent for undertaking training programmes in handloom sector during last five years are as under:

Year	Beneficiaries covered	Amount (₹ in Lakhs)
2011-12	7200	441.274
2012-13	19125	1441.997
2013-14	3540	575.93
2014-15	1040	-
2015-16	2500	220.005

**Production of wool and promotion of textile industry**

†1598. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of wool produced in the country during last year and places of production thereof along with names of animals from which wool is produced in the country;

(b) whether Indian wool is exported abroad, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has chalked out any scheme during the last two years for promotion of textile industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of the countries to which clothes made in the country are exported, along with the details of export made during last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The annual production of wool in 2014-15 was 48.14 million kilograms. The major wool producing States in the country are Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telengana and Andhra Pradesh. The animals from which wool is produced are Sheep, Pashmina-goat, Rabbits, Camel and Yak.

(b) Yes Sir. In 2014-15, export of raw wool from India was 0.09 million kilograms worth ₹ 2.95 crores (US\$ 0.45 million).

(c) The Government has taken following initiatives for promoting textile industry during the last two years:-

(i) Mended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS)

- The existing scheme had been amended with grant of one time capital subsidy for eligible machinery.

(ii) Scheme of Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)

- The scheme for Textile Workers Accommodation was launched in 2014 to provide safe, adequate and conveniently located accommodation for textile and apparel industry workers.
- The Scheme for Incubation and Apparel Manufacturing (SIAM) was launched in January, 2014 for setting up three incubation centres (2 12.93 crores/ incubation centre to promote new entrepreneurs in apparel manufacturing.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



## (iii) North-Eastern Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS)

- The Government has launched a project to set up modern apparel and garment making centres in each of the eight North-east States under the scheme.

## (iv) Pashmina Promotion Programme (P-3)

- P-3 was launched in October, 2014 in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir for improving quality and quantity of Pashmina wool as well as living standards of poor nomads of the region.

(d) The Top ten destinations to which clothes made in India are exported are European Union, USA, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Japan, Brazil, Mexico, Malaysia, and Australia. During 2015-16 (upto February, 2016), Ready Made Garments(RMG) worth ₹ 98.580 thousand crores (US\$ 15 billion) were exported.

**Venture capital fund to boost powerloom sector**

1599. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating upon development of Powerloom sector in the country by setting up a Venture Capital Fund under the administration of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any other incentives are being given to Powerloom sector for production and marketing Powerloom clothes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government has launched the Venture Capital Fund for Powerloom and Allied Products and Services (TEX-Fund), as a component of the Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development (ISPSD), on 29.10.2013. The TEX Fund has a minimum corpus of ₹35 crores with Government of India's contribution of ₹ 24.50 crores and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has a minimum contribution of ₹10.50 crores. SIDBI Venture Capital Limited (SVCL) is the Investment Manager of the TEX-Fund. The TEX-Fund is aimed at providing equity investment to micro and small enterprises in the powerloom sector to boost innovation in the industry by creation of brands and generation of intellectual property and enable development of the Powerloom Sector and allied activities.

(b) The Government is implementing several schemes for promotion of the Powerloom Sector including support for Production and Marketing of Powerloom cloth in the Country. The brief details of financial assistance given under Powerloom Sector Schemes is given in Statement.

**Statement**

*The details of financial assistance given under Powerloom  
Sector Schemes during 2014-15 and 2015-16*

Name of the scheme	(₹ in crore)	
	2014-15	2015-16
Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector	22.28	16.18
<i>In-situ</i> Upgradation Scheme for Plain Powerloom	9.98	59.185
Group Workshed Scheme	16.40	20.070
Group Insurance Scheme	3.90	6.620
Margin Money Subsidy Scheme under TUFS/ATUFS	130.00	165.98
Comprehensive Powerloom Cluster Development Scheme	-	4.110
<b>Total</b>	<b>182.56</b>	<b>272.145</b>

**Export of jute seeds and revival of closed jute mills**

†1600. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Jute seeds are available in plenty in the country at present;
- (b) the quantum of Jute seeds exported by the country annually; and
- (c) the future plan of the Ministry to promote Jute industry and the number of Jute Mills closed in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No shortage of jute seeds has been reported for the present sowing season. The quantum of jute seeds recommended by the Government through the EXIM Committee during the last 2 years is as follows:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Quantity of Jute seeds recommended for Export in MT
2014-15	7095
2015-16	2033

In order to ensure availability of seeds, the Government has also decided to restrict export of jute seeds from India for the current jute sowing season.

(c) The Government has taken several initiatives for promotion of the jute industry. These include:

- (i) The Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 (JPM Act) has been enacted in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material, and of persons engaged in the production thereof. Accordingly, as per the Schedule of Notification No. S.O. 126(E) dated 14.1.2016 issued under the JPM Act, stipulates the minimum percentages of total production of commodity or class of commodities that are required to be packed in jute packaging material manufactured in India and raw jute produced in India.
- (ii) A pilot project Jute-ICARE (Jute Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise) has been launched in January, 2015, in selected Blocks of West Bengal and Assam where jute cultivation is popular to improve income of farmers through both increase in yield and improvement in quality of fibres. The project is being implemented by NJB in association with Jute Corporation of India Ltd. (Jo) and Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, (CRIJAF), Ministry of Agriculture.
- (iii) A Jute Design Cell for development of Jute Shopping Bags and Lifestyle Accessories has been set up at the Innovative Centre for Natural Fibres (ICNF) of National Institute of Design (NID). Ahmedabad.
- (iv) A scheme for setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs) has been launched in September, 2015 for providing support to Women Self Help Groups (WSHG) on training, infrastructure/ machinery and marketing to artisans in development of Jute Diversified Products in 5 WSHG clusters; 3 in West Bengal and 1 each in Assam and Bihar.
- (v) Under Export Market Development Assistance Scheme of National Jute Board (NJB) support is provided to manufacturers-exporters for participation in fairs, exhibitions, Buyer-Sellers-Meet (BSM), etc.

- (vi) National Jute Board (NJB) is implementing an 'Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plant and Machinery' (ISAPM) which was started in 2013-14. The objective of this scheme is to facilitate modernisation in existing and new jute mills and upgradation of technologies in existing jute mills. The scheme also envisages providing assistance to a large number of entrepreneurs for manufacturing of value added biodegradable jute diversified products as well as modernisation and upgradation of technology. The incentive is provided at 20% of the cost of machinery acquired by Jute Mills and units in the decentralised sector. The overall ceiling for each unit is ₹ 2.50 crores in 4 years.
- (vii) Assistance is provided to jute mills for establishing sanitation facilities under Workers' Welfare Scheme to provide hygienic sanitation facilities for mill workers.
- (viii) A scholarship scheme for educational support is implemented by NJB, to motivate the family for acquiring higher education by their children.
- (ix) For Promotion of use of Jute Geo-textiles (JGT) in Civil Engineering applications like slope stabilization management, rural roads construction, river bank protection, etc. support is provided under the Scheme for Geotextiles in North Eastern Region.

In so far as the closure of jute mills is concerned, this is a cyclical process depending on the availability of demand. The numbers of closed jute mills during the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 were 18 and 28 respectively.

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

---

*The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-four  
minutes past two of the clock,*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

**REFERENCE BY MEMBERS—Contd.**

**Re. Action taken by Government on the issues raised by Members**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, I am on a point of order. Please give me a minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, you have only one minute for your point of order.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I have been thinking since long that whatever we speak here and whatever is the issue that we raise, especially, the people's issues, we don't have any information if any action is taken by the Government on those issues which go on record. There is no system of informing us as to what happens on whatever we speak here, especially about the people's issues. There is a complete vacuum. So, we only take solace in the fact that whatever we have spoken has gone on record. This will be there in a book, a bound book, and nothing else.

The House has to set up a system whereby on genuine issues raised by Members, the Government acts. Shri Naqvi gives us assurance that he would speak to the concerned Minister. He may be speaking to the Minister concerned. But what happens after he has spoken to the Minister? How do we know whether any action has been taken or not?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can bring it up before the General Purposes Committee. We will discuss there. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can bring it up before the General Purposes Committee. Then the Committee will take a decision and place it before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, it is a very serious thing. Otherwise,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I accept that it is a serious thing. Naturally, Members would like to know what action is being taken. There should be some system. That is all what you are saying. I agree with that point. But it is for the House to decide and there is a procedure.

Now, as per the understanding arrived at this morning in the presence of the hon. Chairman, we will now have the reply to the discussion on working of the Ministry of Human Resources Development, and this will be up to 3.30 p.m., and 3.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. will be for the Private Members' Business. So, the hon. Minister may reply now. But she will have to confine herself within this time-limit. It will have to get over by 3.30 p.m.

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल** (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, कल जब मैं बोल रहा था, तो मैंने \* जी का नाम लिया था। चूंकि वे इस सदन के सदस्य भी नहीं हैं और किसी का नाम नहीं लेना चाहिए, इसलिए मेरा यह अनुरोध है कि आप उस नाम को डिलीट कर दें, जिससे कोई आहत भी न हो। मेरी किसी को आहत करने की कोई intention नहीं थी।

**श्री उपसभापति:** ठीक है। This is a good thing. That will be deleted.

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जब वे जवाब दें, तो रेवाड़ी में जो छात्राएं हड़ताल पर बैठी हैं, उसको भी वे seriously ले लें। इस पर सरकार क्या निर्णय ले रही है, इसके बारे में भी वे जवाब में बताएं।

---

\*Not recorded.

**श्री उपसभापति:** थोड़ी देर हो रही है, लेकिन wisdom अच्छा है। The hon. Minister may kindly confine herself to the time-limit.

---

**DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT — Contd.**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): Sir, I hope to keep up with the terms and conditions for my speech today.

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सर्वप्रथम सदन के सभी महानुभावों के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करना चाहती हूँ, जिन्होंने कल शिक्षा पर विस्तार से अपनी चिंताओं, अपनी अभिलाषाओं और कुछ चुनौतियों का इस सदन में संकेत दिया और उनकी ओर इंगित किया। चूंकि यह चर्चा कल चली, इसलिए मैं सभी महानुभावों का उल्लेख करना चाहूंगी। इस चर्चा की शुरुआत नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने की, उसके बाद विप्लव ठाकुर जी, नदीमुल जी, हरिवंश जी, प्रभाज झा जी, सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा जी, सी.पी. नारायणन जी, दिलीप तिर्की जी, केशव राव जी, प्रदीप जी, श्वेत मलिक जी, पुनिया जी, आनंद भास्कर जी, तरुण विजय जी, प्रभाकर कोरे जी बोले। अगर किसी भी सांसद का नाम मुझसे छूट गया है तो मैं क्षमाप्रार्थी हूँ कि उनका उल्लेख मैं नहीं कर पाई।

**श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय** (पश्चिमी बंगाल): डी. राजा जी।

**श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी:** डी. राजा जी और बसावाराज जी का उल्लेख मैंने भाषण की शुरुआत में इसलिए नहीं किया, क्योंकि कुछ ऐसी चिंताएं हैं, जो मध्य में मैं इनके सामने आपके माध्यम से प्रस्तुत करना चाहूंगी। जिस चिंता के संदर्भ में मैंने अपने दो वर्ष के कार्यकाल में कहीं न कहीं, कोई न कोई समाधान देने का प्रयास किया है।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, विप्लव ठाकुर जी ने कल एक बहुत ही अहम मुद्दा और बात उठाई, जिसकी झलक हमें लगभग सभी सदस्यों के भाषणों में दिखाई दी। The predominant concern of all Members was with regard to school education and, most importantly, primary education.

इसलिए आज मैं सबसे पहले प्राइमरी स्कूल एजुकेशन से शुरू करते हुए कुछ हिस्टॉरिकल चुनौतियों का उल्लेख करना चाहूंगी। स्कूल एजुकेशन की दृष्टि से जब हम विभाग में बजटिंग करते हैं अथवा स्कूल एजुकेशन में किन-किन प्रावधानों के माध्यम से हम अपनी आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए शिक्षा को और सशक्त करना चाहते हैं, उस पर जितना भी काम होता है, वह U-DISE के डेटा के आधार पर होता है, जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स से राज्य के माध्यम से भारत सरकार तक पहुंचती है। प्रथा यह रही है कि 1990, late 1990 से U-DISE के माध्यम से केन्द्र के पास ये सारी जानकारी उपलब्ध होती है, जिसके आधार पर प्रदेश की सरकार किस तरह से केन्द्र के साथ समन्वय करके काम करेगी, ऐसी कुछ चीजों पर निर्णय होता है। वर्ष 1990 से लेकर अब तक यह देखा गया कि जो भी डेटा आता है, वह बल्क डेटा

आता है। इसका मतलब प्रत्येक ब्लॉक में, प्रत्येक जिले में, प्रत्येक स्कूल में एक छात्र क्या पढ़ रहा है, उसकी इस वक्त क्या स्थिति है, उस कक्षा में कौन-सी टीचर पढ़ा रहा है, इसकी पूरी जानकारी बहुत ही मुश्किल से प्रदेश स्तर पर अथवा केन्द्रीय स्तर पर मिलती है। हमने पहली बार 2014-15 के academic वर्ष में प्रदेश की सरकारों से यह निवेदन किया कि जब हम बल्क डाटा पर कोई निर्णय लेते हैं तो इंडिविजुअल के लिए जो सॉल्यूशन हम देना चाहते हैं, उसमें चुनौती का सामना करते हैं।

उपसभापति जी, पहले अक्सर यह होता था कि जब हम बजटिंग पर बैठते थे, तो चाहे वह "सर्व शिक्षा अभियान" हो, "माध्यमिक शिक्षा अभियान" हो या "RUSA" हो, इन सब पर वार्षिक चर्चाएँ होती थीं और एक इयरली रिपोर्ट देने के बाद जब अगले साल कोई प्रदेश से आता था, तब फिर इन पर चर्चा होती थी। इसका मतलब, fundamentally we were losing one whole academic administrative year before the States had any dialogue with the Centre with regard to components of SSA, RMSA, RUSA as the acronyms are used. For the first time, Sir, last year, we started having mid-year reviews with all the States so that we could in the middle of the year only assess how much of progress has been made on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyaan or, for that matter, even RUSA. The States understand that we can not only lose one year, but in the middle of the year if some challenges are still not answered for, then, we can apply ourselves to implementing solutions for those challenging areas. I am happy to share, through you, with this House, Sir, that in this year, 2016-17, what we will do is, do real time monitoring of 40 components of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan programme. Now, what is the benefit that we will see in every district, in every school which is associated with the Government in the State and the Centre? Firstly, we are hoping to now get data per child, per class, across all States. This will help us rationalise data with regards to enrolment, data with regards to the number of teachers who are already placed or the vacancies that are there, data, then, with regards to whether this student will pass on to the next class or will drop out or, for that matter whether this student also needs some remedial help in terms of some additional learning support. What it will also do for us, Sir, is, we will get data with regards to teachers who are teaching in these classes. We will also get Aadhar numbers not only for the teachers, but also for the students. We recognise that these are minors and hence those students who do not have an Aadhar card will have a unique number generated for them through this system so that when they do get their Aadhar numbers, this data then can be co-related, which means from the next academic year we will have a child academic tracking mechanism across the entire nation, which till now was not available, Sir, in school education in the history of our country. In all Government schools we will do this. I am happy to share, Sir, through you, with the entire House that 15 States are already doing child tracking mechanism. It has helped us not only check real time enrolment, the real time academic presence of the child in the

[श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी]

school, but it has also helped us save money because there are many Members here, who have rightfully said कि स्कूल खुल गया है, लेकिन उसके अंदर कोई विद्यार्थी नहीं है अथवा विद्यार्थी नहीं है, लेकिन शिक्षक को लगा दिया गया है। इस rationalization में इसकी एक बड़ी भूमिका रहेगी।

सर, इस विषय को और आगे बढ़ाते हुए कई राज्यों ने हमसे कहा कि जहाँ पर विद्यार्थी ही नहीं हैं, वहाँ पर पूरे स्कूल का ढाँचा हमने आरटीआई के पश्चात् खोल दिया है, लेकिन वह इफ्रास्ट्रक्चर भी ज़ाया हो रहा है और टीचर्स को पढ़ाने के लिए कोई छात्र नहीं है। कुछ स्कूल्स ऐसे हैं, जहाँ विद्यार्थी 10-12 हैं, लेकिन वहाँ एक भी टीचर नहीं है। हमने इस साल सभी राज्यों से कहा कि अगर आप एक कम्पोजिट स्ट्रक्चर में बच्चों को पढ़ाना चाहते हैं, तो जिन स्कूलों में टीचर नहीं बल्कि विद्यार्थी कम हैं, वहाँ आप ऐसी सुविधा उपलब्ध कराएँ कि उन स्कूलों में कक्षा 1 से लेकर 12 तक हर क्लास में टीचर हो और वहाँ बच्चों को स्कूल तक पहुँचाने के लिए buses का प्रबंध करें। Transportation fee, जो केन्द्र की सरकार प्रदेश की सरकार को समर्थन करने के लिए दे सके, उसे निश्चित करें, हम मदद करने को तैयार हैं। मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी होती है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में, उत्तराखंड में, राजस्थान में, छत्तीसगढ़ में और झारखंड में हमारे इस प्रयास को स्वीकार किया गया और composite school, जिसकी हमने परिभाषा की है, designate किया गया है। जब हम प्रदेश की सरकारों के साथ चर्चा करते हैं तो उसमें हम लोग इन सारी चीज़ों पर बात करके composite school के structure में प्रदेश की जो दरकार है, उसके हिसाब से उन्हें support provide करते हैं। कल हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने teacher vacancies की एक बहुत बड़ी चिन्ता व्यक्त की।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से पूरे सदन को बतलाना चाहती हूँ कि teacher recruitment, teacher vacancy, teacher transfer – यह सारा प्रदेश की सरकार का अधिकार है। केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से हम दो-तीन विषयों पर प्रदेश की सरकार की मदद करते हैं। जब भी प्रदेश की सरकार हमसे कहती है कि उन्हें additional teaching posts चाहिए, तब हम प्रदेश की सरकार को additional teaching posts का पैसा मुहैया कराते हैं, किन्तु वे पोस्ट्स कब भरें, कैसे भरें, यह अधिकार प्रदेश की सरकार का होता है। हमने प्रदेश की सरकारों से इस साल यह निवेदन किया कि नयी भर्ती करने से पहले, यह देखा गया है कि अधिकतर टीचर्स जो हैं, जो शिक्षक हैं, वे शहरी इलाकों के पास रहना ज़्यादा पसंद करते हैं, ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में जाना पसंद नहीं करते। हमने उनसे आग्रह किया है कि पहले आप vacancies को भरें, उसके बाद आप कोशिश करके नयी recruitments उसी साल में करें, आप हर साल recruit करें। आप यह न करें कि आपकी recruitment की pendency दो-तीन साल बढ़ती जाए और वह rationalize न हो। Teacher recruitment and vacancy के इस विषय को अगर मैं numbers के आधार पर प्रदर्शित करूँ तो आप सबको यह जानकर खुशी होगी कि साल 2011-12 और 2012-13 में राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लगभग 40,000 vacancies को भरा गया लेकिन हमारे Proactive engagements और प्रदेश की सरकारों के सहयोग 2014-15 और 2015-16 में 1 लाख से ज़्यादा टीचर्स की Vacancies को भरा गया है। इसका मतलब केन्द्र और प्रदेश जब समन्वय की भावना के साथ काम करते हैं तो इन सारी चुनौतियों को कहीं न कहीं एक limited timeframe में हम पूरा करने में समर्थ होते हैं।

एक विषय जो अक्सर मैंने कई वरिष्ठ सांसदों के मुख से सुना है कि टीचर ऐसा है, जो खुद



व्याख्या नहीं कर पाता। पंजाब के हमारे शिक्षा मंत्री महोदय ने एक मीटिंग में हमारे पास प्रमाण देकर व्याख्यान किया कि किस प्रकार से उनके जिन सरकारी स्कूलों में इंग्लिश पढ़ने वाले बच्चे फेल हो रहे थे, उनके इंग्लिश टीचर्स से जब कहा गया कि आप एक पैराग्राफ में लिख दीजिए कि बच्चों में आपको क्या कमी दिखी, तो उनके एक पैराग्राफ में ही उन्हें 40 spelling mistakes मिलीं। तो कहीं न कहीं यह चैलेंज है कि वे टीचर्स जो आज पढ़ा रहे हैं, लेकिन उनकी पढ़ाने की क्षमता जब दिखती है, तो वह चिंता का विषय बन जाती है। इस चिंता का निवारण हमारे DIET's में है, जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्तर पर टीचर की pre-service और in-service training करते हैं। आज अगर आप किसी भी प्रदेश के किसी भी सांसद से पूछें कि आपके जिले में DIET की क्या स्थिति है तो वे आपको पूरा खाका नहीं दे पाएंगे क्योंकि यह पूरी जानकारी real time किसी के पास नहीं है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से पूरे सदन को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि हम पहली बार technology को leverage करके DIET के लिए एक portal बना रहे हैं, जो प्रदेश की सरकारें इस्तेमाल करेंगी। District wise DIETs जो हैं, उनका curriculum टीचर ट्रेनिंग के लिए है, क्या वह curriculum अपडेट हुआ है, वे pre-service और in-service किस प्रकार से कर रहे हैं, उनकी training के बाद टीचर की क्षमता पर कितना प्रभाव पड़ रहा है, उसका एक benchmark सेट करके हम देंगे। प्रदेश की सरकारें quarterly जान पाएंगी कि उनके किस जिले में DIET का क्या स्तर है? जो भी DIETs benchmark के ऊपर काम करते हैं, वे तो चिंता का विषय नहीं बनेंगे, लेकिन quarterly प्रदेश की सरकार यह जान पाएगी, जब-जब DIETs benchmark के below जाएंगे, ताकि वे तुरंत quarterly intervene करने की क्षमता रख सकें। हमने प्रदेश की सरकारों से यह भी कहा है कि टीचर्स एजुकेटर्स की जो सीटें हैं, वे कई DIETs में खाली पड़ी हैं। हमने उनसे निवेदन किया है कि वे टीचर एजुकेटर के लिए अलग से cadre बना दें, ताकि जो ट्रेनर्स हों, उन पर विशेष ध्यान देते हुए टीचर की क्षमता को बढ़ाने में हमें मदद हो। मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी है कि लगभग 15 से 18 स्टेट्स ऐसे हैं, जिन्होंने टीचर एजुकेटर के स्पेशल cadre के निर्माण में अपनी सहमति दिखाई है और वे काम अपने-अपने राज्यों में ही कर रहे हैं। मैंने बात टीचर्स ट्रेनिंग, U-DISE data, चाइल्ड ट्रेकिंग की है और यह स्वाभाविक है कि कहीं न कहीं प्रश्न चिह्न उठेगा कि हमने घोषणाएं तो बहुत कर दीं कि "भारत पढ़ेगा, भारत बढ़ेगा"। हमने "राष्ट्रीय आविष्कार अभियान" की घोषणा कर दी, लेकिन क्या ये महज घोषणाएं हैं या धरातल पर कुछ हो रहा है? उपसभापति जी, इसका प्रमाण मैं आपके माध्यम से देना चाहूंगी। I recognize कि कहीं न कहीं, जब पोलिटिकल घोषणाएं होती हैं, तो एक प्रश्न चिह्न स्वाभाविक रूप से उसके साथ लग जाता है कि स्लोगन अच्छा है, लेकिन काम कितना है, उसको आप प्रमाणित कीजिए। मैं नरेश अग्रवाल जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करती हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने हमारे साथ इस success story को बांटा है। "राष्ट्रीय आविष्कार अभियान" के माध्यम से हमारा यह एक प्रयास था कि मैथ्स और साइंस, जिसका लर्निंग आउटकम बच्चों में घट रहा है, उसको और प्रभावशाली माध्यम से हम सरकारी स्कूलों में बच्चों तक पहुंचाएं। "राष्ट्रीय आविष्कार अभियान" की वजह से औरैया जिले में सबद, पाटा, बिरिया गांव है, वहां पर प्रो. एच.सी. वर्मा हैं, जो आईआईटी कानपुर से हैं, जो नोडल ऑफिसर हैं। उन्होंने शिक्षकों को ट्रेनिंग दी, जिसकी वजह से बच्चे अब प्राइवेट स्कूल छोड़कर सरकारी स्कूलों में आ रहे हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने हमें यह बतलाया कि मात्र यह इन तीन गांवों की कहानी नहीं है, आस-पास के 27 गांवों में भी इस कार्यक्रम की वजह से छात्रों में उत्साह बढ़ा है कि हां, मेरे सरकारी स्कूल में अब आईआईटी

[श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ुबिन इरानी]

कानपुर की ट्रेनिंग के बाद मेरे टीचर्स मैथ्स और साइंस में एक नई टेक्नीक के साथ हमें पढ़ा रहे हैं और आविष्कार को किताबी ज्ञान से बाहर ले जाकर उनके स्कूल के प्रांगण में अथवा नेचर से संबंधित हों, hand-on experiment हो, रीडिंग हो, उसके माध्यम से प्रभावशाली काम हो रहा है। "पढ़े भारत, बढ़े भारत" लर्निंग आउटकम्स को देखते हुए, early reading, writing, numeracy, जो बहुत बड़ा एक चिंता का विषय बना था, कल एक महानुभाव ने PISA की हमारे रेटिंग के बारे में बात की थी। PISA का एक्जाम बच्चों ने दिया था साल 2009 में, आज पी.जी. रेड्डी जी यहां नहीं हैं, उन्होंने भी इस चिंता को व्यक्त किया था। उस चुनौती पर पहुंचने से पहले मैं बताना चाहूंगी कि हमने "पढ़े भारत, बढ़े भारत" की शुरुआत अगस्त, 2014 में की थी, जिसके माध्यम से हमने कहा कि

'Let us give children additional learning aids', Let us give teachers additional teaching aids', so that early reading writing and numeracy can be strengthened in our children. Sir, I am happy to report, through you to this August House that we have success stories from even schools in Sikkim where we are told that by "पढ़े भारत, बढ़े भारत" intervention, reading corners have been made in schools. We have seen that children are getting that additional reading material, learning material and we have seen the success. इसको वहां की सरकार ने स्वयं हमें प्रमाणित करके दिया है, जो हमारे लिए प्रोत्साहन का विषय बनता है। These things are actually materializing in real success stories on the ground. That is why, Sir, it gives us the impetus to go forward and strengthen these programmes.

सर, आपके माध्यम से मैं यह भी कहना चाहती हूँ कि कल महानुभावों ने मिड-डे मील के ऊपर अपनी चिंता को व्यक्त किया। मिड-डे मील अपने आप में एक समाधान भी है और कई जगह पर चुनौती भी है। इसको हमें स्वीकार करना होगा, क्योंकि इसका अपना एक इतिहास राज्यों में रहा है। इस सदन में और बाहर भी इसके ऊपर कई चर्चाएं हुई हैं। प्रदेश की सरकारें कहती हैं कि हम चाहते थे, जब यह कार्यक्रम शुरू हुआ कि प्रदेश का जो कल्चर है, food habit है, उसके हिसाब से आप हमें खाना बनाने की अनुमति दें। यह नहीं कि राष्ट्र भर के स्कूलों में खिचड़ी ही पका कर बच्चों को दी जाए। हमने प्रदेश की इस बात को स्वीकारते हुए, पहली बार प्रदेशों से कहा कि nutritional content आप बराबर रखते हुए, प्रदेश की food habits के हिसाब से जो देना चाहते हैं, उसे केन्द्र की सरकार को बतलाकर ऐसा कोई ढांचा, ऐसी कोई रचना करना चाहते हैं, तो हमें बताएं। Nutritional content of Mid-Day Meals - एक बार फिर उसका मापदंड कैसा हो, उसमें क्या नए inputs डालने हैं, हमने उसके लिए विनोद पॉल नाम के एक काफी विख्यात pediatrician, जो AIIMS दिल्ली में हैं, उनकी अध्यक्षता में एक नई कमेटी बनाई और कमेटी ने हाल ही में अपनी रिपोर्ट HRD को दी है, जिसको हम प्रदेशों के साथ शेयर करेंगे। हमने फरवरी 2015 में पहली बार Mid-Day Meals के लिए safety protocol दिया, ताकि हर राज्य को, हर management committee को, हर जिले को यह जानकारी प्राप्त हो कि Mid-Day Meals को बनाने में क्या-क्या सुविधाएं और क्या सावधानियां बरतनी हैं।

कल राजा जी ने, नारायणन जी ने और अभी यहां तपन जी नहीं हैं, उन्होंने इस चिंता को व्यक्त

किया कि Mid-Day Meals में जो लोग अपना सहयोग देते हैं, उनका वेतन बढ़ाया जाए। मैं उनसे विनम्रता से कहना चाहती हूँ कि जब हम Mid-Day Meals का cost component देखते हैं, तो हमने अप्रैल में उस cost component को revise किया और हम food grains का पूरा का पूरा पैसा भारत सरकार की ओर से दे रहे हैं। पहले भारत सरकार इसको BPL के रेट पर देती थी, अब 2 रुपए और 3 रुपए के रेट पर दे रही है। हमने पूरे का पूरा भार वहां लिया है। हमने राज्यों से अपील की है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने 'सुरक्षा बीमा योजना' की घोषणा की है, तो क्या हम कम से कम राज्यों के माध्यम से यह सुरक्षा कवच Mid-Day Meals workers तक पहुंचा सकते हैं या नहीं? मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी है कि अब तक लगभग 47,000 and over, Mid-Day Meals workers have been covered by the State Governments under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana. I am also happy to share with you that the State Governments are also giving a top-up to the money that is being sent from the Centre; for instance, States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat, are doing it. We are hopeful that after the devolution of funds of the 14th Finance Commission, the States have that added financial capacity to at least look after this particular aspect.

Sir, Nareshji had also raised an issue with regard to kitchens. 2006 से लगभग दस लाख किचन्स sanctioned थे और आज तक लगभग सात लाख किचन्स बने हैं। वर्तमान में 31 दिसम्बर, 2015 तक एक लाख बारह हजार किचन्स are under construction. It means, we still have a last mile of 10 per cent to achieve which we shall achieve under the leadership of this Government. That is my assurance to the House.

Sir, I would also like to highlight that there has been this concern: Especially, senior Members like Mr. Narayanan, have expressed about curriculum. There has been a phobia which has been developed about the word 'Sanskrit'. I would very humbly submit to the hon. Member that the Government of India has not brought about any changes in the curriculum. I have to here, Sir, assert the right of the State to define curriculum, as per the State's needs. That is not a right in which the Government of India can intervene.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): What about NCERT?

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Yes, I have to say that NCERT also has not changed its curriculum. Let me reaffirm that also on the floor of the House. Hence, my saying is that we understand not only the fact that we have ensured respectability of the National Curriculum Framework, 2005, but we have also supported State Government's right to ensure that they do the curriculum as they deem fit as long as it is in consonance with the National Education Policy and the Constitution. That, till now, has been the policy of the Government and I don't see that policy changing. But, we have also recognized, कई बार कई सांसदों ने यह कहा कि क्या छात्र सिर्फ किताबों तक सीमित रहेगा? हमने इसी सदन में सुना तिरुवल्लुवर जी के बारे में, कल राजा जी ने कहा that arithmetics and

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

**3.00 P.M.**

alphabets are the two eyes with which we see the world. I totally agree. But, can you imagine that not many of our children across the country have benefited from the teachings of Thirukkural. It is the Members of this House, through a Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, who is absent today, that the House unanimously asked if the Government can facilitate that the rich teachings of Thirukkural reach every child in this country. We respected the mandate of this House and we reached out and did essay competitions and engagements with school children and I am happy to share that in essay competitions, the best entries came not only from the State of Tamil Nadu, but they also came from 12 States across the country.

That means, when given the opportunity, children do want to learn about the rich heritage, the culture and the learnings of our great ancient sages, even today in the age of Google.

Sir, I also have to say that when I walked into this House, I saw on all the five doors, some Sanskrit *shlokas* were written. We walked in and there is a phobia that we have spoken about Sanskrit, which I want, today, to clarify on the floor of the House. The IIT circular which came into much debate कि क्या है भाई, अब स्मृति इरानी सब आईआईटीज़ में संस्कृत पढ़ा रही है। अगर आप उस सर्कुलर को ध्यान से देखें, तो हमने उसमें कहा है कि उस भाषा में जो साइंटिफिक नॉलेज है, अगर वह संस्थान उस नॉलेज को उस भाषा में ग्रहण करना चाहता है, तो संस्थान उसको करने के लिए autonomous है। सर, मैं आज आपको एक उदाहरण देती हूँ। कल नरेश जी ने ranking के बारे में चर्चा की। एक उदाहरण ऐसा है, जिससे शायद यहाँ मेरे सभी सीनियर्स को, across the party line थोड़ा बहुत दुख पहुंचा है। Department of Mathematics, Cornell University में David Henderson नाम के एक mathematician हैं, उन्होंने *Sulbha Sutra* पर एक पेपर लिखा है। *Sulbha Sutra* is the oldest text book on geometry available today. It is in Sanskrit. This man came to Tamil Nadu, to the Shankaracharya Mutt in the late 1990s, and was given access to the library there and from there he took materials, on which he wrote a paper back in the Cornell University. I don't know the exact term, but, if I am right *Infinitesimal Calculus* is the terminology of it. सी.पी. नारायणन जी कल बोल रहे थे कि स्मृति, हमारे curriculum में क्या मिसिंग है, जो तुम्हें लगता है कि आज हमें सम्मिलित करना चाहिए। अगर आप आज history of mathematics के बारे में किसी भी छात्र से पूछेंगे तो वह आपको अपने ही प्रदेश का, विश्व स्तर पर maths की दुनिया में contribution नहीं बता पाएगा। इस calculus की परिभाषा यूरोप में सन् 1600 में मिलती है, लेकिन Kerala School of Astronomy and Mathematics में यही परिभाषा 1350 में मिलती हैं। Do our students know it? So the challenge is: Where do you bridge the gap? Where do you introduce this subject, or for that matter, give the freedom to academicians to absorb it, without being called communal

or without being called saffron? That is the facilitation that I would seek this House to give academicians.

One of the biggest challenges that we have seen with regard to school and higher education, is the challenge of learning outcomes. यहाँ पर कुछ महानुभावों ने PISA के बारे में बोला कि बच्चों को eighth standard में fifth standard की किताबें पढ़नी नहीं आतीं, अंग्रेज़ी बोलनी नहीं आती, maths हल करना नहीं आता। सर, साल 2009 में, भारत के बच्चों पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर का एक टेस्ट किया गया। कुछ बच्चे हिमाचल से आए, कुछ तमिलनाडु से आए और उनसे कहा गया, यह टेस्ट दो, फिर हम बताएंगे कि भारत के बच्चे विश्व के बच्चों के comparison में कितने होशियार हैं। उस टेस्ट में जिन brands का उल्लेख किया गया, जिन fruits का उल्लेख किया गया, वे सब के सब फॉरेन ब्रैंड्स ऑफ फ्रूट्स थे। जिस बच्चे ने rote learning के माध्यम से पढ़ा, जिसने कभी critical thinking की नहीं, जिसका competency test नहीं किया गया, 2009 में उसके ऊपर यह तमगा लगाया गया, यह ठप्पा लगाया गया कि विश्व के बाकी देशों के बच्चे होशियार हैं, तुम बेवकूफ हो। हमने पहली बार कोशिश की है कि जो National Assessment Survey होता है, जो हर क्लास का learning outcome subject wise बताता है, पहले यह टेस्ट तीन साल में एक बार होता था, अब हम प्रदेश की सरकारों के साथ मिलकर इस assessment को school wise, subject wise, child wise इस वर्ष से शुरू करने वाले हैं। हमने जिन बच्चों को आज तक critical thinking नहीं सिखाई, competency टेस्ट करना नहीं सिखाया, उन बच्चों को अब इस टेस्ट के माध्यम से interventions के माध्यम से, we will take them on to that path, that slowly weans them off only from rote learning, and gives a balance between rote learning, possibly, and critically thinking. Sir, unfortunately, education is that sector where things have to be done intermittently, given that we are servicing children who don't like shocks and impacts given to them, suddenly out of the blue. Like, for example, the maths paper of CBSE, which came into much controversy, where suddenly people said, अरे, यह हमको समझ नहीं आया, बड़ा tough है। It is about application of what you have learnt. It is about testing your competency after you have learnt something, which is what we are progressively taking our students on to. The other issue which became a challenge for all citizens, not just the students of a particular age, is the skill component. आज तक राष्ट्र में ऐसी कोई संभावना नहीं थी कि अगर आपको आठवीं के बाद अपनी शिक्षा छोड़ दी, तो आप 5-10 साल काम करने के बाद दोबारा शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में शिक्षा ग्रहण करने के लिए आ सकते हैं। नवंबर, 2014 में हमने 'SAMVAY' नाम का एक framework महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी के माध्यम से राष्ट्र को समर्पित किया, जिसके अन्तर्गत कक्षा 9 से लेकर Post-Graduation तक आपका skill और जितना टाइम आपने किसी काम में लगाया है, उसके component को देखते हुए, learning competency को test करते हुए आपको दोबारा पढ़ने का मौका मिलेगा। यह हमने सभी राज्यों के साथ share किया, ताकि जहाँ-जहाँ उन्हें इस चुनौती का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, 15 साल की उम्र से लेकर हमने जो age है, उसको limitless रखा है। सर, मेरा सौभाग्य था कि जब मैं North-Eastern Hill University में गई, तब मैंने एक 76 years old student को Ph.D लेते देखा, because they wanted to study and come back into the system

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

There was a time when in certain institutions, in certain States, there was a capping with regard to the age for which somebody can sit and study. There was a time when the skill or the job that has been done gave you an entrance back into the system.

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल** (उत्तर प्रदेश): मंत्री जी, किस स्टेट में age की capping थी? यह capping कहीं नहीं थी।

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा** (उत्तर प्रदेश): अगर किसी स्टेट में यह हो, तो बताएँ।

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल**: आप किसी भी स्टेट का नाम बताएँ, जहाँ capping थी।

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, there were institutions that were not allowing adults to come back into the system giving primacy to the amount of work they have done. For instance, अगर कोई सुधार है, उसने 4 साल काम किया, तो उसके काम की उस अवधि को उसके entrance लेने के लिए सुविधा नहीं मिलती थी। हमने पहली बार उसकी learning competency को test करने के साथ-साथ, उसने अपने काम के सेक्टर में जो वक्त बिताया है, उसको भी कहीं न कहीं entrance के लिए एक सहारा बनाया है, जो आज तक नहीं था। हमने यह राष्ट्र भर में किया है, ताकि जो भी स्टेट अपने citizens की सुविधा के लिए इसका इस्तेमाल करना चाहे, वे कर सकते हैं।

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा**: माननीय मंत्री जी, यह clear नहीं हो रहा है कि जैसे अभी किसी बच्चे ने 4 साल तक पढ़ाई नहीं की, वह दोबारा पढ़ाई करना चाहता है, उसने बीच में job की है, तो हम लोगों की knowledge में उसको कहीं रोक-टोक नहीं है। हम लोगों ने किसी स्कूल में उसको मना भी नहीं किया था, लेकिन आप कह रही हैं कि उसने 5 साल काम किया है, तो उसको उसका कोई advantage देकर क्या अपने आप डिग्री दे दी जाएगी या इसका मतलब क्या है? यह हमें कुछ clear नहीं हो पा रहा है।

**श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी**: सर, मैं आपको इसका मतलब समझाती हूँ। मान लीजिए कोई श्रमिक है, जिसने काम करने के लिए पढ़ाई छोड़ दी, लेकिन उसने कक्षा 11 में पढ़ाई छोड़ी या उसने B.A. First Year में पढ़ाई छोड़ी, तो हमने यह सुविधा दी है कि अब अगर वह 3-4 साल बाद उस सिस्टम में वापस आना चाहता है, तो कहीं न कहीं उसने कब तक पढ़ाई की, हम उसका तो प्रमाण लेंगे ही, लेकिन साथ ही, चूँकि उसने पढ़ाई इतने सालों तक छोड़ दी थी, उसके काम का जो समय बीता है, उसका भी सम्मान करते हुए उसको एक facilitating ability बनाया है। पहले यह facilitation available नहीं था, under the rules, which we have now shared with every State to get into the system. That is why I am repeatedly saying, if you want some additional information, I am happy to share the whole matrix with, which we have shared with many States. Also, we have ensured that we now give a bachelor's degree in vocational education through the University Grants Commission. Additionally, what we have done is, कल AICTE का मुद्दा आया, engineering seats vacant हैं, उनका मुद्दा आया। हमने स्टेट्स से

यह कहा है कि मान लीजिए कि आपके क्षेत्र में किसी ने एक infrastructure बनाया है और वह उस infrastructure का उपयोग मात्र engineering के लिए नहीं करना चाहता है, बल्कि second shift में अपने क्षेत्र की जनता के लाभ के लिए skills training करना चाहता है, तो हमने कहा है कि आप AICTE को inform कर दीजिए कि ये skills जिनके लिए National Occupational Standard निर्धारित कर दिया गया है, आप ये skills अपने इस infrastructure के माध्यम से आगे अपने क्षेत्र में दे रहे हैं, ताकि अब तक जो engineering institutions सिर्फ AICTE के दम पर चलते थे, उनको यह autonomy मिली है that now they can use their infrastructure more for the benefit of the local people.

Similarly, Sir, we have had challenges that our colleges have faced, where every year they had to go to the university, get an affiliation and forever then be dependent on that university. यूनिवर्सिटी माई-बाप बन जाती थी। We have said that those colleges, which have received affiliation continuously for ten years from a university, have got themselves accredited through NAAC, will get academic autonomy, which means, they will now decide their own examination, their own curriculum, and the certification will only happen through the university. Thereby, for the first time, we are helping the colleges get autonomy in our country, which till now were dependent only on university. We have also raised a solution to a challenge that many Members, in this House and the other House, had expressed with regard to the debilitating factor for those students who had received their PhD before 2009.

अचानक ही पिछली सरकार के माध्यम से एक ऐसा निर्देश आया कि जिनकी पीएचडी 2006 से 2009 के बीच में हुई है, उनको नेट से एग्जाम्शन नहीं मिलेगी, जो हमारी नज़र में बहुत ही unjust निर्देश था। हमने Nigvekar Committee के माध्यम से, यूजीसी के माध्यम से इसमें प्रयास किया। मुझे देश में पहली बार यह सूचना मिली कि लगभग पाँच से आठ लाख लोग ऐसे थे, जिनमें से अधिकतर लोग बिहार, उत्तर प्रदेश और राजस्थान से थे, जो Associate Assistant Professor की एंट्री लेवल की पोज़िशंस से वंचित हो रहे थे। उन लोगों को इस फैसले से सहयोग मिला है, when we have removed this debilitating PhD challenge that the earlier Government had left us with as a legacy issue. Many hon. Members have expressed their anxiety with regard to ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा:** माननीया मंत्री जी, आपने जो पीएचडी वाली बात उठाई है, यह बहुत बड़ा ज्वलंत इश्यू है। क्या आपने 2009 तक का कैप मेंटेन कर दिया है?

**श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी:** हमने कैप हटा दिया है।

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा:** जो 2009 के बाद वाले पीएचडी स्टुडेंट्स होंगे, क्या उनको यह इग्ज़ाम पास करना पड़ेगा? आज जो पीएचडी करेगा, क्या वह इसके लिए एंटाइटल्ड है?

**श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी:** सर, ऐसा है कि सिर्फ 2006 से लेकर 2009 तक, तीन साल के लोगों को इससे वंचित कर दिया गया था। मुझे इसका प्रमाण कहीं भी नहीं मिला कि इसका कारण क्या

[श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी]

था? वहीं तीन साल के लोग क्यों इससे वंचित होंगे? वे छात्र इसकी वजह से 2009 से संघर्ष कर रहे थे कि हमने रेगुलर मोड में पीएचडी की है, तो हमें कॉलेजेज़ और यूनिवर्सिटीज़ में नौकरी लेने से क्यों वंचित किया जा रहा है? हमने उनकी उस बात को स्वीकार किया, क्योंकि वह वाकई में अन्याय था। इसका कहीं कोई संवैधानिक प्रमाण नहीं था कि मात्र इन्हीं तीन साल के छात्रों के साथ यह अन्याय क्यों हो रहा है? हमने उस कैप को हटा दिया है।

दूसरा, राजा जी इस बात से भली-भांति परिचित हैं कि टीचर्स के लिए सबसे बड़ा चैलेंज API score है। हमने Nigvekar Committee के माध्यम से, यूजीसी के माध्यम से कोशिश की है कि API scores में जो कैपिंग हो रही है, जिससे हमारे बहुत सारे Associate Professors प्रमोशंस में disabillitate हो रहे हैं, उस कैपिंग को भी किसी प्रकार से हटा दिया जाए और टीचर्स को predominantly टीचिंग करने के लिए और अपने छात्र का learning outcome बढ़ाने के लिए ज्यादा प्रमोट किया जाए, that a teacher's promotion needs to depend on the promotion of his class, that is, when a teacher totally dedicates himself only to the education of the student, does not get involved in extracurricular activity that teacher, in no way, should be penalized, is what this Government has decided. And, I am hopeful, when our proper notification comes out with regard to the API score, many teachers across the country, who have been agitating on this for years, will find relief. That is my belief.

Sir, there has been a challenge with regard to curriculum, which is there in our higher education system ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** एक मिनट, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, अगर हम 2013-14 में पीएचडी करते हैं, तो क्या हमको NET में जाना पड़ेगा या नहीं जाना पड़ेगा? आपने 2006 से 2009 में पास किए हुए पीएचडी स्टुडेंट्स के लिए तो कह दिया है कि हमने उनको एग्जम्प्ट कर दिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज की क्या स्थिति है?

**श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी:** सर, 2009 में पीएचडी के नये रेगुलेशंस आए थे, जिनको सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपहोल्ड किया था, जिसकी वजह से जो पढ़ाना चाहते हैं, उन्हें अपनी competency दर्शाने के लिए नेट का इग्जाम देना पड़ता है। 2006 से 2009 के बीच में छात्रों को इससे वंचित क्यों किया गया, उसका कहीं कोई प्रमाण नहीं था अथवा जो प्रमाण प्रस्तुत किया गया था, वह just नहीं था। 2006 से पहले जितने लोग थे, उनको यह सुविधा थी, सिर्फ 2006 से 2009 के बीच के लोगों के साथ यह अन्याय हुआ था।

महोदय, करिकुलम की दिशा में आगे बढ़ते हुए मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ, चूंकि हमारे सारे इंस्टीट्यूशंस autonomous हैं, इसीलिए वे सरकार के नियंत्रण की चीज़ नहीं हैं, लेकिन रेग्युलेटर अपनी ओर से मॉडल करिकुलम बनाकर इंस्टीट्यूशंस के साथ शेयर कर सकता है, ताकि जो इंस्टीट्यूशंस इसको एडॉप्ट करना चाहें, वे एडॉप्ट कर सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारा यह प्रयास है कि जिन-जिन क्षेत्रों में कहीं न कहीं संस्थाओं का सम्पर्क हमसे है, वहाँ पर हम उन्हें एडिशनल सपोर्ट दें, ताकि



करिकुलम बेहतर हो पाए। I am happy to share with you, Sir, that just yesterday, we had a confirmation that two MIT Professors in conjunction with the World Bank will help us better the curriculum of NITs in our country. So, Sir, this Professor, who, I am told is from the Mechanical Engineering Department of MIT, which is the most renowned institution in the world, will now handhold in terms of new curriculum design for our NITs along with their academicians. This, I think, Sir, is a fundamentally big step that we are taking in the stream of technology, information and technology.

Sir, apart from this curriculum issue, नरेश जी ने कल इस भावना से एक चर्चा छेड़ी थी, क्योंकि वे चाहते थे कि अप्वाइंटमेंट्स को लेकर कहीं स्पष्टीकरण हो। तो सर, मैं पूरी विनम्रता के साथ कहना चाहती हूँ कि appointments to Central Universities होती हैं। उसमें भी Ministry behaves only as a secretariat. There is the President's nominee and there are nominees of the University who do not do any meetings with the HRD Minister. They do their meetings independently, send a panel, and that is the panel that goes to the hon. President of India, and the President picks the Vice-Chancellors of all the Central Universities. What we have chosen — and I personally sat on, I am making the full disclosure today— is the Director of IIT, Delhi. If you look at the academic background, you will find that he is an expert in nanoscience; IIT, Patna, where the gentleman, I believe, is an expert in linguistics and computation, and a gentleman in IIT, Bhubaneswar, who has had a significant contribution in missile technology and communication systems. These are the choices that I had the privilege of making. I also had the privilege of reconfirming somebody appointed by the erstwhile Government in IIT, Mandi, called Timothy Gonsalves, because he performed well, and the IIT peer review gave him good marks enough for him to be reappointed. So, IIT Chairpersons or IIM Chairpersons that I have appointed, I can share with you; one of them is Mrs. Shyamala Gopinath, who was the Deputy Governor of the RBI, a formidable woman in the field of financial services; Arundhati Bhattacharya, SBI Chairperson; IIT, Delhi, Chairperson is Kumar Manglam Birla. So, leaders from the world of finance, technology and industry have been brought forth and appointed by this Government, which shows that in terms of excellence, these are the kind of leaderships that we want to bring about. And what is the impact of that leadership? अगर आप आंकड़े देखें, तो गत 14 वर्षों में, साल 2000 से 2014 तक, हमारे राष्ट्र में IITs के माध्यम से तीन research parks सम्भव हुए, लेकिन साल 2014 से लेकर 2016 तक हमने 6 नये research parks के निर्माण का कार्य शुरू किया, मतलब गति बढ़ रही है। हमारे कई महानुभावों ने कई बार बोला कि 'उच्चतर आविष्कार अभियान' के माध्यम से कोई व्यक्ति इंजीनियर तो बनता है, लेकिन वह industry-friendly नहीं होता अथवा इंडस्ट्री उसे employable नहीं मानती। हमने कहा कि 'उच्चतर आविष्कार अभियान' के माध्यम से, इस योजना के माध्यम से IIT का कोई छात्र अथवा फैकल्टी अगर कोई प्रोजेक्ट प्रपोज करता है, तो उसको इंडस्ट्री सपोर्ट करे और उसमें सरकार की

[श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ुबिन इरानी]

ओर से हम कुछ राशि देने को तैयार हैं। अब तक करीब 60 प्रपोजल्स आए हैं, I am not mistaken; I am subject to correction. इंडस्ट्री से लगभग 136 crore आया है, because this is the first ever time that industry academic is coming together and pooling money, and we are seeing a lot of good impact. We have also, Sir, for the first time in the history of our country taken 10 research goalposts which vary from defence technology to nanotechnology to sustainable development of water resources, and we have pooled in all our scientific best minds into it. Apart from telling us what are the research milestones our nation needs to reach in the next decade- and-a-half, we have also implored that they help us in manpower planning in that sector, so that we can complement the efforts of research and industry and have enough academic strength ready, as and when we see those sectors develop in our country.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Odisha): Madam, one thing regarding the Central Universities. You have established, at least, one Central University in every State, but most of the Central Universities are not having full faculties. In Odisha, in Koraput, there is one Central University. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, may I conclude?

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: About 50 per cent posts are vacant. ...*(Time-bell rings)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't take too much time. She has only 10 more minutes.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, as the hon. Member has said, there are faculty challenges in universities. I will reassert here that it is the right of the institution to appoint teachers and faculty. The Government of India can, in no way, intervene in it. What the Government of India can do is, it can facilitate the institution if the institution asks for any help. Under the Constitution, the only help the Government of India can give is the Visitor nominee panels which universities need. Earlier, the visitor nominees that were given were one in number, thereby when the member was not available, the university could not sit down to recruit faculty. We, in the past two years for every university, have now given ten nominees and said, अगर आप चाहें तो दस में से किसी को भी बुलाकर राष्ट्रपति के नॉमिनी के रूप में अपनी रिक्रूटमेंट करें। सर, यह जो सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी एक्ट पास हुआ, उसके अंतर्गत मेरी जो कंस्टीट्यूशनल लिमिटेशन है, उसके अंतर्गत महामहिम राष्ट्रपति हर वर्ष वी0सी0ज0 के साथ मीटिंग करते हैं जिसमें बार-बार we assert with regard to filling up the faculty post. There are many universities which take teachers on *ad hoc* basis and

contract basis. We implore that they do ensure that they get permanent teachers in. Today all Central Universities have VCs. Yesterday somebody said that 10 VCs posts are vacant. That is not true. They all are filled except Shantiniketan, Visva Bharti because the State, Sir, right now, is in election mode. I cannot breach the code of conduct and that is why I cannot intervene in the Central University. But let me also say here, Sir, that yesterday, Harivanshji spoke about the case of Jharkhand. सर, झारखंड की चुनौती यह रही कि जो उनके पूर्व वीसी रहे, वे सीबीआई के केस में ग्रस्त थे और सीबीआई का केस हो रहा है उस इंस्टीट्यूशन के कंस्ट्रक्शन में और इंस्टीट्यूशन faculty के एपॉइंटमेंट में। सीबीआई की इन्क्वायरी सागर यूनिवर्सिटी में भी चल रही है, इस विषय का पिछली सरकार को भी ज्ञान है। जहां-जहां सीबीआई की इन्क्वायरी चल रही है, वहां हस्तक्षेप करना उचित नहीं है, इतना मैं आपके ध्यान में लाती हूँ।

Recognizing, Sir, the limitation of time, let me say only two-three things quickly. The hon. Prime Minister's desire was that those children who study in public institutions need to have interface with academicians of repute globally and that is why we started a project called, the Global Initiative of Academic Network, under which we have invited foreign academicians to come to India, teach in India, thereby facilitating joint research projects and facilitating a dialogue between our students and our foreign academicians. I am happy to report that over 400 foreign academicians have come into our institutions and, this year, we are hoping that it exponentially grows to 700 and up to 1000. I will also like to say that to complement this effort, we have also started a Global Research Interactive Network under which we are pulling in our research needs and getting researchers and support internationally so that there can be encouragement given to joint research projects.

Sir, Nareshji, Satishji and people who understand the language challenge that students have, especially, those who have not studied in English medium, will be happy to know that one of those challenges, we are hoping to address. Now because the Code of Conduct is right now established, I was unable to dedicate it to the nation as I had scheduled last month. But, through BharatVani, the minute the Code of Conduct gets over, Sir, across many educational streams, which vary from agriculture to economics to sciences and engineering, all subject-related matters will be available, in the first year, in 22 Indian languages, and, next year, in hundred Indian languages, the first ever in our country. And, we have also ensured that we do translatory dictionaries language-specific. For instance, our Kendriya Hindi Sansthan has done an Indonesian and Hindi dictionary, but, at the same time, done a Kok Borok and Hindi dictionary so that close to thirty tribal languages will also have the Hindi dictionaries so that those who know those tribal languages can learn Hindi and those who know Hindi and want to learn those tribal

[श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी]

languages can also be facilitated. The last point that I seek to make here, Sir, is, because I see the indication that you are giving me and, like a good student....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to give you more time, really, but I am constrained.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I recognize your constraints, Sir.

The last point that I seek to make is that we understand and appreciate that cost of education is a concern, not only for Parliamentarians, but also for Indians at large. This is the concern that we hope to address through a project called *Swayam*, which we are hoping to dedicate, from this academic year itself, to students at large. Under *Swayam*, Sir, students will get an opportunity to study class IX, X, XI, XII, Diploma, Certificate, and for some issues, semester-wise programmes, by Central Universities, IITs, IIMs and other institutions, free of cost, to begin with, in ten Indian languages, which will also be supported by a mobile APP. We are hopeful that there are private institutions that, in public good, want to get involved in this project, so that more and more of these educational opportunities could be given to our students across the country.

Sir, I would also like, through you, to share with this House that there are many students in the university system, specially those not living in urban centres, who have the challenge of not having the latest reading material, or for that matter, the latest lectures from very prominent Professors from main city centres. We are hoping, Sir, after this code of conduct gets over, to give all our students not only a portal, but also a mobile APP, where close to a thousand lectures in various subjects and various languages would be available to our students in UG and PG courses, so that they get additional learning help that they so much deserve, so that they can better their education quotient.

I am recognizing, Sir, that I have spoken for 49 minutes now and I am dangerously close to 3.30 p.m., but I would now, through you, Sir,... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, I wish to seek one small clarification.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. Only three minutes in any case. Put just one question.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Yes, Sir. ... *(Interruptions)*...

Sir, the hon. Minister has given a very elaborate reply in response to this debate on the working of the HRD Ministry. Smritiji, since I have been in the Planning Commission, I know that thousands of crores of rupees are being given to different educational schemes. Of these, a lot many schemes are really good, like the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*. Huge infrastructure has been created in every nook and corner of the country for the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*. But, there are certain schemes which have not percolated down, which are of no utility. Can that money be diverted to other schemes that are more useful, more purposeful, and which have really percolated down? That is one thing. The other thing is adult education. I don't think people have really benefited from adult education. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, okay. Mr. Misra now.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, there is another point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Take just two minutes; others too.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: She has spoken about faculty problems in institutes of higher education. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is need for good faculty in elementary and middle level education too. I would like to have clarifications on these points. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Misra now; one minute only.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, I have just one question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Simply put one question. She has to reply.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, I seek the attention of the hon. Minister, सर, हमने कल पूछा था कि विकलांगों के लिए कोई योजना बन रही है या नहीं बन रही है? अगर नहीं बन रही है, तो आप उनके लिए कुछ योजना बनाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: मैंने conclude नहीं किया और आप खड़े हो गए हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसलिए मैं कह रही हूँ कि मुझे पहले conclude करने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के संबंध में हमने आपसे अनुरोध किया था कि आप जो बिल्डिंग्स बना रहे हैं, जो चीजें कर रही हैं, आप उनके रेट, प्राइस और डिज़ाइन का review करें। तीसरी बात यह है कि अभी आपने एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण इश्यू को खुद ही रेज़ किया है कि जो पीएचडी स्टूडेंट्स का मामला है, उसमें आपने 2006 से 2009 तक वाले को relax करा दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. No time; no time. There is just one more minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, you may ask one question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा:** इससे लाखों लोगों को नौकरी मिल गई है, लेकिन आप उसके बाद के लोगों को क्यों नहीं relax करवा रही हैं? आप सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जाइए और कहिए कि जिसने पीएचडी की है, उसको पढ़ाने के लिए entry मिलनी चाहिए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, okay. Where is the time to reply? ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the time to reply? ...*(Interruptions)*... Put only one question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the time to reply? ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल:** सर, मैंने दो-तीन विषयों को उठाया था। एक तो मैंने डीम्ड यूनिवर्सिटी के संबंध में उठाया था। इस संबंध में मैंने कहा था कि डीम्ड यूनिवर्सिटी खोलने के लिए जो गाइडलाइन्स हैं, उनको ठीक कर दीजिए, जिससे ज्यादा डीम्ड यूनिवर्सिटीज़ खुल सकें।

दूसरी बात यह है कि राज्यों में जो हायर एजुकेशन को गवर्नर्स ने किडनैप कर लिया है, उसमें आप क्या कर रही हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The time to reply is just one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the time to reply? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, would you allow me to reply quickly? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Raja has one point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have three points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. There is just one minute. Put your question.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Firstly, the Minister has said, "There won't be any change in the curriculum. Don't see saffron everywhere." ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Let me formulate it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it your question? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: The point is ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you; time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you; time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Let me complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: In two minutes, I will finish whatever

clarifications were asked. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji's one issue pertains to 2010 Deemed University Regulations about which we are talking to the UGC to ensure that the private sector is ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, Sanskrit is one of the languages in the Eighth Schedule. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is an apprehension that it is given special treatment. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are not asking a question. You are making a speech. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Raja, it is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not asking a question. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are making a speech. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Nareshji spoke about the role of Governors as Chancellors, and I must here highlight that it is the right of State to appoint or dignify the status of the Chancellor through the position of the Governor. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government of India has no role to play in that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not a good thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... I hope the House agrees for five minutes more. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: With regard to children that Satishji had spoken about, I would like to highlight, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me allow to finish this point. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will reply to what Satishji had asked. Let me finish this aspect. I would like to say here that earlier the teachers were specifically trained but only a few teachers were there to help children with special needs. Now, we have said that every teacher needs to be trained so that they can help children with special needs. I would like to say that under SSA we have actually trained 3,17,000 teachers only for this purpose; 90,410 teachers have specially been trained for children with learning disabilities and 34,029 teachers have been specially oriented for children with autism. For the first time in the history of our country, even in IITs, we have waived off all fees for students with disabilities. Students who are from SC/ST communities earlier had to pay 5 per cent, we have waived that off. Students whose family income is less than ₹ 1,00,000 a year, ...*(Interruptions)*... we have completely waived off their fees,- and students whose family income is less than ₹ 5,00,000, two-thirds of their fees is remitted. ...*(Interruptions)*... For students who are really brilliant and who need that additional help, we have told that every help ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahra, what is your question? ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा** (उत्तराखंड): सर, उत्तराखंड प्रदेश में जो गवर्नमेंट टेक्नीकल कॉलेजेज़ हैं, उनके कश्मीर के छात्रों के लिए सीटें आरक्षित रहती हैं और यह देखने में आया है कि जब से उत्तराखंड बना है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: ... has to be given to every student so that no student is, in any way, put to any challenge. ...**(Interruptions)**... That has been in our active communication, including the Central Universities. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Madam Minister, if you take so much time for reply, then I will be in trouble. ...**(Interruptions)**... Put your question.

**श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा**: सर, उत्तराखंड प्रदेश में जो गवर्नमेंट टेक्नीकल कॉलेजेज़ हैं, उनमें कश्मीर के छात्रों के लिए सीटें आरक्षित रहती हैं। यह देखने में आया है कि जब से उत्तराखंड बना है, तब से उनमें एडमिशन लेने के लिए कश्मीर का कोई भी छात्र नहीं आया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति**: आपका क्वेश्चन क्या है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा**: सर, मैं मंत्री महोदया से जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर उन कॉलेजेज़ में कश्मीर के छात्रों से सीटें नहीं भरती हैं, तो क्या उन सीटों पर वहाँ के स्थानीय छात्रों को प्रवेश देने का आदेश पारित होगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rapolu, one sentence question. ...**(Interruptions)**... एक सेंटेंस में क्वेश्चन पूछिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Can you put it?

**श्री नरेश अग्रवाल**: महोदय, अभी हम लोगों के क्वेश्चंस का भी जवाब नहीं आया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, University students throughout the country are looking towards the magnanimity of the Union Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your question? ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: If she could waive the punishment and rustication meted out throughout the Universities of the nation. They are waiting to hear from you, Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. V.P. Singh Badnore ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): My clarification is on the CBSE. Now CBSE has been a very popular curriculum so far.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put the question. ...**(Interruptions)**... Put the question. ...**(Interruptions)**...



SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: But it is the rote system which the Minister has been talking about. The CBSE international is a new curriculum. Can she tell me if the new system is going to be now more prevalent and more popular in India than the rote system of the CBSE or the old one?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, would you like to answer these questions? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, three things have been asked. First, Rajeevji asked about the States or schemes, for that matter, that are not percolating on the ground. Should we re-appropriate that money under other Schemes? I think that is not an issue for the HRD Minister. It depends not only on the permission of the hon. Finance Minister, but to say that the Adult Education Programme has failed is the biggest anomaly. Over six crore people sat for the exam. Four crore people have already got it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, just to check whether they are just doing the signatures, we did the Jan Dhan Yojana and the Suraksha Bima Yojana programmes with these very adult literates to see whether they could fill in their forms, and I can personally confirm that in Jan Dhan Yojana, one crore adult illiterates, who became literate, could do it on their own because we also give financial literacy. In Suraksha Bima Yojana also, they could do it. My request to Rajeevji is that this is an initiative which has...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Then, there was a question with regards to Uttarakhand. Sir, I cannot speak about the intervention into the rights of a State Government with regards to this issue. This falls into that category of their jurisdiction. I will only say that if the State Government, in any way, feels that they need facilitation by the Government of India to help any student from any State, we are more than happy to help. Nareshji, in his absence, had asked about 2010 regulation, which is a problem for many institutions.

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Deemed universities.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Yes, that is the 2010 regulation. I had, Sir, in your absence, confirmed that we are in talks with the UGC so that they can, through their institution, take a more appropriate action.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Rapolu's question.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, rote learning and critical thinking is not an issue with regards to only one book; it is an actual learning-teaching experience which

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

needs to be elaborately discussed. But, insofar as Rapolujji goes, who keeps calling me 'Sanskrit Irani' and not 'Smriti Irani', I can only say this that though he wants me to be magnanimous as a Minister, this Minister is a mere mortal who is tied to the Acts passed by this very Parliament, and this Parliament does not allow me to intervene into the administrative matters of any university! My request is only this ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't intervene. Keep quiet.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: The only request I have from Rapolujji is to refrain from making any personal comment and I would beg your indulgence as a senior on the same. My request is this that this is a Pandora's box. I am sure that you don't want to open it. ...*(Interruptions)*... My request is that we don't open it. Let the universities be autonomous enough to administer themselves. If there is a breach of law, bring it to the notice. As a Secretariat of the hon. President, we will put it before him. He will advise us on the appropriate action, as the Visitor, to be taken on this issue. I thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Parida is standing. You may answer his question also.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Sir, through you, I just want one clarification. We are praising this CBSE course. Is it possible, or now it is a practice, that this course would be taught in the schools through the local languages, the State languages? It would help the local languages to develop.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I will answer this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You did not reply to Mr. Badnore's question. You may reply to that also.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, in fact, my whole speech had a lot to do with rote learning and critical thinking. I think it is not about which curriculum or Board the child studies under.

**श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा:** सर, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिल पाया है।

**श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी:** सर, आपके प्रश्न का उत्तर मैंने दिया है कि वह उत्तराखंड सरकार का विषय है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you have replied that.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, rote learning and critical thinking is not a problem associated with one Board or one book or a particular curriculum. It is a whole

methodology of teaching a child and the subsequent understanding of the child, which determines whether that child has been encouraged as a critical thinker or not. So, as I said, that is an issue for elaborate discussion, but as the hon. Member from Odisha has said, in October, 2015, the Secretary of School Education — Nareshji had also raised this issue yesterday had a combined meeting between the Central Board and the State Boards; that issue with regards to even core syllabus items can be discussed and children from State Boards can also avail themselves of the facility. It is in a nascent stage because this is a very sensitive issue impacting Boards across the country. Boards in the States have to take elements that they desire for their States, but as the Government of India, we are facilitating each Board. Nareshji had raised an issue about the Boards having different times for results. That is a prerogative of the State, but all the Boards came together in October, 2015, and confirmed that all the results, which were earlier being announced separately across May to June, would now be announced, at least, up to the 31st of May. That is the confirmation that we have from all the school Boards.

Medium of education is the right of the States. So, I cannot usurp it. Thank you, Sir.

---

**REFERENCE BY MEMBERS - Contd.**

**Re. Demand for authentication of papers**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Chair is happy that the Minister is eager to reply to every question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): I thank you for that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sometimes, I have seen Ministers trying to avoid questions. You are not like that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I am grateful for your courtesy, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the Chair did not have time to allow us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is your point? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, for the last two days, I have been repeatedly asking you that you give directions to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat to find out whether all the papers which were used by Dr. Subramanian Swamy ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let me tell you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: ...to make insinuations and innuendos ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You raised it in the morning. You need not say it again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: ... against the Congress leadership. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is enough. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: ... have been authenticated and placed on the Table of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You raised it. That is enough. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to know whether all the papers have been authenticated, and, secondly, whether the papers are available for public scrutiny by us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Jairam Ramesh raised it in the morning. I assured that I will give reply today. The other day also, he raised it, and, I said that I will consider it. This morning, I said that I will reply today. I have given the direction and ruling that Dr. Subramanian Swamy will authenticate the documents which are quoted. If he has to do that, duly authenticated papers should be placed, otherwise, all what he quoted, will be deleted from the records; all what he quoted. If he is not doing. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... If he is not doing it by 6.00 p.m., all what he said as quotations, all what he quoted, will be deleted from the records. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing more. Now, Private Members' Business. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. Private Members Business. Please sit down. Shrimati Rajani Patil. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: But, Sir, what about YouTube and social media where ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing more. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Nothing more.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, what about the ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not allowed.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: \*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Rajani Patil. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen, we have to take up the Private Members' Business. I said that it will start at 3.30 p.m. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, it is 3.42 p.m., and, we are starting twelve minutes late. Therefore, the Private Members' Business will be over by 6.12 p.m. only. We are taking additional twelve minutes. After 6.12 p.m., we may have Special Mentions also. That is the scheme. Now, the Private Members' Business. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, it is Private Members' Business. Shrimati Rajani Patil. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else will go on record.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have given the ruling. Please sit down. I said that. What I had to say, I have said. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I have said all that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shrimati Rajani Patil.

---

[THE VICE CHAIRMAN, (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) *in the Chair*]

### PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

#### **Making stringent provisions of capital punishment for rape and commercial sexual exploitation of girls and women; amending social laws relating to inheritance of property, and making reservation for women in public employment**

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL (Maharashtra): Sir, I move the following Resolution:-

Having regard to the fact that:—

- (i) the women in our country are still not economically independent and those who brave to venture out of their homes to work in the fields, establishments, shops and Government departments and establishments are sexually harassed despite several laws have been enacted to prevent this menace;

---

\*Not recorded.

[Shrimati Rajani Patil]

- (ii) girls and women are also subjected to teasing, molestation, disrobing and sometimes paraded naked in full public view and also branded as witches and ultimately killed as such; and
- (iii) the condition of widows, infirm and destitute old women is more precarious who are not supported by their kins or who have no one to take care of them and who are forced to survive on begging and working as maids in houses and remain exploited throughout their lives,

This House urges upon the Government to—

- (a) make stringent provisions of capital punishment for rape on girls and women and also for commercial sexual exploitation of girl child and for incestuous rape on girls and women by suitably amending the provisions of the Indian Penal Code and other related laws;
- (b) amend the existing social laws so that women should inherit half of the movable and immovable property of her husband after her marriage as a measure of social security to her;
- (c) reserve posts for women in all public employment so that they become economically independent; and
- (d) introduce welfare measures, subsistence allowance, old age allowance, medical care, old age and caring homes for the destitute widows, infirm and old women so that they too lead an honourable life in the society.

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस सभागृह को यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि महिलाओं का यह विषय बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और सालों से इसके ऊपर चर्चा होती आ रही है। हमने प्राचीन काल से जो कहानियाँ सुनी हैं कि हमारा भारत देश एक ऐसा विशाल देश है, जहाँ गार्गी, मैत्रेयी जैसी बहुत बड़ी विदुषियाँ हुई हैं। हम यहाँ पर भी कभी-कभी देखते हैं कि जब कोई विदुषी बोलती है, तो हमे गार्गी, मैत्रेयी की याद आ जाती है, जिन्होंने अपने भाषण और संभाषण में बड़े-बड़े ऋषि मुनियों को भी मात दे दी थी। 'कैकेयी' उल्लेख हमेशा बहुत गलत तरीके से होता है, लेकिन मैं उनका उल्लेख जरूर करना चाहूंगी कि रामायण में जो 'कैकेयी' हुआ करती थी, वह इतनी सामर्थ्यशाली थी कि राजा दशरथ को भी उसकी मदद लेनी पड़ी, लेकिन कालानुसार उसमें बदलाव आ गया और हम महिलाओं को चौखट पर रखने काम हमारे पुरुषों ने कर दिया। हमें इसके लिए भयभीत भी किया गया और मनुस्मृति का आधार लिया गया और कहा गया,

'न स्त्री स्वातंत्र्य मर्हति'।

आज 21वीं सदी में महिलाएं कितनी सुरक्षित हैं, यह बहुत ही बड़ा सवाल हमारे मन में आता है।

दिल्ली जैसे शहर में जहां "निर्भया कांड" हुआ था और अभी भी ऐसे कांड हो रहे हैं, अभी परसों की ही बात है, केरल में एक दलित लड़की के साथ रेप करके उसे मार दिया गया। हमारी बहन ने यहां रेवाड़ी का उल्लेख तो किया ही था। छेड़-छाड़ से दुखी होकर दो गांवों की छात्राओं ने स्कूल छोड़ने का काम किया है और रेवाड़ी में "लाला" नामक एक गांव है, वहां की सभी लड़कियां छेड़-छाड़ की वजह से स्कूल छोड़ रही हैं।

सर, मैं आपको वर्ष 1975 में ले जाना चाहूंगी, जब श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी इस देश की प्रधान मंत्री हुआ करती थीं। तब उन्होंने 'स्त्री मुक्ति' का नारा पहली बार लगवाया था। उन्होंने महिलाओं को अपना मुक्त आसमान दिखाने के लिए हमेशा विचार किया था। उसके बाद राजीव गांधी इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री बने। उन्होंने तो हमें इस ऊंचाई पर पहुंचा दिया कि जिस देश में पंचायत राज में 30 लाख लोग चुनकर आते थे और उनमें बहुत ही कम और गिनी-चुनी महिलाएं होती थीं, उस स्थिति में राजीव जी ने 73rd, 74th पंचायती राज का अमेंडमेंट करके महिलाओं को उनका अधिकार दिया, महिलाओं को राजनीति के मुख्य प्रवाह में शामिल किया और पंचायती राज बिल के माध्यम से आज उसमें दस लाख से ऊपर महिलाएं हैं। यदि आकड़ा देखा जाए, तो 17 से 18 लाख महिलाएं पंचायती राज में चुनकर आ रही हैं।

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगी कि जहां पर निर्णय होता है, ऐसा हमारा सदन राज्य सभा और लोक सभा है। पार्लियामेंट में रिजर्वेशन करने का वायदा हमारी पार्टी ने भी किया था और भारतीय जनता पार्टी ने भी किया है। आज इनकी majority है। मैं आपके माध्यम से इनसे कहना चाहूंगी कि अगर सही मायनों में महिलाओं का दुख जानना चाहते हो, सही मायनों में महिलाओं की मदद करना चाहते हो, तो महिलाओं को आरक्षण देना आवश्यक है। राज्य सभा, लोक सभा और जहां भी विधान सभा और विधान परिषद है, वहां पर 33 per cent आरक्षण देने की आवश्यकता है। सर, जब मैं 11वीं लोक सभा की सदस्य चुनी गई थी, तब पहली बार यह आरक्षण का मुद्दा आया था। उस समय हमारे यहां के ही लोगों ने बताया,

"यत्र नार्यस्तु पूज्यन्ते रमन्ते तत्र देवताः"।

हमें लगा कि अब तो बिल्कुल आरक्षण होने वाला है, क्योंकि हमारे भाई लोग हमें नारी की और देवी की उपमा दे रहे हैं, इसलिए हम बहुत खुश हो गए थे। लेकिन बाद में जब हम सेन्ट्रल हॉल में चले गए, तो यही हमारे भाई लोग बोलने लगे कि क्या आप पागल हो गए हो? हम अपने हाथ में बेला थोड़ी ना लेने वाले हैं! जब तक हम महिलाओं के प्रति यह भावना नहीं बदलेंगे, तब तक तक हमें कोई भी हमारा नया अधिकार नहीं मिल सकता। सर, यह तो राजनीतिक और सामाजिक अधिकार की बात है, लेकिन मैं अभी पूरे देश की महिलाओं की बात कहना चाहूंगी, जिस बात में शहर की महिलाएं हैं, जो महिलाएं हाथों में लैपटॉप लेकर गाड़ी में सवार होकर हर रोज निकलती हैं। जो महिलाएं अपने बच्चों को पीछे स्कूटर पर बैठाती हैं, सुबह-सुबह सबका नाश्ता और नाश्ते का डिब्बा तैयार करती हैं और घर से बाहर निकल झांसी की रानी की तरह जाती हैं। वे खुद अपनी लड़ाई लड़ने के लिए ऑफिसेज में चली जाती हैं। जब वे ऑफिसेज में जाती हैं, तो कोई अधिकारी होता है, कोई बॉस होता है, जिसका थोड़ा सा भी चरित्र ठीक नहीं है, तो वह उसके साथ छेड़-छाड़ करने की कोशिश करता है। उसके साथ sexual abuse करने की कोशिश करता है, उसका गैर फ़ायदा उठाने की कोशिश करता है और

[Shrimati Rajani Patil]

वह बेचारी महिला चुपचाप सहती रहती है। उसके लिए हमने कानून जरूर बनाया है। हमने यूपीए-2 में Sexual Abuse at the Workplace का कानून बनाया था, लेकिन वह कानून कितना क्रियान्वित हो रहा है, इसको देखना भी आवश्यक है। सर, मैं आपको बताना चाहती हूँ कि जिस तरह से शहर की महिलाएं हैं, खेत में मजदूरी करने वाली महिलाएं हैं, जब वे खेत में मजदूरी करने जाती हैं या किसी घर पर मजदूरी करने के लिए जाती हैं, तो उसको भी इन कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है।

सर, 2011 ऐसा साल था, जब इस देश की राष्ट्रपति एक महिला थी, Lok Sabha की Speaker एक महिला थी, Leader of Opposition एक महिला थी, UPA की Chairperson एक महिला थी। इतना सब होते हुए भी देश की महिलाओं के प्रति आज पुरुषों की जो मानसिकता है, वह ऐसी मानसिकता है, जिसको हम unsaid discrimination कहते हैं। वह unsaid discrimination महिलाओं के प्रति हमेशा रहता है। हमें हमेशा संघर्ष करना पड़ता है और खुद की पहचान बनानी पड़ती है। मैं हमेशा सोचती हूँ कि:

"मुरझाए हुए फूल की तक्रदीर हूँ, लेकिन

चुभ जाऊँ किसी के दिल में, वो काँटा तो नहीं मैं।"

महिलाओं के लिए हमें हमेशा यह लगता है।

सर, हमारा जो Resolution है, उस पर मैं यहाँ दो-चार specific points बताना चाहूंगी। एक तो जो inter-caste marriages, love marriages होती हैं, उसमें जो honour killing का जो प्रकार होता है, उसके लिए भी हमारी Government की तरफ से कुछ steps उठाने जरूरी हैं।

सर, जो female foeticide का सवाल है, जो खास तौर पर महाराष्ट्र, हरियाणा, पंजाब, साऊथ दिल्ली में है, इसमें मैंने सबसे अजीब बात यह महसूस की - क्योंकि मैं Social Welfare Board की Chairperson थी, मैंने यह देखा कि जहाँ पर ज्यादा पैसा है, जहाँ लोग elite हैं, वहाँ female foeticide ज्यादा है, लेकिन जहाँ पर गरीब लोग हैं, जहाँ आदिवासी लोग हैं, जहाँ कष्ट का कार्य करने वाले लोग हैं, वहाँ पर female foeticide नहीं होती है। ऐसा क्यों है? ऐसा इसलिए है, क्योंकि लोगों को prestige बनाने के लिए लड़के चाहिए। लोगों की ऐसी मानसिकता है, ऐसी हमारी महिलाओं की भी मानसिकता है। वे सोचती हैं कि हमारा लड़का होना चाहिए, वह आगे हमारे घर का दीया जलाएगा। इस तरह की मानसिकता से माँ जन्म से पहले ही बच्चे को मारने का काम करती है। वह माँ हो या बाप, दोनों ऐसा करते हैं।

सर, मैं बीड़ डिस्ट्रिक्ट से आती हूँ, जहाँ पर female foeticide के बहुत सारे केसेज पकड़े गए थे। वहाँ पर बहुत सारी machines seal कर दी गई थीं। मैं इस सभा गृह को बताना चाहूंगी कि डॉक्टर्स कानून की चपेट में न आएँ, इसके लिए उन्होंने यह किया कि sonography के बाद जो prescription लिखते हैं, उस पर यदि "जय माता दी" लिखते हैं, तो इसका मतलब है लड़की होने वाली है, यदि "श्री गणेश" लिखते हैं, तो इसका मतलब लड़का पैदा होने वाला है। वे "श्री गणेश" का नाम देकर लड़के को spell out करते हैं, और "जय माता दी" का नाम लिखकर लड़की को spell out करते हैं।



और "जय माता दी" का नाम लिखकर लड़की को Spell out करते हैं। इस तरह से उन्होंने कानून से बचने के लिए इस तरकीब को लगाने का काम किया है। इन लोगों के ऊपर कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही करने की आवश्यकता है। हमारी हज़ारों कलियाँ खिलने से पहले, माँ के गर्भ से निकलने से पहले ही मार दी जाती हैं, उनके लिए हमें एक stringent action लेने की आवश्यकता है।

सर, dowry और bride burning पर हम कितना भी बोलें, लेकिन हमारे यहाँ पर dowry पर प्रश्न उठना कम नहीं हुआ है। आजकल, जब हम शादियों में जाते हैं, तो हमारे जो बड़े-बड़े नेता लोग भी हैं, वे इतने बड़े लेवल पर शादियाँ करते हैं। हम गाँव में जाते हैं तो हमें आश्चर्य होता है कि इतने करोड़ रुपये खर्च करके शादी करते हैं। वे इस तरह से खर्च करके समाज को क्या राह दिखाएंगे? यह भी आवश्यक है कि dowry का प्रभाव कम हो। आज अगर इसके आंकड़े देखे जाएं, तो इस साल हमारे हिंदुस्तान में 6,787 dowry cases हुए हैं।

सर, हमारे यहाँ पर education disparity भी होती है। जब सिखाना होता है, तो लड़कों को ज्यादा priority दी जाती है, लड़कियों से कहते हैं बाद में। अगर बच्चे को सिखाने का इश्यू होता है, तो वह भी लड़के ही सीखेंगे। खाने में भी ऐसा ही होता है। गाँव में पहले से ही ऐसा होता आया है कि अगर अच्छा खाना है, तो वह लड़के को दे दो, लड़कियाँ बाद में खाएंगी। हमारे समाज में कभी-कभी ऐसा भी होता है।

सर, domestic violence के लिए, जैसे मैंने अभी बात की है कि 70 per cent Indian women, according to the Women and Child Development Department, आपके डिपार्टमेंट से ही बता रही हूँ कि फैमिली मैम्बर्स से ही 76 प्रतिशत महिलाओं को domestic violence का सामना करना पड़ता है। यह एक आश्चर्य की बात है। मैंने पहले ही शुरुआत में कहा कि महिलाओं का, लड़कियों का property में राइट होना चाहिए। इसमें उनको पुरुषों के बराबर, लड़कों के बराबर अधिकार मिलना चाहिए।

सर, मैं widows के status पर भी बोलूंगी। आप वृंदावन जाकर देखिए, मुझे लगता है कि मंत्री जी ने last week ही वृंदावन पर statement दिया था। आप वृंदावन जाकर देखिए कि वहाँ पर widows की क्या अवस्था है? हमारे देश में पति के चले जाने का गलत अर्थ निकालकर उन महिलाओं का बहुत शोषण किया जाता है।

मैं यहाँ पर witch hunting का भी उल्लेख करना चाहूंगी। क्योंकि समय की पाबंदी है, इसलिए मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगी, लेकिन हमारी महिलाओं के साथ witch hunting की जाती है।

सर, सिर्फ कानून बनाने से काम नहीं होने वाला है। मैं आपके द्वारा सरकार को सिर्फ यही बताना चाहूंगी कि कानून बनाने के बाद उसका implementation कैसे होता है, इस पर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। जैसे स्कूलों में हम value education पढ़ाते हैं, अभी स्मृति जी बहुत अच्छा भाषण दे रही थीं, लेकिन जैसे हम स्कूलों में value education की क्लास लगाते हैं, उसी तरह से लड़कियों के लिए जो भी कानून बनते हैं, उन कानूनों में मिले अधिकारों को जानने के लिए कि उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए क्या कानून बनाए गए हैं, उनके बारे में भी उनको जाग्रत करने की आवश्यकता है।

[Shrimati Rajani Patil]

4.00 P.M.

सर, बलात्कार और जो धिनौने अपराध हैं, उनमें अपराधियों को जो सजा मिलती है, जब कोई अपराधी वह सजा पूरी होने के बाद छूट जाता है, तो मुझे लगता है कि उन अपराधियों के ऊपर monitoring करने की जिम्मेदारी भी सरकार को लेनी चाहिए। उनको पुलिस डिपार्टमेंट के through monitor करते रहना चाहिए। रेवाड़ी में घटना हुई है, वहाँ बच्चों ने जो छेड़छाड़ की है, ऐसी छेड़छाड़ के आरोप में उनको अन्दर रखा गया था। जब वे छूट कर बाहर आ गए, तो उसके बाद उन्होंने फिर वह काम करना शुरू कर दिया। यह एक प्रवृत्ति होती है और उस प्रवृत्ति को मिटाने की आवश्यकता है।

सर, जैसा मैंने बताया कि जहाँ कानून बनता है, वहाँ पर हमें आरक्षण मिलने की आवश्यकता है। उन्होंने हमेशा कहा है कि हम महिलाओं को आरक्षण देंगे। हमारी नेता सोनिया गाँधी ने हमेशा चाहा है कि इस देश की महिलाओं को लोक सभा और राज्य सभा में आरक्षण मिलना चाहिए।

सर, अंत में मैं महिलाओं के लिए ये चार लफ्ज कहना चाहूँगी और अपना भाषण समाप्त करूँगी:

"ऐ माँओ, बहनो, बेटियो, दुनिया की ज़ीनत तुमसे है,  
मुल्कों की बस्ती हो तुम्हीं, कौमों की इज्जत तुमसे है।  
तुम घर की हो शहजादियाँ, शहरों की हो आबादियाँ,  
गमगीन दिलों की शादियाँ, दुख-सुख की राहत तुमसे है।"

धन्यवाद।

*The question was proposed.*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Respected Vice-Chairman, the concern of my elder sister, Tai Rajani Patil, is being displayed through the Resolution to ensure gender equity in India.

Ours is a nation which was governed by women. Ours is a Parliament which is being run by women, almost for two terms now. The Indian way of life has imbibed the idea of emancipation of women. Among all the religions, इस्लामियत में माँ तो जन्नत के समान होती है; Christianity में माँ मेरी के स्थान का अंदाजा आप लगा लें; बाकी सिख, जैन, पारसी धर्मों के साथ ही साथ हिन्दू तो माँ की त्रिमूर्ति आत्मक आदि पराशक्ति रूप में देखते ही आ रहे हैं। We assess it in modern times with modern tools as the gender parity index. The UNDP rated India very low on the aspect of women empowerment. The visible gender disparity is not enabling us to enhance the image of the nation in the global fora. This was recently faced by our present Union Minister, who represented us in the UN deliberations on women empowerment. She assured them that the national policy for women empowerment is being improved.

From that context, I would like to mention that earlier the Women and Child

Development was a small Department in the Ministry of Human Resource Development. During UPA time, under Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, Dr. Manmohan Singh improved and elevated this Department to the level of Ministry of Women and Child Development. It was the initiative of Rajiv Gandhiji for giving 33 per cent reservation to women in the local bodies, whether it be rural or urban. The UPA, under Sonia Gandhiji, has improved and elevated it, and fixed 50 per cent reservation for women in local bodies of rural and urban areas. Is it going to give us the overall comprehensive security which we intend to give? What exactly the term 'social security' mean? To assess the social security of a person, there are three levels of elevation. First is the social defence; second is the social justice; and the third is the social empowerment. If these three components are fixed and assessed, then only we can arrive at social security and only then it is attained. Respected Sir, if we assess in our Indian terms even after doing all these things for women, even after showing the magnanimity of the wonderful comprehensive welfare, we find that women in India still have not crossed the level of social defence. When they will cross the level of social defence to enter into social justice and then to empowerment, only then empowerment will come. When we could remove gender disparity and when we could ensure gender equity, then only we can dream of attaining social security for women of the nation. If you look at the employment terms, way back in 1991, it was assessed that just 13 per cent of women had some or other role, whether lower level or higher level, among the manufacturing and the services sectors. That has been gradually getting improved. But, the recent assessment shows that the achievement of employment of women in services and manufacturing sectors is still at 18 per cent. This parity has to come upon. These are giving us challenges in assessment of the Millennium Development Goals. Since we have crossed the level of MDGs to the sustainable development goals, we have a lot more to do. For that, what are we supposed to do? Our challenges are plenty. Complications of culture, social, education, internal security and all other aspects are becoming challenges. One such case in Delhi had necessitated an Act. The then Government, our UPA Government, with the motherly magnanimity of Sonia Gandhiji, promptly enacted the Nirbhaya Act and also ensured a fund of ₹ 1,000 crore to look after and to cater to the needs of enactment utilisation. But now we are from Nirbhaya to Jessup. Other countries are looking at us whether we will come out of this gender disparity so that some level of gender equality is visible among the Indian society. Challenges are going to be much larger. For that in rural areas there was great improvement for women with the setting up of Self-Help Groups. Though it is in very small measure for individuals concerned, but that has enabled to gain the economic power. Once a person starts getting economic power, he will automatically become secured. But even those measures were not comprehensively supported to look into the needs of the women not only in rural India but also in urban India. At this juncture,

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

I think, Shrimati Rajani Patil thought it fit to move this Resolution. This Resolution is intended to sensitise the Union Government, and also to focus our concern on the issue. Since global community is expecting India to show our gender equality, since people are also demanding us to show the real concern and ensure measures, I hope through this Resolution, the Union Government will get sensitised to the required level. I wish and expect a commitment from the Union Minister on the enhancement and improvement of the national policy for empowering women which will come as a handy tool to cater to the needs and expectations of the women security. Thank you very much.

**श्री बसावाराज पाटिल** (कर्णाटक): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आदरणीय सदस्या श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल जी ने देश में महिलाओं के साथ होने वाले अलग-अलग प्रकार के विषयों को लेकर एक बार फिर सरकार को इस विषय पर ठीक से सोचने की दृष्टि से अपनी भावनाओं को इस निर्णय के स्वरूप में यहाँ पर लाने की कोशिश की है।

महोदय, यह जो 'gender equality' शब्द है, तो 'gender equality' अच्छा है या 'gender harmony' अच्छा है, इसके बारे में हमें सोचना होगा। क्या एक स्त्री-पुरुष एक-दूसरे के दुश्मन बनकर अपनी जिन्दगी को सुन्दर बना सकते हैं, कहाँ पर हमारी गलती हो रही है? अभी थोड़ी देर पहले मेरे मित्र ने कहा कि दुनिया में देख रही है। अगर मैं कहूँ, तो कई ऐसी चीज़ें दुनिया से हमारे देश में आ गई हैं, जिनमें से हम कैसे बाहर निकलें? 1994 में जब ग्लोबलाइजेशन के नाम पर इस देश का दरवाजा विश्व के लिए open किया गया, तो मोबाइल, इंटरनेट, टीवी आदि अलग-अलग माध्यमों ने हमारे देश में प्रवेश किया। आज कई ऐसी दैनिक पत्रिकाएँ हैं, जिनमें बहुत गंदे advertisements छपते हैं। एक पत्रिका के सम्पादक ने बताया कि इस advertisement से हमें साल में 6 करोड़ रुपये मिलते हैं। लेकिन उनको 6 करोड़ मिलते हैं और दूसरी जगह 6,000 करोड़ की बरबादी होती है। ऐसी कई महत्वपूर्ण समस्याएँ हैं। मूल समस्या को समझे बिना, रोग क्या है, इसका मूल कहाँ से है, इसे जाने बिना, इस पर केवल कुछ निर्णय करके हम उसमें परिवर्तन कर सकते हैं, ऐसा मैं नहीं समझता हूँ। आपने बताया कि नये संविधान सशोधन के द्वारा लाखों महिलाओं को अधिकार दिया गया। इसके साथ ही साथ मेरे मित्र ने बताया कि आज Self Help Group महिलाओं को अपनी स्वाभिमान भरी जिन्दगी जीने के लिए एक सहारा के रूप में उनके काम आया है। तो कानून में यह सब होने के बावजूद भी निर्भया की घटना के बाद, देश में इस प्रकार के समाचारों के बारे में संदेश बढ़ गए, कम नहीं हुए। कई बार मुझे लगता है और मुझे जे०पी० मूवमेंट की याद आती है, जो मूवमेंट भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ चला। उसके बाद जो सरकारें आईं, देश में भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ता ही गया। केवल कानून के द्वारा इन समस्याओं का निराकरण होगा, ऐसा मैं नहीं मानता हूँ। समाज में हमें साथ में जीना है और उसी माँ की गोद में हम जन्म लेते हैं, उस स्त्री को, उस नारी को गौरव से हम नहीं देखेंगे तो हम भी अपने देश में गौरव से नहीं रह सकते हैं। उसे गौरवमयी माँ का सुपुत्र भी हम नहीं कह सकते हैं, तो इसीलिए मूल समस्या को माननीय मंत्री जी, समझने की कोशिश करें और उस समस्या के निराकरण की दृष्टि से, समाज में कैसे सही माहौल निर्माण हो, इसके बारे में विशेष प्रयत्न करना होगा। जैसे आजकल छोटा बच्चा भी माँ के विरोध में revolt करता है, जवान बच्चे का व्यवहार घर में अलग होता है, पति-पत्नी के बीच में नई समस्याएं

खड़ी होती हैं, परिवार के बीच में समस्याएं खड़ी होती हैं। एक ज़माना ऐसा था जब परिवार में 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 100 लोग रहते थे। कई समस्याएं 99 परसेंट वहां के वहां सुलझ जाती थीं, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से आज उस प्रकार का कोई परिवार बचा नहीं है। दुनिया का दरवाजा हमने खोल दिया है और लाखों समस्याओं ने हमारे देश के अंदर प्रवेश किया है। इसके अंदर से हम कैसे बाहर निकलें, इसके लिए हमें रास्ता ढूंढना होगा। इसीलिए मानवीय संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए इस दिशा में देश में, जो धार्मिक संगठन होते हैं देश में जो साहित्यिक संगठन होते हैं, देश में जो सोशल ऑर्गनाइजेशंस होते हैं उनके बीच में इस प्रकार के विचारों से एक परिवर्तन की लहर लाने मात्र से हमारे देश में इस प्रकार की समस्याओं से हमको बचाया जा सकता है। उस दिशा में हम लोगों को सोचना चाहिए। एक-दूसरे के बिना हमारी जिंदगी नहीं बनती है। दुनिया में ऐसे भी देश हैं, मैंने आदरणीया सुधा मूर्ति जी का एक नॉवल पढ़ा है, स्विटज़रलैंड एक ऐसा देश है, जहां स्त्रियों की चलती है, पुरुषों की वहां बिल्कुल नहीं चलती। आप जाकर देख सकते हैं। तो फिर वहां की समस्या अलग हो सकती है। इसलिए हम दोनों के बिना देश नहीं चलेगा, ऐसा दोनों को समझ कर चलना होगा। तो इस विषय को लाते समय, इस निर्णय को लाते समय अगर इन चीजों के बारे में आपने सोचा होता तो इसका अधिक उपयोग होता। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से विनती करता हूं कि यह जो सोशल मीडिया है, आज जो मॉडर्न सोशल मीडिया है, देश के अंदर कई नई समस्याएं खड़ी कर रहा है। उसके अंदर आने वाले चित्र, उसके अंदर आने वाले मैसेज पूरे देश के जवानों के दिल के अंदर एक प्रकार का तहलका मचाते हैं। इतना ही नहीं यह सामाजिक प्यार को तोड़ने का भी काम करता है। मेरे एक मित्र ने कहा कि आजकल मोबाइल के अंदर आने वाले अलग-अलग प्रकार के चित्र इत्यादि, क्या सरकार उनको रोज देख पाती हैं या नहीं? नहीं तो, कहीं अंदर से अंदर आग लगाकर देश भस्म न हो जाए, इस प्रकार की सामाजिक आग लगाने की शक्ति भी उसके बीच में काम करती है। तो यह सम्पूर्ण देश की और समाज की समस्या है। केवल इस प्रकार के निर्णय से इसका निराकरण नहीं होगा। वैसे इस ओर सरकार की तरफ से कई मजबूत कानून भी बने हैं। निर्भया कांड के बाद विशेष न्यायाधीश के मार्गदर्शन के बाद जो दिशा-निर्देश दिया गया, उसके अनुसार कानून को और मजबूत भी किया गया। जहां तक मैं समझता हूं कि इसमें ए, बी, और सी, आपके जो तीन महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय हैं, मैं समझता हूं आज वर्तमान कानूनों के अंदर इन सब चीजों को निबटाया जा सकता है। सरकार अपने कदम को मजबूत करे। जो "डी" है, उसके बारे में मैं आपसे सहमति रखता हूं। आप माननीया मंत्री जी से विनती करके, जिसमें विशेषकर इंट्रोड्यूस्ड वैलफेयर मेंजर्स, सब्सटेंस एलाउंस और ओल्ड एज एलाउंस, मेडिकल केयर जैसी अलग-अलग प्रकार की सुविधा में कुछ वृद्धि कर सकते हैं। अगर मैं कहूं, सबसे बड़ी आवश्यकता क्या है, तो महिलाओं को धैर्य और आत्म-विश्वास देने की आवश्यकता है। फिर हम अपनी मेहनत से काम करके आराम से जी सकते हैं, इस दिशा में सरकार की नीति होनी चाहिए। उनका जितना आत्म-विश्वास बढ़ेगा, उतना ही इसका निराकरण होगा। जब इस तरह का विश्वास बढ़ेगा कि हम काम करके जी सकते हैं, तभी इसका निराकरण होगा।

आपने कहीं पर कहा कि प्रॉपर्टी में उनको हाफ राइट मिलना चाहिए। अभी भी प्रॉपर्टी में सभी लड़कियों को बराबर राइट है। केवल राइट से समस्या का निराकरण नहीं होता है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि माननीय सदस्या, श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल द्वारा प्रस्तुत किए गए संकल्प में दिए गए पहले तीन आग्रहों पर माननीय मंत्री जी गंभीरता से सोचें और अभी जो कानून है, उसी के अंतर्गत उनको न्याय दिलाने की कोशिश करें। आदरणीय सदस्या न अपने संकल्प के द्वारा जो यह आग्रह किया है,

[श्री बसावाराज पाटिल]

"बेसहारा विधवाओं, अस्वस्थ और वृद्ध महिलाओं के लिए कल्याणकारी उपाय, गुजारा भत्ता, वृद्धावस्था भत्ता, चिकित्सा सुविधा, वृद्धाश्रमों और देख-रेख गृह जैसी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराए, ताकि वे भी समाज में एक सम्मानजनक जीवन बिना सकें।" सरकार इस विषय में आवश्यकता पड़ने पर उनके लिए सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करे, लेकिन पहले तीन विषयों के अंदर सबसे पहले समाज की समरसता को रखते हुए और जो विकृतियां आई हैं, इनके निराकरण के लिए नए-नए रास्ते ढूंढ़ कर इसका परिहार्य किया जा सकता है। यह काम केवल दोषारोपण से नहीं हो सकता है। मैं फिर एक बार कह सकता हूं कि यह equity नहीं है, मैं इसको harmony कहता हूं। Harmony के द्वारा एक सुंदर समाज को देखा जा सकता है और इन समस्याओं को मात दी जा सकती है। इसलिए मैं आपसे विनती करूंगा कि आप जो यह संकल्प लाई हैं, इस पर माननीय मंत्री जी के assurance के बाद आप इसको वापस ले लें। इस संकल्प के भाग (घ) के अंदर जो अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण बातें हैं, उनको सरकार कंसिडर करे, यही बात कहते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Sir, first of all, I must appreciate and congratulate my friend, Shrimati Rajani Patil, for raising this very, very important, sensitive issue through the Private Members' Business (Resolution). While I am supporting all her points, I want to bring to the notice of this august House, and also of the hon. Minister, that the condition of women in our country at this age also is very, very pathetic. We should not forget the history of women, the contribution of women not only in the freedom struggle of our country but at present also. I do not want to repeat, I do not want to mention the names of those courageous ladies who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of our country. Though our former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, sacrificed her life for the unity and integrity of our country, even then, sometimes I am very pained, it is a matter of great surprise that in this country the women are not properly given their due honour, in this connection, I want to raise some points.

First of all, I want to raise the point of women empowerment. If women empowerment policy is fully implemented and if this concept is made completely successful, especially in three sectors, that is, social, economic and political, then, I think all these problems will be automatically solved. So, for women empowerment, as far as economic sector is concerned, I want to cite some examples. Our UPA Government, in the National Food Security Act, introduced a system whereby it has been made mandatory that ration card should be issued in the name of women, that is, the wife of the family. Likewise, there are so many other schemes. In all these schemes, wherever it is possible, we should make it mandatory. For example, the Indira Awas Yojana is a very good scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development. Just as we have made it mandatory in the National Food Security Act, in the Indira Awas Yojana also, we should make it compulsory that women

will be the beneficiary. As my friend, Shrimati Rajani Patil, has mentioned some of the schemes, in para (d), she has stated about old age allowance. So far as the old age pension is concerned, on the matter of age, there is no discrimination. Whenever anyone crosses the age of 66, he or she is allowed to get the old age pension. That is all right. But, at the ground level, in its implementation at the Panchayati level, what we have seen is that in many cases women are not considered as the beneficiaries, or, I should say, only in a very few cases, women are considered. So, in this aspect also, I want to know whether we can make an amendment of our law and whether we can make a mandatory provision that in all such schemes, women will be made the beneficiary. It is only if it is made mandatory for women to be considered as the beneficiary that the economic empowerment can be successful. Now what happens in certain cases? There is a provision that if the husband, who is a Government employee, dies in harness, his wife, if she is qualified, should get appointment on the compassionate ground. All right, that provision is there. But we have seen, in many cases, whether it is a Central Department or a State Department, that a poor woman, after the death of her husband, has to run from pillar to post to get employment on compassionate ground. Sometimes, she has to wait for five or six years or even ten years, and she has to even approach the High Court for justice. So, this happens. Similarly, even in the matter of pension, if the husband dies, the woman is entitled for pension. But we have seen that in order to get her due share, the system, the red tapism, the corruption, is such that that poor lady has to run from pillar to post just to get her due claim, her due pension. Therefore, can we make some mandatory provision whereby in case of compassionate ground, a woman gets her appointment within a stipulated period of time, and that in case of pension, she will get it within such and such period of time, and, that in the event of this not happening, the concerned officer will be made responsible for it? If we can make such mandatory provisions, then, certainly, economic empowerment of women will be a success.

Sir, my friend also referred to women SHGs. Yes, it is a very good step towards economic empowerment of women. But, in reality, what have we seen? Even these SHGs are harassed in banks. Banks are not helping them. They are not opening their accounts or giving them loans. In fact, whatever they are entitled to get under the scheme, they are not getting them. There are so many instances where our system has denied women their rights. It is because of this defective system that women are harassed for no fault of theirs. Therefore, my humble submission to this august House and the hon. Minister is that we have to make some strict rules, some strict provisions, to ensure that women are not discriminated against and that women get their due share. Sir, apart from this, one aspect is for unmarried women. In our villages we have seen that there are some

[Shri Ripun Bora]

unmarried girls. So, can we not make a provision? In the Social Welfare Department Act there are some schemes, but those schemes will not help because in order to get the benefit of the schemes the woman has to be again harassed. So, for unmarried, can we not give them some regular pension like old-age pension, monthly pension, subsistence allowance? In the case of a widow there is provision. One scheme is there, the National Social Security Scheme. Under this scheme, if the husband of the woman dies, she has to get ₹ 20,000. But this is a very meagre amount. Sir, at this time of sky rocketing prices this is a very meagre amount and not all the women are getting. At the Panchayat level there are some targets which are given. Only five women in a year or only three women or two women are getting ₹ 20,000. This will not cover all the widows, the victims. I am not speaking about the rich people. I am speaking about the widows who are living below the poverty line. Darkness has come after the death of her husband. So, in that case, can we not make a provision? Can we not extend this scheme to all the victims? And this amount should be increased and a one-time grant will not solve the problem. If we make a monthly subsistence allowance or a monthly allowance or a monthly pension, then, in this way also we can empower the women in the field of economy. So, hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, with these few points, I want to fully support the Private Members' Resolution which has been raised by my friend, Shrimati Rajani Patil and I do hope the august House will consider it and the hon. Minister will give some positive reply to incorporate all the suggestions in Government rules and procedures. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank Shrimati Rajani Patil for bringing up such an important issue and I would like to thank all the other speakers, Shri Rapolu, Shri Basawaraj Patil and Shri Ripun Bora for taking part in this discussion. I am just going to answer a few points of what we have done, what we intend to do and what is still in the realm of ideas and where we would benefit from suggestions.

The first thing you talked about was *Sarpanches* and how we have two lakh *Sarpanches* in this country who are women and how it has benefited the body politic. In actual fact, it was a brilliant idea. There is no doubt about it and it was intended to produce a large number of politically-aware and economically-aware women. It didn't work out quite like that and the reason for that was that apart from making them *Sarpanches* we didn't train them. So, a lot of women who became *Sarpanches*, in fact, most women who became *Sarpanches*, went back into ghunghats after they were elected and their husbands then technically ran the village and interacted with officials and called themselves, actually unofficial, *Sarpanch-pati* or *Pradhan-pati*. For the first time, we are recognising this in a



belief that if these *Sarpanches* are trained and if they are confident enough to handle their villages, we will see a marked change in the economic and confidence levels of women in that village and all over India. So, out of 6 lakh villages, 2 lakh villages are headed by women. These Sarpanch women are being trained as we speak in matters ranging from how to make *cement ki naliya*, houses for women, how to control the girls from being molested — in fact, I may have to control the boys, actually — how to take care of women whose families do not send their girls to school, how to look at Anganwadis work, how to make sure that teacher comes to school, how the look at girl dropout, etc. The first phase of training has just got over. We are starting it in batches of 40 at a time. And, we have started it from Jhalwad. It was amazing that all 40 *Sarpanches* came with their husbands who insisted that they would also sit them. They were all stopped outside, kept in a room, fed tea and coffee for the whole day. The women were, actually, for the first time, on their own. They were not only trained, but, at the end of it, requested that we design an App for them in which they could keep in touch with each other and tell each other what they were achieving in village. So, look, how quickly they picked up. This is going to be repeated till all 2 lakh women are trained. So, this is amongst many things we have done.

Coming to the other point, we have, of course, Sexual Harassment Committees at every workplace. Every workplace has to have one now. The hon. Finance Minister was requested by us to ask companies to declare it in their audit. Apart from that, the Finance Ministry has also come up with an innovation of making one women Director on the Board of every company. While this started, of course, with wives and daughters, but sooner or later, it will be independent women on the Board. And, they have also been asked to declare it in their audit.

Regarding safety and security which all the four hon. Members have raised, one of the game changers that we have come up with in which the Home Ministry good enough to listen to us almost immediately is to have 33 per cent women in the police force. Now, I think, all the UTs and 7 States have 33 per cent women. This, more than anything else, will contribute towards the defense of women or they will have a social feeling of safety. Added to this is what we call the 'Panic Button.' From 1st January, 2017, we will put it into action. It means, every cell phone in India has a button which can be pressed should the women be in danger or feel herself in danger at any time. From police sensitization, increase of women in police force, Panic Button and many other things that we have come up with, including one-stop-centres, will help them a lot. With regard to the One-Stop-Centres, we allowed 36 in the first year. We may have made 14. All the 14 centers are doing extremely well. They have taken care of a large number of women problems — from being stalked to being raped. We are now, this year, going to make it 150 — 5

[Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi]

per State. If these go well, before our term is up, I hope to make it 660. Then, of course, next time, whoever comes here should set up even more centres so that women have this place to go for help. Sir, I am happy to say that it has an immediate effect. When we put first one in Raipur, it has an immediate effect in stemming more common forms of sexual molestation, stalking, rape, etc., because men then begin to feel that women has somewhere to go, she has got a free lawyer, police help and everything is catered to her well being. Once we can get more of these things on the ground, it will address many things. Why have we not been faster? It is because the States are taking their time to give us land. We just need 300 sq. yards. We are asking again and again and as soon as we get each one, within two months, you have the centre. So, Sir, several things are being done.

All four hon. Members have talked about female foeticide. Sir, female feticide exists. Yes; there is a divide down in the middle of India into West and East. The East is poorer, has a large number of children and does not really care about quality as much as quantity. They does not really care so much about whether they are girls or boys. The West which, it seems to be, considering itself upperly mobile is having less and less children often confining themselves to two but wanting exactly what they want which is either two boys or a girl and a boy or a boy and a girl, whichever. So, this is where, we discovered that female foeticide was more prevalent. So, we started a programme called 'Beti Bachao' and we took the hundred worst-affected districts. We put rupees one crore per district and we made the DM the head of it. We put on a set of simple things to do, namely, (i) there will be institutionalised delivery of babies; (ii) there will be a Guddi-Gudda Board in every village which would show these many boys and these many girls, so that every villager can see it. The third thing is that we involved NGOs. We involved even grandmothers who often decide whether a child will be born or not. So, we involved people, the informers, who would give us reports. We had vans running with films and music. We dominated the radio for this. The end-result has been enormously valuable. When we were starting the programme, I thought that Haryana which had the Child Sex Ratio of 830 would, at the maximum, go up, in one year, to 840 or 850, if we were lucky. After we put in so much intensive work into all hundred districts, what Haryana did by itself, and it was a worst case study in the whole of India, went up in one year from 830 to 907, which is in itself a miracle and shows you how willing India is to be changed, provided it is done sensibly. Now, we have added 61 more districts, and hopefully, we will achieve this miracle in them also. We have, out of these 100 districts, 49 districts, which went way beyond our thought. But, amongst all of them, one that is last place was J&K. But, even in J&K, there is an increase and it has improved also. So, we were very pleased with that.

Then, you talked about making laws to help women in property. I think Haryana and some other States have got a law in which if you put the land in the women's name, then you get a certain amount of tax benefits in the land. So, that is a good idea. You talked about widows.

I am happy to tell you that we are building India's largest and first huge widows' home in Vrindavan. I went there the other day just to put the neeve and it should be ready by the end of the year. It is for thousand widows. It won't be just homes where they live with dignity in one place; they will also get things to do, ways to earn money; they get to keep their own *Goushala*; they get to do their own gardening and vegetables. It will be like an entire community. If that does well, we will make another. But, it will be very positive for them.

You talked about sexual offenders and a national register for them. You may have read Shri Kiren Rijju's reply in Parliament where he talked, a few days ago, about the Home Ministry establishing, for the first time, in India a national register for criminal offenders of different types of which one will be a sexual offender.

Apart from the women's safety, we have also started the Women's Helpline, 181. It is functioning in eleven States and the WCD Ministry has sanctioned funds to all States through this. This has come out of the Nirbhaya Funds. Then, 19 more, as I just told you, One Stop Centres will be ready in another few months, and 150 by the end of the year. Then, one of the things that Mr. Bora talked about was how difficult it is for widows and other people to get certification after their husbands die. It is true that if for some strange reason, when somebody died, the name of his heir, his wife or her husband, is not mentioned on the death certificate. This made it almost impossible for widows to claim pension benefits or anything. This is one of the first things we did. When this Government came to power, we asked the Registrar to make it compulsory for all death certificates to mention the partner's name so that it becomes easy, and this has been done.

Now, we come to women's empowerment. What we have done are several things. I have a bank called Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. Before I came, it was not doing well at all. All it did was, very strangely, lent money at 6 per cent to NGOs and they then lent money ahead at 12 per cent, then they all run away with the money. So, nobody ever returned it. Then, we put lawyers, which cost us even more money to try and retrieve that. Then, we put people on top of those lawyers to make sure that the lawyers attended! The whole thing was a complete mess. Now, it is sorted out and it is an active, functioning bank for women, which has other schemes in it. It has training schemes for women. The first time any Government has ever done anything is called e-Mahila Haat. The e-Mahila

[Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi]

Haat, if you look up on your computers, is a place where any woman producing anything anywhere in India, can put her things free on this Haat. We charge no money. She gives her address and the buyer gets in touch directly with the seller. So far, we already have a couple of lakhs of women on it, who are selling/buying and we have received expressions of interest from Flipkart and Amazon, who would like to partner with us. So, hopefully, in a couple of months, this will be an active help to women to sell their products, no matter whether it is Mehendi or goods and services, whether cooking item or anything else. This is going to lead to something which one day will be very, very important. It has been a dream of mine for a long time—that is, we have FICCI, we have ASSOCHAM, we have CII. These three are taken very seriously by the Finance Ministry and all Governments. They don't really have Women's Wing. They do have a Women's Wing, but usually they are the wives of the people on it. It is not really an independent wing that contributes much. What we want is Women's Entrepreneurship Council. This Council will ultimately come out of this Ministry's e-Mahila Haat. Every woman selling something will have a vote. She will vote at various levels till she reaches the National Council. This National Council will make policy for women in the economic sphere, will make banking policy for them, and will interact with Government when the Finance Minister calls them. Within a year, we have to have this up and running. As time goes on, hopefully, it will become very powerful. This is one of the things that are already in the pipeline.

Sir, in order for equality to become more of a thought in every class, we have proposed—it has been agreed on and it is going to start now—'gender champion' from Standard-V up. Any child that behaves well towards the opposite sex and protects them, looks after them, shows courtesy to them will get a prize in each class for being the 'gender champion'. If we can make little boys proud to be nice to girls, then we might be able to change the future for them. We also have something very significant, which is the Mahila Police Volunteer. We have been allowed to do this by the Home Ministry. Every village will have one girl above the age of 21 who will act as a Police Volunteer. She will be chosen by the local SP and she will then have to look after her village to see to it that the children get to school, that there is no molestation, that there is no case of husbands beating their wives, that there is no dowry and such things that happen in villages which often don't come to our notice. So, this Mahila Police Volunteer is already on its way. Madhya Pradesh has an excellent programme called the Shaurya Dal. And that has got ten people in each village, both men and women. In fact, it is taken so seriously that on Republic Day, Madhya Pradesh, actually, has a contingent of *Shaurya Dal*, being paraded.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): This is like the system which the Sheriff in the US started. You suggest some good names, so that it will be a nice name.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: I am open to suggestions. If anybody gives me a suggestion, I am happy to take it. The Nirbhaya Fund is actively working. The panic button will come through it; One Stop Centres are coming through it. The MHA has made Victim Compensation Funds through it. You already know about the POCSO Act, which safeguards the interests of the child at every stage of judicial process by incorporating child-friendly mechanisms for recording of evidences, investigation, speedy trial of offences through special courts. I have already told you about the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013, which was passed by you, but, now makes it mandatory. We have also made a booklet telling what you have to do if you are harassed, and this has been sent to almost every company and every group of companies, so that they know, exactly, what they are supposed to do. We have a lot of schemes for welfare coming up. Swadhar and Short Stay Homes for relief and rehabilitation to destitute women; working women hostels; Support to Training and Employment Program for women which is called STEP, in which my Ministry will pay the money to train anybody; 200 women at a time, in new innovative things which are job-based.

I mentioned about the National Mission for Empowerment of Women which has been set up to strengthen the overall process. We have a creche scheme for children of working mothers. We have a women helpline which I have already mentioned about. We have Sabla Scheme for holistic development of adolescent girls. There are so many schemes. But the point is, every thing that you have said in the economic area, in the political area, in the defence area ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh) Can I seek one clarification? This panic button that is going to be put on the telephones; what is the physical backup that this has? When I press the panic button, what is the fastest reaction time I am going to get and how?

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: Good question. It will go to the police station, and hopefully, the police will flat-foot it immediately. But, there is another app that I am trying to add to it, which will make it even better. The panic button will be mandatory and it will be on every phone and all the previous phones will have to be retrofitted as well. But there is one app which interests me greatly, which we will have to buy because it has been made privately. It is that, in the same panic button, when it is pressed, till the police come along, it alerts the ten people closest to you. Hopefully, one out of those, will be civic-minded and will come and help you. So I want to make that attachment to this. And if the panic button won't bear it, then, we will put the separate app, which we buy and give free. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: There is an imminent danger, as this is known in the public about the panic button, the molester can take the phone and throw it. So you will need to activate GPS. I have a plan in mind and I will discuss it with you ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: Yes; of course, it will be GPS activated. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: When the phone is at the nearest point and after that, the point where the woman is taken away, is still a question mark. But, I have a suggestion which I will discuss with you later, just to put that into action, it is something I have been. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: You can tell me, because we are still at the stage where we can ask them to refine. The other danger for it — just talking off the top of my head — is that a child gets it and keeps pressing that button and so, you have a wolf-wolf syndrome coming in. Hopefully, that won't happen because once women realise that it is for their own good, they won't allow it to be misused. But, if the other app can get ten people around her to take action, then it would help. Then, it is GPS connected. I assure the hon. Member, Shrimati Patil, that my Ministry is addressing all the concerns raised by her in the Resolution, and we will continue to work for the betterment and safety of women.

**श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल:** महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीया मंत्री जी से कहना चाहती हूँ कि मंत्री जी ने जो 'सरपंचपति' शब्द का प्रयोग किया, मुझे उससे आपत्ति है, क्योंकि यह भी पुरुषों की एक साजिश है कि जो महिला राजनीति में आती है, उसके लिए ऐसे शब्द का प्रयोग हो।

हम खुद सरपंच से लेकर जिला परिषद तक और वहाँ से आज राज्य सभा तक आए हैं जब राजीव जी ने हम महिलाओं को 33 प्रतिशत आरक्षण दिया, तो हमारे पति हमें डिक्टेट नहीं करते थे। अगर आप सभी को जनरलाइज़ करेंगी, तो यह उचित नहीं होगा, चूंकि इतने सालों से आपने महिलाओं को एक चौखट से बांध कर रखा हुआ है, इतने सालों से उनको घर में बंद करके रखा हुआ है...

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: I am not deliberating, and I am saying that this exists. Now, there are *Sarpanches* who hold their own.

But most of the *Sarpanches* don't. That is why we are training them so that we don't have you as the exception.

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: No, no; there are many such women.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: The *Sarpanch* Pati or *Pradhan* Pati

then becomes an illegal position. When we talk about it, it is a position that usually deals with officers, which should not be. That is why we are training them.

**श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल:** दूसरा, मैं यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि महिलाओं के लिए जो 33 प्रतिशत आरक्षण की मांग की गई है, उसके लिए आपने कुछ नहीं बोला है।

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: I can't answer that because that is the political decision that the House will have to take, and every party will have to stand by. So, I don't have the liberty to answer it by myself.

**श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल:** गवर्नमेंट का इस बारे में क्या कहना है, हम इसके बारे में जानना चाहते हैं।

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: I don't have a comment on it either. Since we are going to be. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: There is one other aspect which I think we have come of age to take. You know, my hon. colleague was telling that, when a woman's husband dies, as a widow, she has to run up and down. This is a reality. Now, why should any woman be dependent on her status as married or unmarried or single or separated to get any benefit for a sustainable livelihood? She is a citizen. An old man doesn't have to be dependent on whether his wife is alive or not for him to get a pension. Why should a woman be dependent? All the time, we are associated. You commit sati because you have *pati*. If there is no *pati*, there is no sati. So, this perpetuates the whole syndrome. I think we should do away with that. If a woman is single and she is earning or not earning, that is all that depends. She should be entitled to any kind of benefits from the Government. I think we should do away with this. There are times in the villages where the man leaves the woman. There is a man who has two wives. Now, if he dies, one wife gets the benefit; the other wife is left begging all the way. I think you should consider that.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: What is the alternative? We have pensions, we have allowances, and we have tax benefits. All three of them should be applicable to women or men depending on what the rule is.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, they don't give it.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: If you are over 60 years, then, you are entitled to a pension. All these things — none of which — are in the sphere of the Centre. They are all State-based. Now, for instance, in Uttar Pradesh, they announced with great *dhum-dhamka* Widows' Pension. That Widows' Pension was ₹150 a month, which is given every six months, which is really not enough for her to live. On the top

[Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi]

of that, it was often misused, stolen by local postman, and she never actually ever got it. Now, it has been withdrawn completely. So, there are no pensions. धूम-धड़ाके से उन्होंने एनाउंस किया 'Old Age Pension'. Some people got it in some village, some people didn't, some people had to prove it with birth certificates, and the really poor didn't get it. And, now, that has also disappeared. So, every State decides for itself what pensions, what tax benefits, what reliefs it gives to men and women. It is not within the Centre's purview at all.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: The Old Age Pension comes from the centre.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: No, no; it doesn't. For instance, U.P's pension comes from U.P., and now it disappeared like everything else. So, it came; then, they stopped it for a couple of years; then, they started again, then, it gets stopped. So, nothing has been mandated here. If we could, perhaps, mandate, that everybody gets a pension, then, it would help them. For instance, the hon. Prime Minister has made this amazing Insurance Schemes of ₹ 12 and ₹ 325, which are the cheapest in the world possibly, and give you a lot of benefits. There are also old-age pension Schemes. All of which are new and innovative. All of which, over a period of time, will give you security, should you want to take part in. That, I think, will go a long way. Perhaps, we should have a discussion one day on schemes for women, or, just insurance schemes and old-age schemes for women.

I would request the hon. Member to withdraw here Resolution, as we are trying our very best to look after your concerns.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Smt. Rajni Patil, are you withdrawing your Resolution?

**श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल:** सर, मैं आशा करती हूँ कि सरकार ने, मंत्री जी ने यहाँ आपके माध्यम से जो सूचनाएँ दी हैं, ...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने जो रिप्लाय दिया है, उसका अनुपालन होगा। मैं आशा करती हूँ कि हमारा जो 33 परसेंट का मुद्दा है, जिसका उत्तर उनके पास नहीं है, लेकिन वह उन्हीं की सरकार की उद्घोषणा है। वह चुनावी जुमला है, यह मालूम नहीं, लेकिन उसे करने की आवश्यकता है। इसलिए इसी अपेक्षा के साथ मैं अपना संकल्प वापस लेती हूँ।

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, we shall take up the next item. Shri D Raja to move his Resolution regarding the need to abolish capital punishment in the country.



**Abolition of capital punishment in the country**

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. I rise to move the following Resolution:

Having regard to the fact that:—

- (i) snatching away somebody's life for crimes committed is not in consonance with evolving jurisprudence which embraces in its scope measures to reform the person and transform psychology in tune with the values of compassion and humanism;
- (ii) commission of the crime by somebody does not contract the scope to reform him or her, rather an approach to address the hidden faculties for realizing human worth is now accepted proposition in criminal jurisprudence and this is true for all human beings including those who have been convicted for heinous crimes;
- (iii) committing a crime is more a sociological than a legal problem;
- (iv) research demonstrates the disproportionate use of death penalty against disadvantaged groups, as a study by students of National Law University, Delhi has shown that there are caste and religious biases in the imposition of death penalty in India, indicating that 94% of the persons given death sentences for terror related cases belonged to *Dalit* caste or religious minorities;
- (v) the former President of India, late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam had supported abolition of death penalty saying that as President, he felt pain in deciding mercy petitions of death row convicts since most of them had social and economic bias;
- (vi) the Supreme Court of India itself has admitted to errors and miscarriage of justice due to the arbitrary application of death penalty;
- (vii) the Law Commission Chairman, Justice AP.Shah has also said that there is a serious need to re-examine the issue of death penalty since there are several inconsistencies in the system, which led to arbitrariness and discrimination in the imposition of death penalty; and
- (viii) the majority of the members of United Nations have voted in support of the U.N. General Assembly resolution calling for a moratorium on the death penalty and India is among the minority of the Member countries still voting against the resolution seeking to ban the death penalty,

This House urges upon the Government-

[Shri D. Raja]

**5.00 P.M.**

- (a) to reconsider its stand and make necessary amendments to various laws which have provisions for the death penalty so as to abolish capital punishment in the country; and
- (b) to declare a moratorium on all death sentence executions till the abolition of death penalty.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE) *in the Chair*]

Sir, in fact, I gave this Resolution in July, 2015. For various reasons, the House could not take it up for discussion. Even today, there could have been better attendance. But there are elections in several States. The campaign is at peak. Even I should have been in a campaign in some States. But because of this Resolution, I had to step back. I hope, the House will take it up seriously.

If this Resolution is passed, it will be historic. It will be a significant one in the history of our country.

In fact, in 2004, a Private Member Bill was moved in the Lok Sabha. It was moved by my party colleague, who is no more, Comrade C.K. Chandrappan. He moved that Private Member Bill in the Lok Sabha in 2004.

This Resolution should not be linked to any particular case. The context is not related to any particular case. It is related to an issue that humanity is confronting, the human civilization is confronting. As a part of local community, what position India should have, the Indian society should have. That is the issue. In the contemporary history, we have been confronting many issues.

In 2011, I did move a Private Member's Bill in this House urging upon amendments in CrPC, Section 124, thereby deleting the sedition clause. I did move that Private Member's Bill. Now, it has become more relevant I think.

Now, I am moving another Resolution on capital punishment. Sir, we are part of the United Nations. It is the United Nations which made a strong appeal to the world community to abolish death sentence, capital punishment. In December, 2007, India voted against the United Nations General Assembly Resolution calling for a moratorium on death penalty. In November, 2012, India, again, upheld its stance on capital punishment by voting against the UN General Assembly draft Resolution seeking to ban the death penalty. Sir, on the basis of the appeal made by the United Nations, 120 countries have

abolished capital punishment, and a few of them stopped the practice of continuing the execution. But we are in the company of a minority. We claim, we are a great civilisation, we are a great nation. But on this issue, we are in the company of a minority. The situation has fast changed. The world is moving towards a new kind of jurisprudence, jurisprudence based on humanism, jurisprudence based on correction of individuals committing crimes, maybe, heinous crimes. But we still lag behind. We still stick on to certain colonial relics, we stick on to certain colonial laws, and it is time that we change our mindset. We should look at the issues not from just legal and technical position, we should look at issues from sociological, psychological and political angles too, because crimes are not just legal, they have socio-economic factors, several psychological factors. All these will have to be considered. In fact, many saner voices were there in the past, they are there today in our country, who are saying, India should say 'no', an emphatic 'no' to capital punishment, and India should agree for a moratorium on executions till that time. Sir, even our late former President spoke against it and he expressed the pains whenever he had to decide upon the capital punishments.

Now, I urge upon the entire House to look at this issue from a perspective that India is a nation which will be a model, which will become a source of guidance, inspiration to other nations, the entire humanity, as far as dealing with human beings, human lives is concerned. That is what we should try to understand. I am not taking it as a political issue. We may belong to different political parties. We do. We have differences on issues. We have differences in our approach. But this is an issue which we should look at from a greater perspective of India as a civilized nation, India as an emerging modern civilization. That is what I would like to appeal to every colleague, appeal to the entire House.

Sir, my Resolution is very clear. For the benefit of the House, for the benefit of the people across the country, I read out the Resolution:-

"Having regard to the fact that:-

- (i) snatching away somebody's life for crimes committed is not in consonance with evolving jurisprudence which embraces in its scope measures to reform the person and transform psychology in tune with the values of compassion and humanism;
- (ii) commission of the crime by somebody does not contract the scope to reform him or her, rather an approach to address the hidden faculties for realizing human worth is now accepted proposition in criminal jurisprudence and this is true for all human beings including those who have been convicted for heinous crimes.

[Shri D. Raja]

- (iii) committing a crime is more a sociological than a legal one.
- (iv) research demonstrates the disproportionate use of death penalty against disadvantaged groups — I will come to this later on — as a study by students of National Law University, Delhi has shown that there are caste and religious biases in the imposition of death penalty in India, indicating that 94 per cent of the persons given death sentences for terror-related cases belong to *Dalit* caste or religious minorities.
- "(v) the former President of India, Shri A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, had supported the abolition of death penalty saying that as President he felt pained in deciding the mercy petitions of death of convicts since most of them had social or economic bias;
- (vi) the Supreme Court of India itself has admitted to errors and miscarriage of justice due to the arbitrary application of death penalty;
- (vii) the (then) Law Commission Chairman, Justice A. P. Shah, has also said that there is a serious need to re-examine the issue of death penalty since there are several inconsistencies in the system, which led to arbitrariness and discrimination in the imposition of death penalty;
- (viii) the majority of the members of the United Nations have voted in support of the UN General Assembly resolution calling for a moratorium on the death penalty and India is among the minority of member-countries still voting against the resolution seeking to ban the death penalty.

this House urges upon the Government —

- (a) to reconsider its stand and make necessary amendments to various laws, which have provisions for the death penalty so as to abolish capital punishment in the country; and
- (b) to declare a moratorium on all death sentence executions till the abolition of death penalty."

Sir, this is my Resolution.

As I said initially, this Resolution should not be linked to any particular case. It is an issue which India, as a nation, has to take a position on, whether India can continue to have capital punishment on its statutes, whether India should remain be one of the nations which have death sentences. We will have to decide on that. I am not going to refer to

what the holy scriptures talk about, whether it is the Bible, the Quran, the Geeta or any other scripture. I am straightaway addressing the issue from the position of an ordinary human being. Yes, crimes do take place, but there are reasons, root causes, as to why crimes take place in a certain way. How to contain the crimes? How can we move towards a society where we would not have crimes? How can we reform, transform or change our society, where human beings have compassion and love for fellow human beings, where human beings share the joy and sufferings of fellow human beings, where human beings live with equality and concern for each other? That should be our perspective. This Resolution should really be looked from that position. That is why I am not making it a political and ideological issue. At this point of time, it is more than that. Somebody said that we should move from philosophy to ideology. One can argue that there is a need that we should move from ideology to philosophy, and we should be clear about what is our philosophy, what is our ideology. We may have different ideologies. But what should be our philosophy? It must be liberating human being, liberating human society. We should strive for ultimate liberation of our society, human beings. When I say liberation, it means liberation from hatred to each other, liberation from hostility that we have today to each other, liberation from discrimination which we have against others. How to move towards such liberation? It is an issue and we need to address this issue. Sir, India is one country. I don't say there is increase in the crimes. In fact, the crimes are coming down. That is also a positive thing. We cannot be termed as a country which has a large number of crimes as we witness in some countries in Latin America or in some countries in Africa. We can take some satisfaction that we do not have such a high rate of crimes. Even then, we have crimes and the Supreme Court, on its own wisdom, had to comment upon. Even if there is death sentence, Supreme Court had to intervene at one point. That was exactly in 1983 that Supreme Court ruled that death penalty should be imposed only in the 'rarest of the rare cases'. Now, that is also an issue as to which case can be called 'rarest of the rare cases'. There will be differences. How to determine and how to decide 'rarest of the rare cases'? I know the Supreme Court has extended the death penalty to those found guilty of committing 'honour killing'. What is this 'honour killing'? Again, that is a contentious issue. Why should we call it 'honour killing'?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Nothing is honourable about it.

SHRI D. RAJA: Exactly. How has it come to popular terminology? But in Tamil they use a different word, that is, aanava kolai. Aanava kolai means not 'honour' but 'arrogance', 'the hatred'.

**श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी:** "अहंकार"।

SHRI D. RAJA: That is how Tamil media nowadays uses this term. I cannot translate it properly, but we dismiss the way of calling it 'honour killings'. Killings are killings. They are gruesome and what is honour in that? The Supreme Court did consider this issue. Even when the Supreme Court agreed, for the time being — I use the phrase 'for the time being' it said, 'rarest of the rare' cases. But now, the time has come when we will have to re-interpret that also. That is what I say, whether it is 'rare' or 'rarest of the rare' cases, this death penalty should not be there. That is what I am trying to say.

Sir, definitely, we are a society with diversities and human beings are human beings. They hail from different socio-political backgrounds. In the morning, there was a point raised during the Question Hour. The question was whether there should be reservation in Judiciary. Why does that demand come? Even the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Justice recommended that. My good friend, Dr. Sudarsana Natchiappan, is sitting here. Perhaps, he is also speaking on this issue.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): If hon. Member can make it precise, we can finish it today.

SHRI D. RAJA: That Committee recommended that there should be adequate social representation in the Judiciary. Sir, I quoted Justice Sadashivam in the very same august House. Before he took over the Governorship in Kerala, Justice Sadashivam made a point and he said that there was need for an adequate social representation in the Judiciary. I am saying this because when verdicts are announced, as far as death sentences are concerned, we find...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Excuse me; did you say that honour killing and death penalty are the same? Is this what you are saying?

SHRI D. RAJA: No, Sir. I said that for honour killings, the Supreme Court said in 1983 that death sentence can be there. Those were the rarest of the rare cases when they were talking about that thing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): How much more time will you take?

SHRI D. RAJA: I will just finish. We have a diverse society. In a diverse society, there can be bias. I am not making any insinuation; I am not attributing anything; I am

not casting aspersion on any individual Judge or any individual court, but all said and done, all are human beings and we have been talking about corruption. Corruption does not mean only involvement of money. Corruption can mean involvement of caste bias. Corruption can mean involvement of religious bias. So, corruption can mean those things also. In such a situation, we have a problem. I cannot understand one small thing. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am asking this. We have seen a number of cases where *dalits* were killed and murdered. Finally, all the victims died but the accused were acquitted. All the accused were acquitted. I can quote several cases from Andhra Pradesh to Bihar. There are a number of cases. But the fact is that they were killed; they are no more. But who killed them? How did our justice system work in delivering justice to those people? It applies to *Adivasis*. In many States, they are killed; women are killed, children are killed. What I am saying is that the accused go scot-free and get away from the hands of law. So, something is wrong with our legal system, something is wrong with our jurisprudence. The mighty and the powerful accused get away, and, the weaker and the vulnerable sections become victims; they die just like that. What do you find in such a situation? If you analyze it, you will find that those who are caught, those who are punished, those who have been given death sentences, mostly belong to very vulnerable sections. That is where, I think, the issue needs larger consideration and the House has to apply its mind, and, through our collective wisdom, we should take a position, the Government of India should take a position, India as a nation should take a position. We are part of the United Nations, and, it is a moral, philosophical, psychological, sociological question, and, I think, the death sentence of the capital punishment should not be seen just as a simple legal question. It is a moral question. It is a larger sociological question. There, I think, as a civilized nation, as a civilized society, a time has come for India to say an emphatic 'no' to capital punishment. We will have to move towards amending our different laws, wherever it is necessary. Till that time, the Government of India should take a position in support of a moratorium on death sentence executions. We should move towards, 'no capital punishment'. India should say an emphatic 'no'. India will join a larger global community saying no to capital punishment. Till that time, no executions, no death sentences, and, a moratorium should be accepted. This must be our approach. I think, this issue should be discussed keeping in view the larger perspective and larger vision. So, Sir, I move the Resolution.

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Thank you. The next speaker is, Dr. E.M.Sudarsana Natchiappan.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. This particular Resolution is very important in all contexts because our penal system is having a very long, ancient position of showing the sovereignty and also the superior authority on the human beings. Even, during the tribal period, ancient period, people used to show their authority by killing others as a part of the punishment. In some parts of the world, it is happening even today. But, as Mr. Raja has enunciated, there is a need for review of the system. But before that, we have to go into the actual penal system, how we are following it. We have borrowed the Indian Penal Code, which was enacted, from the British Parliament. For the sake of Indian system, even though Lord Macaulay had brought it, it may not have a pure colonial way of thinking. It had a mixed way of thinking on how the society can be rectified and prevented from committing the crimes against the human beings and also against the State. More or less, our thinking is now on the basis of homicide, killing of human beings and also the group of people or children or ladies. In that way, we are looking at the issue. The other way of looking at the issue is non-homicide. Other than the homicide, the States are having certain type of offences being classified, which end in the punishment of death. For example, we can take the robbery and murder clubbed with rape, and honour killing. As Mr. Raja was explaining, for performing inter-caste marriage, people were killed as a part of protecting the caste honour. And girl child is being killed because there is no protection for them. These are all very conservative views and many parts of the country are affected by them. And also, there are offences against the state, that is, treason, espionage, terrorism, kingpin activities and such other cases. Therefore, gradually the working of the death penalty as capital punishment is widening nowadays in one way and in another way, it is shrinking. We have to take the western example because we have borrowed the law from them even though our kingdoms, our ancient systems of living were giving sovereignty and authority to a person to be a ruler. He should have the right to give the death penalty as a part of punishment. But, more or less, we have inherited the statutory laws from the British system. When the British colony had extended in the United States, many of the States followed the same system of death penalty. Out of 55 States, 32 States are now following it; rest of the States are not following it. Even during President Obama's election campaign, one of the issues which were raised was whether the death penalty should be taken away from the statute book. But on the American side also, many of the judgements were having contradictory views. There were some sort of judgements which say that the US Supreme Court, in 1972, in *Furman versus Georgia* case, struck down



the death sentence which was made statutory in certain parts of the States of America. Subsequently, changes were also made and in 1976 in *Greg versus Georgia* case, they made it that death sentence should continue. There were 1,400 people caused to death according to capital punishment. Even in 2015 itself, 28 people out of these 1,400 people were there. All these things are happening in Western countries. But, in India, we can very well say that the Supreme Court has seized of the matter. They have said that death punishment should be in rarest of the rare cases. But, at the same time, I would like to go somewhat deeper into the issue by requesting the Home Ministry to look into the legal reforms. The entire society in which we are living now is totally different from the society where we were living fifty years ago or even thirty years ago. Now, there are many things coming up. In the television serials and many of the modern technologies, what is shown is the bravery of a particular person or a hero whose film comes up in the realm of the people by killing others. Therefore, violence is one of the parts of the bravery, which is inculcated even for the small children. Small children games are also showing killing of one animal to another animal or killing them *en bloc*. In that way, the children are brought up to kill others. They are never brought up in a way to have the human tendency, to respect the rights of others and respect them in a proper way. We are not bringing them up in that way.

Recently, after the Internet and other facilities have come up, children are now succumbed to a lot of crime-based films, which are coming up. Even our Censor Board is also allowing them to come up in the 'universal' category. Heroes are worshipped now as if they have really killed many of the enemies. They have a stunt master as tutor and that way, they praise their people. Children feel that it is one of the actions of bravery which they have to do in their lives.

Similarly, if we see the American system of using the pistol and killing the children, killing them *en masse*, even small children, juveniles are killing many of the children. Though India is not coming to that stage, at the same time, regarding rape and not obliging the women's rights, we feel that these are all things which are coming up because, even in the family, the television is showing such pictures which cannot be tolerated by the normal family. Therefore, the environment is also enhancing part of the crime being committed by the civilised society. In a very civilised way of living also, there is a part of psychological or psychiatric way of looking at issues to solve the problems.

I used to say that prohibition is one of the issues, which is raised by Tamil Nadu during the elections also. Even the topmost heroes are drinking in the TASMACHOP shop. They are showing their bravery. They are showing that a person is not loved; therefore, he

[Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

is going to an arrack shop. This is the way we are cultivating the children to come to this level of committing the crime!

White-collar crimes are also increasing. Many rich people are coming very quickly in the films because of committing white-collar crimes. Finally, the end-up is, how a burglar or how a smuggler or how a kingpin is getting the highest way of living; therefore, I should also become like that. This is the way we are pushing the society to commit the crime!

But, at the same time, we want to see that the punishment should be lesser. One thing we have to see. Are we having the best judicial system? Are we having the best investigating system? Can we rely upon our investigation? Are we having a foolproof investigation system? Many of the rural people are unnecessarily involved in murder cases because the real murderer has escaped. Even in many cases, a person who is in prison for death penalty or for any heinous crime, comes out in the night, commits the murder and go back to that prison itself! This is the way many of the things are happening. Even cinema is also showing it. Stories are written like that. We are also seeing it happening in reality. Therefore, the whole system of reform in the penal system has to come forward. The very beginning of filing of FIR, investigating system, how are these interconnected, bringing the innocent people into the trap and real culprit going out of the trap, is the way it is going about.

More so, Sir, judicial system is also very much delayed. Civil cases can be delayed because they have got the luxury to do it. But the arbitration system is now coming up to look after that if there is a need for arbitration, they are going and paying a huge amount for the arbitrator and also the lawyers. But the criminal justice system is one of the parts of the work of the sovereign countries. Sovereign power has to be there so that the criminal justice system is properly done. Therefore, we have to have more concentration on the criminal system of justice. How is it going about? We can see; as a Committee on Law and Justice, we had visited Nagpur Jail and other jails also. We are working on that issue. How many people are in the custody even beyond their actual sentence, which was imposed by the court? Many people could not come out in the absence of surety. The court has directed that if a person cannot give surety because of poverty, then you allow him to go out. Even then they are in the prison. They are groomed to remain in the prison. They are groomed to become uncivilised. They are groomed to become criminals. The system is working in this way. Therefore, the system of judicial custody should be looked into. The prison system should also be looked into.

We have the Probation Act. The Probation Act is very rarely applied by the judiciary. We have to find out if that particular citizen has reformed his character and conduct to be a part of the civil society. If he does not cultivate his conduct and behaviour in the prison, then he should be sent back to the prison. If he has reformed his conduct and behaviour, then he should be admitted in the civil society. In this way, we should try to bring them out of the prison.

We need to abolish the colonial system of imprisonment. We need to have a new system of custody. For that, we already have got the laws. We have got the Criminal Procedure Code. Even during the trial, bail can be given. If their conduct is not proper, they can be sent back. As far as the Probation Act is concerned, the officers are not applying its provisions properly. The judges are not applying its provisions properly. A murderer, who is going to face capital punishment, can also think of reforming his conduct. And that has to be considered by the judge while awarding capital punishment. The procedure is given in the law. Certain judgements to this effect are also there. But none of them is applied by the judiciary. Nor does the prosecutor emphasise on the prisoner's reformed behaviour. We have to allow the probation system to find its way.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan, how much more time will you take?

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Ten minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): It is okay. There are two more speakers. See if you can give them time.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: I will try to conclude it as quickly as possible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I think he wants a reply from the Minister.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: This is a very important topic. Some people wanted to have a wider discussion on this. Then we need to have another day for discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I am not objecting to it. I am only requesting you to consider it.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: The discussion needs to be wider. It is very rare that we get a chance to discuss like this. The Home Minister will also have inputs from us. He would come to know about our thinking on these issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I am not stopping you.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: It is only for that purpose that I am elongating it. When we look at such an issue, we have to look at it in a comprehensive way. It should not be just about whether we should continue with capital punishment or not. That is not the issue. The issue is to see how our judicial system is working, how our system of prosecutors is working and how our investigation system is working. All these need to be rectified.

Two days ago, the Supreme Court commented that many cases end in acquittal because investigation is not done properly. It was reported in newspapers. Many cases end in acquittal because the judgements of lower courts do not consider the material points. Even the Division Bench of High Courts sometimes does not consider the material points. That is why when the Supreme Court takes up the matter, it reviews the judgement and says that there is no need for this kind of punishment. Why I am stressing on this point is because if there is a foolproof system of investigation, prosecution and judiciary, then only can we abolish capital punishment. When we find that all these systems are functioning properly, then we can say that capital punishment should go away from our system. The judges have to do their job properly. The investigators have to do their job properly. And the prosecutor has to consider his job as a duty to the nation, and not as another case for a public prosecutor. We have to think of all these things. We are enacting laws. We are amending the laws. But, at the same time, we have to see as to how we are enforcing these laws. That has to be looked into.

I request the Home Ministry that when it will take up the issue of prison reforms, and I hope jail manual is being prepared, it should consider the probationer's aspect. How to rectify the people and how to make the people fit into the system of civilised society and be the best citizens of this society? That has to be taken into consideration. I would like to complete my submission on this particular point by saying that India is one of the countries where we have very minimum death sentences. It is given only in the rarest of the rare cases and only when there are multiple murders or aggravated way of showing as to how the accused has used the knife for cutting or stabbing, how many stabs he has put, what are the materials to prove how he used it, how it was contemplated, how the conspiracy has come out, etc. These are the issues that are taken up before awarding punishment. But, I feel that the non-homicide aspect is also now dragging the death sentence as a part of the penal system. Is there a need for this or have we to rectify the

system? This is a larger issue which has to be debated. I feel that the social structure has to look into it. The society has to look in a proper way at our children who are going to be the future citizens and they should not be living in an environment like in America. America is now suffering. In America, even a child studying in a school is carrying a pistol and killing innocent children. Fortunately, this is not happening in our country. But, I am afraid, in this globalised economy, we also have access to so many television channels which American children have. We also may be tempted to go to that extent. That should not happen. Till then, we need capital punishment in the statute so that at least a threatening part is there. Otherwise, you remove everything and you remove capital punishment thinking that you should not kill the other people, but, at the same time, Mr. Raja will accept that honour-killing should have capital punishment. ...*(Interruptions)*... That may be his view. We may have different views for different issues. But, we have to see that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Mr. Raja, don't start this argument please. ...*(Interruptions)*... You will have a say in the end again. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, don't start this.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: If you want to say it, kindly say that in honour-killing, there should not be any capital punishment. You say it like that. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to have capital punishment if there is honour-killing. That is my stand because the society has to change. There should be a caste-less society. That is the way I think about it. Till then, we need capital punishment which has to threaten but it should not be used. It should be *brahmashtra*, the final way of threatening the society, but it should not be used because it can very easily trap innocent people for capital punishment. That is the way I look at the issue. The innocent people should be taken away from capital punishment, but the capital punishment is the way of showing the superiority of authority, overseeing and sovereignty where non-homicidal issues are there or where there is treason. These are all things which we have to take into consideration. We cannot do it in one stroke. Simply having it in the rule book and the penal code does not mean that it has to be applied. It can be applied in the rarest of the rare cases. I look at the issue in this way. We can have a broad discussion, but I again request the Home Ministry to look into jail reforms, penal reforms and the methodology of reforming the people when they are alive, when they have the honour of reforming themselves and come into the social system in an honourable way. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Now, Dr. Subramanian Swamy. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has all the right like any Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, first of all, I congratulate my friend and senior Member of this House, Shri D. Raja, for bringing forward this matter for debate. Of course, I don't agree with him at all. Many of the things he has said are not true. For instance, he has said that we are in minority amongst the member countries still voting against the resolution in the U.N. The fact of the matter is that the United States is a large country, with a population of almost 350 million people. They are, in fact, having capital punishment, having largest number of executions per population. Russia is also having capital punishment. All Arab countries are having capital punishment. Iran is having capital punishment. The country with which Mr. D. Raja's party has fraternal relations, that is, China, they have capital punishment. He is not able to persuade China but he wants to persuade India. *..(Interruptions)..* I do and I support their capital punishment. I think, it should be applied to you also. The question is you are not being able to find out a single important country which has abolished capital punishment except some crazy liberal countries in Europe. The fact of the matter is that we have known that the criminal system is either retributive, that is, you take retribution or it is defamatory, you reserve it for juveniles. Even on that we have now made an amendment that if it is a heinous crime like murder, then, the age will be reduced to 16.

The second thing is that the Supreme Court has considered this several times and they have said that the capital punishment is constitutional. Therefore, the question of its abolition, because it is unconstitutional, doesn't arise at all.

The third thing is the Indian Supreme Court has a number of times said that only in the rarest of the rare cases will there be capital punishment. The number of executions is minimal. Consequently I would say that in view of the fact that the safeguard is there and the Supreme Court will only give in the rarest of the rare cases, and the fact that democratic countries like the United States and India, Communist countries, dictatorial countries, countries which do not have democracy are all unanimous in saying that we need capital punishment.

Now, the issue, therefore, is that why should we consider this at all? It is a part of a fashionable international movement of NGOs that it should be abolished. Sometimes the Congress Party itself gets confused on this. They hanged Afzal Guru, but the killers of Rajiv Gandhi, they want to set free. They do not want to subject them to capital punishment. Even though the Supreme Court has said that it is the rarest of the rare cases that four people of LTTE should be given capital punishment. The Congress leadership has written to the Governor and the hon. President that they should be given mercy. Therefore, I think, this is a futile debate. In my opinion, India is not going to change. We are going

to have capital punishment, but the safeguards are necessary. The Supreme Court has already laid down those safeguards. There is no need for this Bill. While appreciating the effort of the Mover of Resolution, I say, it should be rejected.

**श्री मेघराज जैन** (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत में दण्ड प्रक्रिया प्रारम्भ से धीरे-धीरे विकसित हुई है। किसी जमाने में हा-हा करके अपराधी को दण्ड दिया जाता था, बाद में उसको धी-धी करके, धिक्कार करके दिया जाता था, फिर बहिष्कार के रूप में यह हुआ। आज जो स्थिति है, जिसके बारे में हमारे डी० राजा जी ने कहा है, मैं इस संबंध में दो बातें कहने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। एक तो यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान की न्याय-व्यवस्था आज भी इतनी अच्छी है, उस न्याय-व्यवस्था के ऊपर प्रश्न चिह्न लगाना, मैं सोचता हूँ कि ठीक नहीं है। यह हो सकता है कि कोर्ट के सामने जो केस जाते हैं, पुलिस द्वारा उनको किस तरह से प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उसके आधार पर फैसले होते हैं। इसके अलावा उसका वकील कैसा है, उसके आधार पर भी फैसले होते होंगे, परन्तु अपनी न्याय-व्यवस्था ठीक काम करती है। इसके अंदर यह जो कहा गया कि यहां पर जाति और धर्म के आधार पर दंड दिया जाता है, यह बिल्कुल गलत है। मैं इसके बिल्कुल विरोध में हूँ। देश में ऐसा नहीं होता है। अगर देखा जाए तो अपराध करने वालों के रेश्यों के आधार पर दंड-व्यवस्था होती है, यह जाति या धर्म के आधार पर नहीं होती है। नाच्चीयप्पन जी ने सही कहा कि सिनेमा में जो प्रदर्शित हो रहा है, लोग उसका अनुकरण कर रहे हैं। हमें अपने जीवन-शैली पर विचार करना चाहिए। आज सिनेमा लोगों को अपराध की तरफ धकेल रहा है। सिनेमा में जो दिखाया जा रहा है, वह मासूम, छोटे, नौजवान बच्चों के दिमाग पर काफी असर डालता है और वे उस दिशा में बढ़ते हैं। मैं उनकी बात से शत-प्रतिशत सहमत हूँ। इसके बारे में हमारे सारे सभ्य समाजों को विचार करना चाहिए कि क्या देश में ऐसा सिनेमा दिखाया जाना चाहिए? वे हीरो बन जाते हैं, यह बात भी ठीक नहीं है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे यहां आज जो परिस्थिति है, देश में चारों ओर आतंक का माहौल है, देश में नक्सलवादी भरे हुए हैं। वे लोग जिस प्रकार से नृशंस हत्या करते हैं, जिस प्रकार महिलाओं के साथ व्यवहार करते हैं, छोटी-छोटी बच्चियों के साथ दुर्व्यवहार करके उनको मार डालते हैं, ऐसे राक्षस को क्या जिन्दा रहने का अधिकार है? राजा जी इस बात पर विचार करें। अगर वे इन सब बातों पर विचार करेंगे, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उनके विचार बदल जाएंगे। जैसा डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी ने कहा कि बहुत कम लोगों को फांसी की सजा दी जाती है। हिन्दुस्तान में फांसी की सजा या मृत्यु दंड बहुत कम होता है। ऐसे लोग, जो बहुत ज्यादा घृणित अपराध करते हैं, उनको यह सजा जरूर मिलनी चाहिए। यही कहते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Now, the Minister.

## REFERENCE BY MEMBERS

### Re. Demand for authentication of papers - *Contd.*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, before the Minister speaks, I want to say something. It is 6.00 p.m. The Deputy Chairman had announced that Dr. Swamy will authenticate all -- I underscroe 'all' -- the papers that he used in his speech day before yesterday, and that these papers would be available for scrutiny. I want to know whether it has been done or not. ...*(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): Jairam Rameshji, the hon. Member has already authenticated all the papers. You can confirm that from the Secretariat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री जयराम रमेश:** क्या हम उन पेपर्स को देख सकते हैं, पढ़ सकते हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** यह हमारा अधिकार नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री जयराम रमेश:** यह मैं पूछ रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी:** यह हमारा अधिकार नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो पेपर्स थे, उनको उन्होंने authenticate कर दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अब आप उसको चेक कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री जयराम रमेश:** सर, चूंकि डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब ने कहा था कि पेपर्स को authenticate किया जाएगा, सभा पटल पर रखा जाएगा और हमें उसको देखने का अधिकार होगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं तीनों चीजों के बारे में पूछ रहा हूँ - authenticate, table और scrutiny. क्या ये तीनों हमारे लिए उपलब्ध हैं या नहीं हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप हमें यह बताइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... दूध का दूध, पानी का पानी मत कीजिएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): Now, please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: He has already complied with the direction from the Chair and he has already authenticated the papers. That is all.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Is it available for public scrutiny?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): Don't ask him. You ask me. Why are you asking him?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am asking you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): I have been told that the papers have been authenticated. Now, whether these are in order or not, has to be looked into by the Secretariat. They will do it and they will get back to you.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: When, Sir?

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: You can't dictate the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can't dictate the time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): The Bulletin will be issued shortly. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Bulletin will be issued. Okay? ...*(Interruptions)*...



**6.00 P.M.**

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: May I make one thing very clear? It should be authentication plus availability for scrutiny. I hope, the Bulletin would be available. That is my request to you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): Don't question the Secretariat. The Secretariat here does a very thorough work. The Bulletin would come, and you should be satisfied with it. Whatever comes in the Bulletin will come. Now, the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it was the assurance given by the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I request you to direct the Secretariat to say that it is available for scrutiny. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): I have called the Minister now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): The concerned Member has to say it. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is keeping quiet. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, make the papers available for scrutiny. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, why is he keeping quiet? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): There is a rule for that. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is a rule for that. You go by the rules. I can't tell them anything. After the Bulletin, there are rules which govern the procedure. You follow those rules. Thank you very much. Mr. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Can I reply to him first, please? ...*(Interruptions)*... After the Bulletin, you can scrutinize the papers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: My point of order is that the concerned Member testified before the House that he had confirmed and submitted the papers...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): This is not his job, it is the Secretariat's concern. I am telling you that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: No; the Member has said that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I have said it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, you can order the Member concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, the Member concerned has to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I am saying it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: स्वामी जी को देखकर आपको हर बार बुखार क्यों आ जाता है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... इन्होंने पेश कर दिया है ...*(व्यवधान)*... ऑथेंटिकेट करने के बाद ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप ले लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Let him say, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर): प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए। एक बुलेटिन आएगा, after the Bulletin, you can scrutinize the papers. That is the only thing that I can say. आप विराजिए, प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Why is he not making a statement? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): He does not have to make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated) Sir, can I say something? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): No, I am not asking you to make a statement. You don't have to make a statement. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have said something. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes Mr. Majeed Memon.

---

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

##### **Abolition of capital punishment in the country—Contd.**

SHRI MAJEED MEMON (Maharashtra): Sir, the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs is here. I, fervently, appeal to him that we are not to be guided by the system of

death penalty existing in other countries. As far as India is concerned, taking into account the conditions that exist in our country, we must make improvement in our administration of justice in as much as we find that, on several occasions, people are being kept in custody without bail, for several years and, one day, the learned Judge pronounces that he is not guilty! Now, his life is shattered. He has spent long years in custody. He was innocent. The law proclaims that this man has not committed the crime and then, ultimately, we try to undo the damage or injustice or miscarriage of justice by ordering his release. But what happens if a man is hanged? The problem with death penalty is as, 'to err is human', the greatest Judge on the earth may err sometimes. And, to err is human, as I said, you can always get yourself corrected at any time in future without any time-limit. So, after your system has hanged somebody and you come to know, by emergence of some evidence or by correction of your conduct in investigation or in trial, that the man has not committed the crime, it becomes irretrievable and we cannot be pardoned for the wrong that we do, and we have already disposed of that person. This characteristic of death penalty being irretrievable is the first strongest point for demolishing this death penalty at all.

Secondly, some people argue that the accused is a very heinous offender, he has killed some people, why mercy should be shown to him and he should be given the harshest punishment. But, with all due respect, I may say that the harsher punishment could not be simply to just kill him and finish him off. The harshest punishment would be to keep him in prison, make him work hard, try to improve him, if possible, or, otherwise let him serve the country from inside the prison, let him serve the society from inside the prison till the natural death occurs. So, death penalty cannot necessarily be justified to be the harshest punishment to satisfy the victims or the people who have suffered the crime. These are the two important points which would justify that death penalty in modern world, modern society, is not desirable. We have also, under the auspices of the Law Commission of India and under the auspices of various universities, participated in a large number of debates and seminars where question of retention or demolition of death penalty is to be examined because it is a very serious matter. Invariably, in most of such seminars, in most of such reports and debates, the overwhelming majority has recommended that death penalty has no place in modern set of laws, in a developing society like ours and in a democracy of India's stature. So, my full support for the demolition of death penalty. Maybe, there can be arguments on the other side. But they cannot be as strong as the weaknesses in death penalty because this is irretrievable. It leaves us helpless and we cannot take corrective steps once we hang a wrong man. So, I fully support the proposal made by my friend, Shri D. Raja, and the Ministry concerned must examine as to whether it can be immediately abolished. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, this is an issue where there should, in fact, have been more presence in the House, and this is an issue which cannot be sorted out as a Private Member's Resolution, although Mr. Raja has done a very good service to the country by bringing this Resolution, whether we agree with his views or not. An exhaustive debate on this subject is required. Therefore, at the outset, I would like to thank him for bringing this Resolution. But the point is that this issue was more pertinent some ten years back where people thought that the capital punishment should go because there was a stage where people thought that it was cruel to kill a person whatever be his crime. But after we have witnessed the acts of terrorism, the acts of violence, in this country, especially, during the last ten years, no genuine person, having a patriotic feeling, would ever be in favour of abolition of the capital punishment. On the contrary, we require this punishment to meet various challenges of acts of violence, acts of terrorism, that the country is facing. The question is, would anybody say that those persons, involved in various incidents that have taken place, should not be given capital punishment? I am not naming the person who had already been awarded capital punishment. This person terrorised the whole city of Mumbai and caused deaths of several persons. Take the cases of bomb blasts that have taken place where hundreds of people have been killed. Would anybody say that these people should go scot-free? Therefore, I am saying that this should be seen from the present perspective and not as individual cases of crime. If we try to analyse the acts of terrorism which are going on from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, — I am, particularly, referring to Kashmir and several parts of the North-East -- the capital punishment must be there. But the only unfortunate part is that it takes years before a capital punishment is, actually, made effective, or, when the punishment given is executed. This is the only unfortunate part. So, cases of heinous crimes should be expedited in a period of, say, one year. So, Sir, all that I wish to say is that the situation prevailing some ten years back is different from the situation which is existing today. I need not name the person. Would anybody like that Kasab should not have been sent to gallows? Let somebody say that. I am giving the example of Kasab only and the amount which the country had to spend for maintaining justice, to show to the world that democracy prevails, law of justice prevails, rule of law prevails in the country. We started with Pakistan claiming that he is not their citizen. It started from this point. Or shall we prove his guilt later on? We had to prove to the world that he is a Pakistani citizen. That also took a lot of time. Therefore, in such matters even nationality of a foreign national has to be proved and terrorists are coming again and again in various sectors. What has happened in Pathankot? Would you like those persons to be sent free, give them life imprisonment or to be sent to gallows? Have we got some patriotism in our minds or not, to punish the enemies which come in various forms? They come in the form of an ordinary criminal and they challenge our military establishment. They make inroads into the place where sensitive machinery is kept. This is the status today. Therefore, capital punishment has to be seen from the context of

this, not where the crimes take place in families, husband killing wife, wife killing her husband or relatives killing others. These are social type of crimes, but we have to see the crimes of very serious types, heinous crimes, which society should not tolerate under any circumstances. Let us take one-by-one which have happened during the last ten years. Let us analyse those cases individually and see whether in those cases capital punishment should not have been given. My good friend, Mr. Menon, has been fighting court cases. Therefore, his approach may be different. He, basically, is a lawyer who is appearing for the accused. So, his mindset is different, but the question is...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): Thank you very much. The time is up. We will now take up Special Mentions.

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I want to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): No, you can speak next time. Special Mentions.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, this is also a matter of procedure. I request the House to agree to continue the discussion in the coming days.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE): It is carried forward. Can I take the sense of the House because the Minister's reply has not come?

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Yes, Sir, we can carry it forward.

---

### SPECIAL MENTIONS

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): We will, now, take up Special Mentions.

Shri Ram Nath Thakur, not present. Shri Bhupinder Singh.

**Need to increase allocation of foodgrains particularly rice to Odisha to counter the effects of severe drought**

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, the entire country, including the backward State of Odisha, is reeling under severe drought. Coupled with this, there is less supply of foodgrains to Odisha in terms of ratio of rice and wheat. Secondly, as per the latest news reports, over 1 million tonnes of foodgrains have been wasted in the past decade in the FCI godowns. This is, ironically, very pitiable as, on the one hand, we have food security programme and, on the other, tonnes of foodgrains are being wasted due to poor storage facilities and crores of rupees is being spent in preventing the wastage of foodgrains from FCI godowns.

[Shri Bhupinder Singh]

Sir, about 1.83 lakh tones of wheat and 3.95 lakh tons of rice was damaged during 1997 to 2007, as admitted by FCI authorities. In the current scenario of extreme drought and its effects, the surplus stock available in godowns may be allocated to the needy and severely affected States like Odisha. Moreover, the ratio of foodgrains allocated to the State of Odisha may be revised according to the consumption pattern. As consumption of rice is much higher than wheat in Odisha, I request that the State may be allocated more rice than the existing monthly quota of 20,577 tons under the National Food Security Act. The ratio of rice and wheat allocation may be revised according to the demands of the State and it must be 86:14 as against 79:21 as present. Similarly, quarterly allocation of rice under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme may also be increased from 22,719.10 MT per quarter. This will not only help the State in countering the effects of drought, but also prevent loss of foodgrains in the FCI godowns.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey, not present. Chaudhary Munvvar Saleem.

#### **Need to provide potable water to every citizen of India**

**चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सदन का ध्यान पानी और सूखे की भीषण त्रासदी की जानिब आकर्षित करते हुए सरकार और समाज को उसकी जिम्मेदारी का अहसास कराने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

महोदय, एक अखबार की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार देश में 90 per cent बरसाती पानी ज़ाया हो जाता है। आज जनता लगभग 60 per cent दूषित पानी पी रही है तथा लाखों तालाब अपना अस्तित्व खो चुके हैं। समाजवादी चिंतक डॉ. लोहिया ने नदियों को जोड़ने और पानी को रोकने का मशवरा बरसों पहले सरकार को दिया था। आज देश में पानी एक गोरखधंधा बन गया है। इस वर्ष बोलत बंद पानी का धंधा लगभग 160 अरब रुपए का हुआ है, जो अगले वर्ष तक 200 अरब रुपए को भी पार कर सकता है। इस वर्ष प्रदूषित पानी पीने से होने वाली बीमारियों के इलाज के खर्च में निजी स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में व्यवसायियों ने दस लाख करोड़ रुपए कमाए हैं।

देश के हर व्यक्ति तक शुद्ध पानी पहुंचे, हर खेत को सिंचित करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार कितनी गंभीर है, इसका अंदाजा इस बात से लगाया जा सकता है कि जल संकट से जूझ रहे उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए मुख्य मंत्री जी ने जो 2,057 करोड़ रुपए की सहायता राशि केन्द्र से मांगी थी, उसका एक अंश भर केन्द्र ने सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के आदेश के बाद 430 करोड़ रुपए जारी किए हैं।

महोदय, मैं जानता हूँ कि हर धर्म में 'जल को जीवन' कहा गया है और मेरा कुरान सुराह वाक़े आयात नं.69 में कहता है कि फ़िज़ूल खर्च करने वालों को मैं शैतान के भाई से बैत करता हूँ।

मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हर व्यक्ति को शुद्ध पानी मयस्सर हो, इसके लिए सरकार ने क्या योजना बनाई है और क्या उस योजना की कोई समय सीमा भी है?

†چودھری منور سلیم: اُپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، میں سدن کا دھیان پانی اور سوکھے کی بھیشن تراسدی کی جانب آکرثیت کرتے ہوئے سرکار اور سماج کو اس کی ذمہ داری کا احساس کرانے کے لیے کھڑا ہوا ہوں۔

مہودے، ایک اخبار کی رپورٹ کے مطابق دیش میں نوے فیصد برساتی پانی ضائع ہو جاتا ہے۔ آج جتنا لگ بھگ ساٹھ فیصد دُشیت پانی پی رہی ہے اور لاکھوں تالاب اپنا استو کھو چکے ہیں۔ سماجوادی چنتک ڈاکٹر لوبیا نے ندیوں کو جوڑنے اور پانی کو روکنے کا مشورہ برسوں پہلے سرکار کو دیا تھا۔ آج دیش میں پانی ایک گورکھ دھندا بن گیا ہے۔ اس سال بوتل بند پانی کا دھندا لگ بھگ 160 ارب روپے کا ہوا ہے، جو اگلے سال تک دوسو ارب روپے کو بھی پار کر سکتا ہے۔ اس سال پردوشیت پانی پینے سے ہونے والی بیماریوں کے علاج کے خرچ میں نجی سواستھ شپٹر میں ویوسانیوں نے دس لاکھ کروڑ روپے کمانے ہیں۔

دیش کے ہر شخص تک شُد پانی پہنچے، ہر کھیت کو سینچت کرنے کے لیے کیندر سرکار کتنی گمبھیر ہے، اس کا اندازہ اس بات سے لگایا جاسکتا ہے کہ جل سنکٹ سے جوجھ رہے اترپردیش کے لیے مکھیا منتری جی نے جو 2,057 کروڑ روپے کی سہائتا راشی کیندر سے مانگی تھی، اس کا ایک انش بھر ماترے روپ میں 430 کروڑ روپے کیندر نے سرووچ نیالیالیہ کے آدیش کے بعد جاری کئے ہیں۔

مہودے، میں جانتا ہوں کہ ہر دھرم میں جل کو جیون کہا گیا ہے اور میرا قرآن، سورۃ واقعہ آیات نمبر 69 میں کہتا ہے کہ فضول خرچ کرنے والوں کو میں شیطان کے بھائی سے بیت کرتا ہوں۔

میں سرکار سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہر شخص کو شُد پانی میسر ہو، اس کے لیے سرکار نے کیا یوجنا بنائی ہے اور کیا اس یوجنا کی کوئی سمے سیما ہے؟

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Shri C.P. Narayanan, not present. Shri K.C. Tyagi, not present. Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, not present. Shri Santiuse Kujur, not present. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque, not present. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, not present. Shri Sanjay Raut, not present. Shri Motilal Vora, not present. Shri Husain Dalwai, not present. Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya, not present.

The House is adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 9th May, 2016.

*The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past  
six of the clock till eleven of the clock on  
Monday, the 9th May, 2016*