Vol. 240
No. 15

Friday
5 August, 2016
14 Sravana, 1938 (Saka)

सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Obituary reference (pages 1-2)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 2-8)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (page 8)

Statements by Ministers —

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture — *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture — *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture — *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers — *Laid on the Table* (page 9)

[P.T.O.

©
RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ **100.00**

On visit of Home Minister to attend 7th meeting of SAARC Interior/Home Ministers (pages 13-27)

Statement Regarding Government Business (page 10)

Re. Information on matter raised by Shri Pramod Tiwari during Zero Hour on 4th August, 2016 (pages 10-13)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 27-50)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 51-68)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 68-324)

Message from Lok Sabha — *Reported*

The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2016 — *Laid on the Table* (page 325)

Private Members' Bills —

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of the Eighth Schedule) — *Introduced* (page 325)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Insertion of new article 338B) — *Introduced* (page 325)

The Right to Privacy of Personal Data Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (pages 325-326)

The Special Financial Assistance to the State of West Bengal Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 326)

The Jute Growers (Remunerative Price and Welfare) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 326)

The Medical Treatment of Terminally Ill Patients (Protection of Patients and Medical Practitioners) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 326)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Insertion of new article 25A) — *Introduced* (page 327)

The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 327)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of article 324) — *Introduced* (page 327)

The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 327)

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 327)

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

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 5th August, 2016/14th Sravana, 1938 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Onward L. Nongtdu, a former Member of this House, on the 7th of May, 2016, at the age of 75 years.

Born in January, 1941, at Sutnga Village of Meghalaya, Shri Onward L. Nongtdu was educated at the St. Anthony's College, Shillong and the Post Graduate Training College, Shillong.

An agriculturist and businessman, Shri Nongtdu founded the Dairy Cooperative Farming in Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya. He served as the President of the Meghalaya Taekwondo Association and of the Voluntary Health Association of Meghalaya. He also served as the Chairman of the Meghalaya Housing Cooperative Society, the Meghalaya Marketing Cooperative Federation Limited and the Literature Cooperative Society Limited, Laban, Shillong. He was a Member of the Court of the North-Eastern Hill University.

Shri Nongtdu started his legislative career as a Member of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly in 1972 and was its Member for two terms - from 1972 to 1978 and again from 1988 to 1993. He served as a Minister in the State holding the portfolios of Public Works Department, Power and District Council Affairs, from 1988 to 1990. He also served as the Deputy Chairman of the Meghalaya State Planning Board.

Shri Onward L. Nongtdu represented the State of Meghalaya in this House from April, 1996 to April, 2002.

In the passing away of Shri Onward L. Nongtdu, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Onward L. Nongtdu.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 की धारा 3 की उप धारा (6) के अधीन चीनी का कोई भी व्यापारी किसी भी समय चीनी का कोई स्टॉक, ऐसे स्टॉक के प्राप्त करने की तारीख से तीस दिन से अधिक की अवधि के लिए नहीं रखेगा और किसी भी समय अधिसूचना में वर्णित स्थानों में, प्रत्येक के सामने उल्लिखित मात्रा से अधिक स्टॉक नहीं रखेगा, संबंधी केंद्रीय सरकार का निदेश देने वाली उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय (खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग) की अधिसूचना सं. सा.का.नि. 471(अ), दिनांक 29 अप्रैल, 2016 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5095/16/16]

Notification of the Ministry of Communications

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनोज सिन्हा): महोदय, मैं भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 1997 की धारा 37 के अधीन डाटा सेवा के लिए विभेदकारी टैरिफ़ का निषेध विनियम, 2016 को प्रकाशित करने वाली संचार मंत्रालय (दूरसंचार विभाग) की अधिसूचना सं. 301-5/2016-एफएण्डईए, दिनांक 8 फरवरी, 2016 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) तथा विलंब संबंधी विवरण (केवल अंग्रेज़ी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4663/16/16]

Statements showing the action taken by the Government on the various assurances

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements showing the action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Session shown against each:—

1. Statement No. XXVI One Hundred and Eighty-second Session, 1997.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5252/16/16]

2. Statement No. XXXIX One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Session, 1998.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5253/16/16]

3. Statement No. XXVI One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Session, 1999.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5254/16/16]

4. Statement No. XXXVI One Hundred and Ninety-first Session, 2000.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5255/16/16]

5. Statement No. XXXV One Hundred and Ninety-third Session, 2001.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5256/16/16]

6. Statement No. XXXI One Hundred and Ninety-seventh Session, 2002.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5257/16/16]

7. Statement No. XXXV One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Session, 2003.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5258/16/16]

8. Statement No. XXX One Hundred and Ninety-ninth Session, 2003.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5259/16/16]

9. Statement No. XXI Two Hundred Session, 2003.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5260/16/16]

10. Statement No. XXXII Two Hundred and Second Session, 2004.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5261/16/16]

11. Statement No. XXXVIII Two Hundred and Fourth Session, 2005.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5262/16/16]

12. Statement No. XXXIV Two Hundred and Fifth Session, 2015.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5263/16/16]

13. Statement No. XXX Two Hundred and Sixth Session, 2005.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5264/16/16]

14. Statement No. XXXIV Two Hundred and Seventh Session, 2006.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5265/16/16]

15. Statement No. XXIX Two Hundred and Eighth Session, 2006.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5266/16/16]

16. Statement No. XXIII Two Hundred and Ninth Session, 2006.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5267/16/16]

17. Statement No. XXVIII Two Hundred and Tenth Session, 2007.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5268/16/16]

18. Statement No. XXVIII Two Hundred and Eleventh Session, 2007.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5269/16/16]

19. Statement No. XXVIII Two Hundred and Thirteenth Session, 2008.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5270/16/16]

20. Statement No. XXIII Two Hundred and Fourteenth Session, 2008.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5271/16/16]

21. Statement No. XXIV Two Hundred and Seventeenth Session, 2009.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5272/16/16]

22. Statement No. XXIV Two Hundred and Eighteenth Session, 2009.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5273/16/16]

23. Statement No. XXIII Two Hundred and Nineteenth Session, 2010.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5274/16/16]

24. Statement No. XXII Two Hundred and Twentieth Session, 2010.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5275/16/16]

25. Statement No. XIX Two Hundred and Twenty-third Session, 2011.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5276/16/16]

26. Statement No. XVII Two Hundred and Twenty-fourth Session, 2011.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5277/16/16]

27. Statement No. XVII Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Session, 2012.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5278/16/16]

28. Statement No. XV Two Hundred and Twenty-sixth Session, 2012.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5279/16/16]

29. Statement No. XIV Two Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, 2012.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5280/16/16]

30. Statement No. XIII Two Hundred and Twenty-eighth Session, 2013.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5281/16/16]

31. Statement No. XI Two Hundred and Twenty-ninth Session, 2013.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5282/16/16]

32. Statement No. X Two Hundred and Thirtieth Session, 2013-2014.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5283/16/16]

33. Statement No. VIII Two Hundred and Thirty-second Session, 2014.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5284/16/16]

34. Statement No. VII Two Hundred and Thirty-third Session, 2014.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5285/16/16]

35. Statement No. VI Two Hundred and Thirty-fourth Session, 2015.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5286/16/16]

36. Statement No. V Two Hundred and Thirty-fifth Session, 2015.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5287/16/16]

37. Statement No. IV Two Hundred and Thirty-sixth Session, 2015.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5288/16/16]

38. Statement No. III Two Hundred and Thirty-seventh Session, 2015.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5289/16/16]

39. Statement No. II Two Hundred and Thirty-eighth Session, 2016.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5290/16/16]

40. Statement No. I Two Hundred and Thirty-ninth Session, 2016.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5291/16/16]

Reports and Accounts (2014-15) of the various societies and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics (ISAE), Mumbai, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4796/16/16]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics (ISAS), 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 Society.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4795/16/16]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Railways

II. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation (IRWO), New Delhi and related papers

III. Report on the progress of intake of SC/ST in recruitment/promotion in Railways and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Sir, I lay on the Table—

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

(1) G.S.R. 464 (E), dated the 28th April, 2016, publishing the Railway Claims Tribunal (Procedure) Amendment Rules, 2016.

(2) G.S.R. 500 (E), dated the 12th May, 2016, publishing the Railway Claims Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Services of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2016.

(3) G.S.R. 711 (E), dated the 17th September, 2015, publishing the Railway Claims Tribunal (Procedure) Amendment Rules, 2015.

[Placed in Library. For Sl. No. (1) to (3) *See* No. L.T. 5012/16/16]

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation (IRWO), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5011/16/16]

III. (a) Report on the Progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in recruitment and promotion categories on the Railways, for the year ending 31st March, 2015.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5010/16/16]

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 58 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) proposed Notification F.No.12/1/2016-FSLRC, dated the 5th August, 2016, notifying the inflation target for the period beginning from the date of publication of this notification and ending on the March 31, 2021, along with short note on setting of inflation target by the Government in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5038/16/16]

Accounts (2013-14 and 2014-15) of NIPER, Ahmedabad and NIPER, Guwahati and related papers

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Sir, I lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Act, 1998 :—

(a) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Ahmedabad, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5292/16/16]

(b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Ahmedabad, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5293/16/16]

(c) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, for the year 2014-15, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4797/16/16]

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4797/16/16]

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

II. MoU between Department of Food and Public Distribution and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table —

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. G.S.R. 694 (E), dated the 14th July, 2016, publishing the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (Conditions of service of the Officers and other Employees) Regulations, 2016, under Section 52 of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5108/16/16]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), for the year 2016-17.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5109/16/16]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Law and Justice

II. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of ERNET India, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE: AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table —

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 429 (E), dated the 19th April, 2016, publishing the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2016, under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Notaries Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5023/16/16]

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the ERNET India, 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 Society.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5145/16/16]

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE (Maharashtra): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (2015-16):—

(i) Twentieth Report on the subject 'Power Generation from Municipal Solid Waste' of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; and

(ii) Twenty-first Report on Action Taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Development and status of Small Hydro Sector' of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह): महोदय, मैं कृषि अनुसंधान और शिक्षा विभाग की अनुदान मांगों (2016-17) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित कृषि संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के छब्बीसवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE: AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): Sir, I make a statement regarding updated Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति): महोदय, मैं मेगा फ़ूड पार्क्स के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित कृषि संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के सोलहवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखती हूं।

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2014-15) pertaining to the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing Monday, the 8th of August, 2016 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper consisting of:-
   (a) Consideration and passing of the Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debt Laws and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 2016 as passed by Lok Sabha.
2. Consideration and passing of the Mental Health Care Bill, 2013.
3. Consideration and passing the Enemy Property (Amendment) Bill, 2016 as passed by Lok Sabha and as reported by Select Committee of Rajya Sabha - To replace an Ordinance.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:—
   (a) The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016;
   (b) The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016;
   (c) The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016;
   (d) The Central Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill, 2016; and
   (e) The Employee's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

5. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2016 relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2016-17, as passed by Lok Sabha.

6. Consideration of Resolution seeking approval of the recommendations contained in Paras 5,6,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18 and 19 of the First Report of Railway Convention Committee (2014), appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues and other ancillary matters, which was presented to both the Houses of Parliament on 22nd December, 2015.

RE. INFORMATION ON MATTER RAISED BY SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI DURING ZERO HOUR ON 4TH AUGUST, 2016

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Sir, I have given notice on the temple issue for Zero Hour.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, yesterday, many Members raised an important issue regarding the HRD Ministry and, therefore, I need to explain the facts.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: On what?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVEDEKAR: It is on IIIT, Amethi. Members raised it, but I was not here. Otherwise, I would have responded immediately. But let me put the records straight. IIIT, Amethi, was sanctioned by Ministry's order in 2005 and from 2005 and 2006 the courses started there. It was off campus of Allahabad, but law does not permit off campus of IIIT; but even after that, the issue was the students after coming there found that there was only one faculty appointed permanently, who was staying in Amethi in the campus permanently and other faculties used to come. One faculty each day used to come from Allahabad to teach all the subjects and go back to Allahabad. So, everyday there used to be only one faculty and so the students were very upset and the students demanded, "We have not selected this IIIT for this. We want all faculties." I could not find out why faculties were not provided. Now the issue is, the students were agitating and demanding that they should be transferred to IIIT, Allahabad. So, the HRD Ministry appointed a Committee and the Director of IIT, Kanpur to look into it. They talked to all the students and then came up with a solution that they should be transferred to IIIT, Allahabad because there is no legal provision for off campus. That is also not a legal arrangement and therefore, they should be transferred. On 29th July when the Allahabad faculty went there, all the students *gheroed* them saying that you had promised to shift us, but you have not shifted us and, therefore, the shifting has happened. There is no political vendetta. It is the students who were starving for education and they were not provided education there.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, this question was raised by me. महोदय, मुझे दो मिनट बोलने का मौका दें। सर, यह सही है कि वहां पर हड़ताल चल रही है, लेकिन हड़ताल छात्रों की नहीं है, वहां के कर्मचारी और वहां के लोग कह रहे थे कि इस इंस्टीट्यूट को shift न किया जाए, इसलिए हड़ताल हो रही थी। वहां के 70 कर्मचारी, जिनकी वहां नौकरी लगी थी, हड़ताल पर बैठे हुए हैं। सर, 11 साल से वह संस्थान काम कर रहा था। अगर उसमें कोई विधिक या तकनीकी कमी थी, तो भारत सरकार ने दूर क्यों नहीं की? आपके मंत्रालय ने दूर क्यों नहीं की? सर, मैं एक चीज स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि campus सिर्फ एक जगह नहीं, बहुत सी जगहों पर चल रहे हैं। अगर उस वक्त कोई तकनीकी कमी थी, तो आपको यह निर्णय लेने में दो साल लगे कि यह कानूनी है या गैरकानूनी है। मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूं कि मौजूदा सरकार जान-बूझकर श्री राहुल गांधी और श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी के क्षेत्र से ऐसे संस्थानों को बंद करना चाहती है। सर, सिर्फ ट्रिपल आई.टी. ही एक संस्थान नहीं है, मैंने 6 संस्थानों की, फैक्ट्रियों की व मिलों की कल सूची दी है। With your permission I have given it to them. They are shifting there. सर, ये जान-बूझकर राजनीतिक विद्वेष के कारण

[Shri Pramod Tiwari]
श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी और श्री राहुल गांधी के क्षेत्र के संस्थानों को ही नहीं **...(व्यवधान)...** बल्कि ऐसे संस्थानों को जिन के साथ पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू, महात्मा गांधी, राजीव गांधी का नाम जुड़ा है, जब से एनडीए की सरकार आयी है, इन्हें खत्म करना चाहती है। मैं स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. You made your point. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारीः क्या वहां पर सरकारी कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल चल रही है या नहीं? **...(समय की घंटी)...** मैं तीन दिन पहले वहां स्वयं गया था और कर्मचारियों से मिलकर आया हूं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकरः सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यह सच नहीं है। **...(व्यवधान)...** मेरे मंत्री बनने के बाद **...(व्यवधान)...** मैं आपको बता रहा हूं...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen to his reply.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकरः डा. बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर यूनिवर्सिटी, लखनऊ का एक जनरल कॉलेज, आटर्स, कॉमर्स, साइंस वाला एक कॉलेज, इसी कैम्पस में शुरू हो रहा है। इसलिए जो कर्मचारियों का मुद्दा है, वह कोई मुद्दा नहीं है, क्योंकि उनको accommodate किया जाएगा। इससे अमेठी के स्टूडेंट्स को फायदा होगा, क्योंकि IIIT, Amethi में अमेठी के केवल एक-दो स्टूडेंट्स होते थे। अभी अमेठी के स्टूडेंट्स को, सभी को कॉलेज में एडमिशन मिलेगा। वहां हम Skill Development Centre भी शुरू कर रहे हैं। यह जो आरोप है, यह सच इसलिए नहीं है, क्योंकि मैंने मंत्री बनने के बाद जो पहले कुछ केंद्रीय विद्यालय sanction किए, उनमें मैंने रायबरेली को भी केंद्रीय विद्यालय दिया है। यह कहना गलत है कि हम political दृष्टि से उल्टा काम कर रहे हैं। हम मेरिट से काम करते हैं और मेरिट से ही काम करते रहेंगे।

श्री उपसभापतिः मंत्री जी, इनका कहना है कि अगर कोई legal deficiency है, तो आप उसको rectify करिए। **...(व्यवधान)...** Sit down, that is all. ...(*Interruptions*)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी)ः सर, ऑनरेबल होम मिनिस्टर साहब यहां पर हैं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: It is an important issue ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Home Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Kanimozhiji, I have called the Home Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वीः डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, ऑनरेबल होम मिनिस्टर यहां पर हैं और वे एक महत्वपूर्ण स्टेटमेंट देना चाहते हैं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार)ः सर, इनको सुनना चाहिए। **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we all respect teachers in this country ...(*Interruptions*)... We have great regard for them. They are helping the

children to mould their lives for better future ...(*Interruptions*)... In Chennai, a group of Hindus have organized an exhibition in which more than 1800 teachers participated ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kanimozhiji, don't say Hindus and Muslims. You can give notice; that will be examined ...(*Interruptions*)... Kanimozhiji, you give notice. That will be examined. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. Kanimozhiji, don't bring the question of Hindus and Muslims here. You give notice. We will examine it. Please sit down ....(*Interruptions*)... I told you that you give notice, it will be examined. Now, sit down. ....(*Interruptions*)... Now, the hon. Home Minister to make a statement. ....(*Interruptions*)...

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, वैसे जो स्टेटमेंट मैं देने जा रहा हूँ, उसकी कॉपी राज्य सभा कार्यालय को भेजने के लिए मैंने निर्देशित किया है, शायद वह आ गई होगी। **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, we have not received it...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen to him ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं सभी सम्मानित सदस्यों से क्षमा चाहूँगा और एक अनुरोध यह भी करना चाहूँगा कि आज मैं यहां पर स्टेटमेंट दे रहा हूँ और फिर 12 बजे मुझे लोक सभा में भी स्टेटमेंट देना है, तो मैं जानता हूँ कि यहां की परंपरा है कि *suo motu* Statement देने के बाद हमारे ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स कुछ questions पूछ सकते हैं। मैं आपसे यह अनुरोध करना चाहूँगा...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you can move after 12 o' clock.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: या तो ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स Monday को questions पूछ लें और आज मैं स्टेटमेंट दे देता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; today itself. Upto 12 o'clock, we will seek clarifications.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS — *Contd.*

On visit of Home Minister to attend 7th meeting of SAARC Interior/Home Ministers

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, सार्क गृह मंत्रियों की सातवीं बैठक में मैंने दिनांक 4.8.2016 को भाग लिया।

2. इस बैठक में मुख्य एजेंडा आतंकवाद, narcotic drugs की तस्करी, cyber crime एवं human trafficking थे। लगभग सभी देशों ने आतंकवाद की घोर भर्त्सना की।

[श्री राजनाथ सिंह]

3. भारत की ओर से मैंने आतंकवाद पर विशेष बल दिया। मुझे विश्वास है कि सदन के सभी सम्मानित सदस्य इस बात से सहमत होंगे, क्योंकि दक्षिण एशिया में शान्ति और खुशहाली के लिए सबसे बड़ी चुनौती और सबसे बड़ा खतरा भी आतंकवाद ही है। मैंने इस बुराई को जड़ सहित उखाड़ फेंकने का पक्का संकल्प करने का आह्वान किया।

4. मैंने सार्क के सभी सदस्यों से आग्रह किया कि वे आतंकवाद को न तो glorify करें, न ही patronage दें। एक देश का आतंकवादी किसी के लिए भी martyr या स्वतंत्रता सेनानी नहीं हो सकता है। आतंकवाद को बढ़ावा नहीं मिले, इस हेतु, मैंने कहा कि जरूरी है कि न सिर्फ आतंकवादियों और आतंकवादी संगठनों के विरुद्ध, बल्कि उन्हें समर्थन देने वाले व्यक्तियों, संस्थाओं, संगठनों और राष्ट्रों के विरुद्ध भी कठोर से कठोर कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए। आतंकवाद की हैवानियत से तभी निपटा जा सकेगा।

5. इसके अलावा मैंने सार्क के गृह मंत्रियों की इस बैठक में भारत की ओर से निम्न सुझाव रखे :

(i) आतंकवादियों पर विश्व समुदाय की सहमति से लगाए गए प्रतिबंध का सम्मान किया जाए।

(ii) अच्छे और बुरे आतंकवाद में भेद करने की भूल कदापि न की जाए।

(iii) आतंकवाद को बढ़ावा या समर्थन देने वाले सभी स्टेट्स अथवा नॉन स्टेट्स एक्टर्स के विरुद्ध प्रभावी कदम आवश्यक हैं।

(iv) आतंकवाद में सम्मिलित व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कड़ी कानूनी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए और उनका extradition सुनिश्चित किया जाना चाहिए, ताकि वे कानून से न बच पाएं। माननीय उपसभापति जी, क्योंकि कई लोग wanted हैं।

(v) पाँचवीं बात, जो मैंने कही थी, वह SAARC Convention on Mutual Assistance on Criminal Matters को उन देशों द्वारा ratify किया जाना आवश्यक है, जिन्होंने अभी तक इसको ratify नहीं किया है।

(vi) मैंने छठी बात कही थी, SAARC Terrorist Offences Monitoring Desk और SAARC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk को उन देशों की सहमति की आवश्यकता है, जिन्होंने अभी तक इस पर अपनी सहमति नहीं दी है। मैंने भारत में महिलाओं और बच्चों की सुरक्षा में Track Child और Operation Smile जैसे उठाए गए कदमों की ओर सार्क गृह मंत्रियों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया। भारत द्वारा ईमानदार, transparent और accountabe governance हेतु "जन, धन योजना" और "आधार" जैसे कार्यक्रमों से भी सार्क गृह मंत्रियों को अवगत कराया।

(vii) भारत की ओर से सार्क गृह सचिवों एवं गृह मंत्रियों की बैठक के दौरान भारत द्वारा निम्न initiatives की भी घोषणा की गई।

(क) पहला, STOMD और SDOMD को प्रभावी रूप से लागू करने हेतु भारत की ओर से तकनीकी सहायता, यानी technical assistance देने को तैयार हैं।

(ख) दूसरा, भारत में 22-23 सितंबर, 2016 को सार्क Anti-Terrorism Mechanism के एक्सपर्ट्स की बैठक का आयोजन। सौभाग्य से सभी सदस्य देशों ने इस बैठक में भाग लेने पर अपनी सहमति दी है।

(ग) नशीले पदार्थों की रोकथाम हेतु भारत द्वारा सार्क सदस्य देशों के अधिकारियों को विभिन्न प्रकार का प्रशिक्षण।

(घ) सार्क देशों की Computer Emergency Response Teams की पहली बैठक भारत में आयोजित करने का भी मैंने प्रस्ताव किया।

(viii) जहां तक हमारे पड़ोसी देश पाकिस्तान का सवाल है, मैं माननीय सदस्यों को बताना चाहूंगा कि SAARC Convention on Mutual Assistance on Criminal Matters को उसने अभी तक ratify नहीं किया है। STOMD और SDOMD हेतु भी उनकी सहमति अभी शेष है। पाकिस्तान की ओर से कहा गया कि वे इस ओर शीघ्र कार्यवाही करेंगे। मैं आशा करता हूं कि यह "शीघ्र", वास्तव में शीघ्र होगा।

(ix) दक्षिण एशिया क्षेत्र समेत पूरी दुनिया में आतंकवाद के गहरे बादल मँडरा रहे हैं। पूरी world community इस गंभीर खतरे से बेहद चिंतित है, ऐसा सर्वविदित है। यह इस बात से भी स्पष्ट है कि भारत ने इस मानवता विरोधी खतरे पर अपना स्पष्ट मैसेज तो दिया ही, साथ में लगभग सभी सदस्यों ने भी इस हैवानियत पर अपनी चिंता व्यक्त की है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बात पर बल देना चाहता हूं कि भारत का यह मैसेज मानवता की खातिर और मानवाधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए है। माननीय सदस्य इस बात पर सहमत होंगे कि प्रमुख रूप से आतंकवाद ही मानवाधिकारों का सबसे बड़ा दुश्मन है, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Sir, the whole House, I am sure, would like to congratulate our Home Minister for his clear, courageous and tough stand against terrorism, which he has taken in Pakistan. But I would like to seek one clarification. Even at an official level of as high as Prime Minister, they are daily talking about the disintegration of India with regard to Kashmir, and so on. I would like to know whether the Home Minister spoke to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and reminded him that his own backyard was falling upon – Baloch is going in one direction, Pakhtun is going in another direction, Sindh is going in another direction. He should have expressed sympathy and offered cooperation to keep Pakistan in one piece; and, that they should not concentrate on India, rather they should concentrate on their own backyard. Did he raise any issue on this matter?

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सर, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी का, SAARC Interior Ministers की मीटिंग के लिए जो पाकिस्तान का दौरा था, उसका हम स्वागत करते हैं। उसमें विशेष रूप से जो इश्यूज़ थे, जैसे terrorism, smuggling, narcotic drugs, cyber crime, human trafficking इत्यादि, ये वे तमाम मुद्दे हैं, जिनका हमारे मुल्क पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ा है।

[श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद]

वैसे तो इस वक्त टेररिज्म का पूरे विश्व में, पूरी दुनिया में खौफ, भय और डर है, लेकिन हमारे यहां, विशेष रूप से यह कश्मीर से शुरू हुआ और अब दूसरी जगहों में भी आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता आगे बढ़ रहा है। फिर smuggling और narcotic drugs का असर भी हमारे देश के अलग-अलग regions में है। वहां ये सब मुद्दे उठाए गए, इसका हम स्वागत करते हैं। शायद हमसे और हमारी पार्टी से ज्यादा किसी दूसरी पार्टी को terrorism से उतना असर नहीं हुआ होगा, क्योंकि हमने अपने दो-दो Prime Ministers, terrorism के कारण ही खोए हैं, एक श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी जी और बाद में श्री राजीव गांधी जी, साथ ही पंजाब के चीफ मिनिस्टर श्री बेअंत सिंह जी। दूसरी पार्टीज़ के भी कई सीनियर लीडर्स इस terrorism का शिकार हुए हैं। कश्मीर में तो पिछले कई सालों से हजारों की तादाद में नौजवान, बच्चे, बूढ़े और औरतें इस terrorism का शिकार होते रहे हैं।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारी पार्टी और बीजेपी के चाहे कुछ भी मतभेद रहे हैं, वे हमारे देश के अंदर ही हैं, लेकिन जब इस देश के कोई प्रधान मंत्री या गृह मंत्री विदेश जाते हैं, किसी भी दूसरे देश में जाते हैं, तो वे भारत देश का नेतृत्व करते हैं, लेकिन हमें यहां पर टेलिविज़न से ये खबरें मिली हैं कि ऑनरेबल होम मिनिस्टर को पाकिस्तान की मीडिया के द्वारा कवर नहीं किया गया और उनको कवर करने भी नहीं दिया गया, बल्कि ब्लैक आउट किया गया। साथ ही उनको वे तमाम प्रोटोकोल भी नहीं दिए गए, जो दूसरे देश के मंत्री को दिए जाते हैं। सार्क कंट्रीज़ में हिन्दुस्तान का, हमारे मुल्क का एक खास मुकाम है। साइज़ के हिसाब से भी और अदरवाइज़ भी international level पर हमारे हिन्दुस्तान का जो रोल है, उसके हिसाब से अगर वह प्रोटोकॉल उन्हें नहीं दिया गया, तो इसकी हम घोर निन्दा करते हैं। हमें यह भी मालूम हुआ कि जो होस्ट था, वह भी गायब था, इसकी भी हम घोर निन्दा करते हैं। लेकिन आपने इश्यूज़ उठाए, हम उन्हें पूरी तरह से appreciate करते हैं और उनका समाधान निकालने के लिए हम आपके साथ हैं, धन्यवाद।

†**قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد):** سر، مان ئے گرہ منتری جی کا ، SAARC Interior Ministers کی میٹننگ کے لئے جو پاکستان کا دورہ تھا، اس کا ہم سواگت کرتے ہیں۔ اس میں خاص طور جو ایشوز تھے، جیسے terrorism, smuggling, narcotic drugs, cyber crime, human trafficking وغیرہ، یہ وہ تمام مدّعے ہیں، جن کا ہمارے ملک پر بہت برا اثر پڑا ہے۔

ویسے تو اس وقت ٹیریرزم کا پورے وشو میں، پوری دنیا میں، خوف، بھے اور ڈر ہے، لیکن ہمارے یہاں، خاص طور سے یہ کشمیر سے شروع ہوا اور دوسری جگہوں میں بھی آہستہ ہستہ آگے بڑھہ رہا ہے۔ پھر اسمگلنگ اور نارکوٹک ڈرگس کا اثر بھی ہمارے دیش کے الگ الگ ریجئنس میں ہے۔ وہاں یہ سب مدّعے اٹھائے گئے، اس کا ہم سواگت کرتے ہیں۔ شاید ہم نے اور ہماری پارٹی سے زیادہ کسی دوسری پارٹی کو ٹیریرزم سے اتنا اثر نہیں ہوا ہوگا، کیوں کہ ہم نے اپنے دو-دو پرائم منسٹرس، ٹیریرزم کی وجہ سے ہی کھوئے ہیں، ایک شریمتی اندرا گاندھی جی اور بعد میں شری راجیو

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

گاندھی جی، ساتھہ ہی پنجاب کے چیف منسٹر شری بے -انت سنگھہ جی۔ دوسری پارٹیز کے بھی کئی سینئر لیڈرس اس ٹیریرزم شکار ہوئے ہیں۔ کشمیر میں توپچھلے کئی سالوں سے ہزاروں کی تعداد میں نوجوان، بچے، بوڑھے اور عورتیں اس ٹیریرزم کا شکار ہوتے رہے ہیں۔

میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہماری پارٹی اور بی۔جے۔پی۔ کے چاہے کچھہ بھی مدبھید رہے ہوں، وہ ہمارے دیش کے اندر ہی ہے، لیکن جب اس دیش کے کوئی پردھان منتری یا گرہ منتری ودیش جاتے ہیں، کسی بھی دوسرے دیش میں جاتے ہیں، تو وہ بھارت دیش کی قیادت کرتے ہیں، لیکن ہمیں یہاں پر ٹیلی ویژن سے یہ خبریں ملی ہیں کہ آنریبل ہوم منسٹر کو پاکستان کی میڈیا کے ذریعے 'کور' نہیں کیا گیا اور ان کو کور کرنے بھی نہیں دیا گیا، بلکہ بلیک آؤٹ کیا گیا۔ ساتھہ ہی ان کو وہ تمام پروٹوکول بھی نہیں دئے گئے، جو دوسرے دیش کے منتری کو دئے جاتے ہیں۔ سارک کنٹریز میں ہندوستان کا، ہمارے ملک کا ایک خاص مقام ہے۔ سائز کے حساب سے بھی اور اس کے علاوہ بھی انٹرنیشنل لیول پر ہمارے ہندوستان کا جو رول ہے، اس کے حساب سے اگر وہ پروٹوکول انہیں نہیں دیا گیا، تو اس کی ہم گھور نندا کرتے ہیں۔ ہمیں یہ بھی معلوم ہے کہ جو ہوسٹ تھا، وہ بھی غائب تھا، اس کی بھی ہم گھور نندا کرتے ہیں۔ لیکن آپ نے ایشوز اٹھائے، ہم انہیں پوری طرح سے appreciate کرتے ہیں اور ان کا سمادھان نکالنے کے لئے ہم آپ کے ساتھہ ہیں، دھنیواد۔

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, for the last eighteen years of Trinamool Congress, we have always been firmly behind the Government on the international issues. It is no different today. We are completely on board and welcome the statement. I have a specific clarification to seek. There are two stories going around. It would be better if the hon. Minister clarifies this once and for all because it would be good for all of us in the House. There is one view that the Doordarshan and the ANI, which went there, were not given an opportunity. Your speech was actually deliberately blacked out. Hence, they were not allowed. Was that the case? Or, secondly, there are some people who are trying to spread some other rumours saying that there have, actually, been precedents. If it has been the first time, it is a matter of serious concern, Sir. Obviously, we are completely behind you. But, since there are two stories going around, it is better if you clarify, once and for all, that it is the first time, because, then, as the Leader of the Opposition said, we take strong exception to something like this being done to the Home Minister of India. Thank you, Sir.

सुश्री मायावती (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने सार्क सम्मेलन में अपने भारत देश की तरफ से, खास तौर से कुछ मुद्दों को लेकर और आतंकवाद

[सुश्री मायावती]

को लेकर खुलकर जो अपनी बात वहां रखी है, इसका हमारी पार्टी समर्थन करती है, तहेदिल से समर्थन करती है। मेरा तो यही कहना है कि सभी दलों को दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठ कर इस मुद्दे पर साथ रहना चाहिए। पिछले दो-तीन दिनों से जो मीडिया में आ रहा है, आपकी बात रखने के बाद जिस तरीके से वहां के मीडिया को आपकी सभी बातों को दर्शाना चाहिए था, उन्हें नहीं दर्शाया गया। इसके साथ-साथ ही जो पाकिस्तान का रवैया इंडिया के प्रति सही नजर आना चाहिए था, वह नजर नहीं आया। इसको लेकर मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री जी से चाहूंगी कि आप माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से बात करें और जो भारत-पाकिस्तान के संबंध हैं, उन संबंधों को लेकर जो नीति बनी हुई है, उसके ऊपर क्या आप थोड़ा सा पुनर्विचार करेंगे?

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी सार्क देशों के गृह मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में पाकिस्तान गए। वहां उन्होंने जो बातें कहीं, उन्हें यहां प्रमुखता से हमारे मीडिया ने प्रसारित भी किया। जिस तरह टेररिज्म पर और अन्य मसलों पर माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने अपनी बात वहां रखी, वह प्रशंसनीय है, हम उसका स्वागत करते हैं और हिन्दुस्तान की जनता चाहती भी यही है कि इतनी सख्ती से बात की जाए, क्योंकि पाकिस्तान नम्रता से कोई बात सुनने का आदी नहीं है। जब गृह मंत्री जी वहां बात कर रहे थे, तो यहां कश्मीर में आतंकवादी देश के खिलाफ काम करने के लिए वहां के लोगों का सहयोग मांग रहे थे। ऐसा पाकिस्तान की शह पर, पाकिस्तान के समर्थन से आतंकवादियों द्वारा लगातार किया जा रहा है। इस दृष्टि से गृह मंत्री जी ने जो वहां सख्त रुख अख्तियार किया, जिसकी चर्चा सारे मीडिया में है, वह निश्चित रूप से अच्छी बात है। मैं चाहूंगा कि सीमा पर भी न केवल बीएसएफ के लोग, बल्कि आर्मी के भी जो लोग हैं, वे भी बहुत सख्ती करें, हर बार उन्हें अनुमति लेने की जरूरत नहीं होनी चाहिए, उनको छूट होनी चाहिए कि जब आतंकवादी आएं तो उनके साथ किस तरह का व्यवहार किया जाए। मैं चाहूंगा कि गृह मंत्री जी जब इस पर अपनी बात कहें, तो जरूर कहें कि हमने बीएसएफ को, हमने अपनी आर्मी को, वहां मौके पर वे क्या कदम उठाएं उसकी छूट दी है, उसके लिए उनको गृह मंत्री या डिफेन्स मिनिस्टर की तरफ न देखना पड़े।

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, भारत के गृह मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह जी वहां गए थे। सभी सदस्यों के साथ मैं भी यह मानता हूँ कि उनका वहां जाना पूरे देश की तरफ से उसमें शिरकत करने जैसा था। लेकिन वहां पर प्रोटोकॉल से लेकर हर चीज़ में पाकिस्तान का जिस तरह का व्यवहार था, उसकी मैं घोर निन्दा करता हूँ। पूरा देश इस मामले में एक है।

इसके साथ ही मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी राजनाथ जी का जो बयान है, वह तो वाजिब है। उन्होंने वहां चीज़ें रखी हैं, लेकिन साथ-साथ कल से मीडिया में जो प्रचार चल रहा है, विदेश मंत्रालय ने अपनी तरफ से जो बयान और वक्तव्य दिए हैं, उसमें फर्क है। जो विदेश मंत्रालय है, उसका यह मानना है कि परम्परा है कि जब सार्क सम्मेलन होता है, तो सार्क सम्मेलन का जो होस्ट होता है, उसकी बात तो मीडिया में जा सकती है, लेकिन बाकी लोगों के बारे में.. आप ठीक कह रहे हैं, लेकिन विदेश मंत्रालय ने यह बात कही है, श्री स्वरूप ने यह बात कही है। तो यह मुझे लगता है कि यह दो बातें, दो चीज़ें नहीं होनी चाहिए। विदेश मंत्रालय की तरफ से जो बातें आ रही हैं.. जो गृह मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं, मैं उस पर यकीन करता हूँ, उसको ही ठीक मानता हूँ। लेकिन जो बात विदेश मंत्रालय की तरफ से कही गई है, उसमें मुझे फर्क लगता है। हो सकता है कि यह आपके संज्ञान में न हो, लेकिन मैंने स्वयं इसको देखा है, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Navaneethakrishnan. You asked me. That is why I called you.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you hon. Deputy Chairman.

Sir, terrorism is very strongly opposed by our hon. Chief Minister, Amma. It is a well known fact. Now, our hon. Home Minister has very boldly made out a case of India before the SAARC countries. As per the reports – subject to correction – our hon. Home Minister was not properly treated in Pakistan, and even without taking food, he returned back to India. One of the news channels is showing it. So, I would like to know: What had happened in Pakistan? How was the treatment? Thank you, Sir.

श्री दिलीप कुमार तिर्की (ओडिशा): सर, हमारे ऑनरेबल होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने सार्क की मीटिंग में जितने भी मुद्दे रखे हैं, खास तौर पर आतंकवाद को लेकर जो प्वायंट्स स्ट्रांगली रखे हैं, इसका हमारी पार्टी समर्थन करती है। अच्छी बात यह देखने को मिली कि पाकिस्तान के साथ one-to-one meeting नहीं हुई। यह अच्छी बात है। साथ ही साथ आप जो consistency दिखा रहे हैं, हम उसका भी समर्थन करते हैं। लेकिन एक बात जो सामने दिख रही है कि पाकिस्तान की तरफ से आपके स्टेटमेंट के समय हमारी मीडिया को वहां प्रवेश करने से मना करना, उसे वहां पब्लिश न करना, पाकिस्तान में पब्लिश न करना और उसे दुनिया को न दिखाना, यह सोचने वाली बात है। इसके ऊपर आप क्या करने वाले हैं?

श्री माजीद मेमन (महाराष्ट्र): सर, गृह मंत्री जी के इस बयान के बाद इस सदन में हमारी राष्ट्रवादी कांग्रेस पार्टी की तरफ से मैं गृह मंत्री जी को मुबारकबाद पेश करूँगा कि उन्होंने एक बहुत ही bold stand लिया और आतंकवाद के बारे में भारत का जो विचार है, उसको उन्होंने स्पष्ट तरीके से पेश किया। हम जो खंडन करना चाहते हैं, वह यह है कि इस्लामाबाद में हमारे भारत के खिलाफ, हमारे भारत के रिप्रिजेंटेटिव गृह मंत्री जी जो वहां गए थे, उनके खिलाफ प्रदर्शन किया गया, उसका हम निषेध करते हैं, यहां खंडन करते हैं और पाकिस्तान सरकार से इसके बारे में जवाब मांगते हैं कि यह कोई तरीका नहीं है कि सार्क सम्मेलन में एक मेहमान के खिलाफ ऐसा व्यवहार किया जाए।

सर, मैं एक बात जरूर कहूँगा कि माननीय गृह मंत्री ने वहां भोज का बहिष्कार करके एक अच्छा संदेश दिया है। साथ ही साथ क्लॉज़ 8 में जो उन्होंने स्टेटमेंट में पढ़ा, इनको ratify करने के लिए soon ratification का जो वादा है, मुझे विश्वास है कि भारत सरकार, हमारे गृह मंत्री इस soon को persue करेंगे और यह ratification किए बगैर चैन नहीं लेंगे।

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I appreciate the statement given by the Home Minister. I also join the entire House to appreciate the five suggestions made by our Home Minister in the SAARC meeting. They have been stated in Point No. 5.

Sir, my pointed clarification is on Point No. 8 where you have said, "In so far as our neighbour is concerned, Pakistan is yet to ratify the SAARC Convention on

[Shri D. Raja]
Mutual Assistance on Criminal Matters. Pakistan is also yet to convey its concurrence on setting up of STOMD and SDOMD. Pakistan mentioned that they would act soon on these issues. I only hope and wish that the "soon" would actually be soon." Sir, I understand that there is a strong apprehension in the Government about how Pakistan is going to act. My question is this: How is India going to engage with Pakistan in the coming days? Both India and Pakistan will have to engage in a meaningful dialogue to sort out our problems bilaterally.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, Shrimati Kanimozhi. Put just one question, in just one sentence.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Minister has said that attempts to distinguish between good and bad terrorists should be done away with. We all appreciate it and definitely support this.

Sir, these days, more and more educated youngsters are being brainwashed and drawn towards terrorism. There are reports suggesting that groups in Pakistan play a major part in that. Has the Minister brought up this issue there? A lot of youngsters in India are being drawn towards terrorism.

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं सबसे पहले माननीय गृह मंत्री, राजनाथ सिंह महोदय को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि वे पाकिस्तान गए और उन्होंने देश की तरफ से एक टफ स्टैंड लिया। इसमें पूरा देश आपके साथ है। श्रीमान्, पाकिस्तान की समस्या एक विकट समस्या है। जिस हिसाब से वहां पर आर्मी और आईएसआई का कंट्रोल है, आम जनता उससे त्रस्त है। मैं आपके माध्यम से आदरणीय गृह मंत्री महोदय से एक clarification चाहता हूँ कि क्या कोई ऐसा तरीका निकल सकता है कि जैसे वह हम लोगों को engage करता है, वैसे ही हम उन लोगों को वैसी language में engage करें? हम ऐसा क्यों नहीं कर सकते हैं? हमें यह करना चाहिए। इस संबंध में आपकी क्या राय है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Bhupender Yadav. Just put the question; that is all.

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव (राजस्थान): सम्माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री जी का अभिनन्दन करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने सार्क देशों के इस सम्मेलन में भारत के आतंकवाद के विरुद्ध लड़ने की प्रतिबद्धता और दृढ़ता के संकल्प को अभिव्यक्त किया।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are all doing that.

श्री भुपेंद्र यादव: मैं इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि इस पत्र में उन्होंने एक अच्छा विषय दिया है कि 22-23 सितम्बर को anti-terrorism mechanism के एक्सपर्ट्स की जो मीटिंग होगी, उसमें भारत निश्चित रूप से एक पहल करके, पूरे सार्क देशों में सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से भी जो

आतंकवादियों के glorification का कार्य किया जाता है, उसके खिलाफ भारत एक अच्छा मैकेनिज्म देगा और निश्चित रूप से गृह मंत्री जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में इस विश्वास को भी जाहिर किया है।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I join the LoP and other hon. Members in strongly condemning the manner in which protocol norms were not observed and, at the same time, support the strong statement made by our Home Minister on the issues of narcotics trade, smuggling and terrorism, which is a menace for the entire region. His participation was correct because India is an important member of SAARC and, therefore, the message that India has conveyed has relevance. Sir, India is sandwiched between two major drugs or narcotics smuggling regions of the world, that is, the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर, मुझे भी एक सवाल पूछना है, इसलिए मुझे भी एक मिनट का समय दे दीजिए। **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Therefore, in this meeting, were any assurances given by the member countries to check the narcotics trade, which is used to fund terror syndicates which operate from the soil of Pakistan?

Secondly, the very fact that terrorist outfits, which have been banned by the United Nations, and known terrorist leaders like Hafiz Sayeed, organizations like the Lashkar-e-Toiba and the Jamat-ud-Dawa, organized a public demonstration which was very hostile in nature when our Home Minister was present there, is strongly condemned by us. In the light of these developments, a review of our engagement would be called for. And, when the SAARC Summit takes place, I hope that the Government carefully considers the level of participation, particularly about the Prime Minister's participation because we would not like a repeat of what has happened during the Ministerial Meet on SARC. That is what we have to say.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, just one minute. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. Minister...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुरः सर, मुझे भी कुछ पूछना है। **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; that is enough. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing more...(*Interruptions*)... It is not possible. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Minister, how much time do you need? ...(*Interruptions*)... आपको कितना टाइम चाहिए? **...(व्यवधान)...** मंत्री जी, आपको कितने मिनट चाहिए?

श्री राजनाथ सिंहः सर, मैं दस मिनट के अंदर समाप्त करूँगा। **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री उपसभापतिः इसका मतलब, I can allow two more questions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): सर, 10 से 15 मिनट लग सकते हैं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; hon. Minister, you start replying. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the hon. Minister. ..(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... How can I allow everybody? ...(*Interruptions*)... I cannot allow everybody. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): सर, मैं भी एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I allowed all those who asked me in time. ...(*Interruptions*)... Those who hear others and then try to ask question, that is not permitted. ...(*Interruptions*)...

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज (जम्मू और कश्मीर): सर, मुझे एक मिनट बोलने दीजिए। **...(व्यवधान)...**

†**جناب میر محمد فیّ اض:** سر، مجھے ایک منٹ بولنے دیجئے ---(مداخلت)---

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are raising your hand only now. ...(*Interruptions*)... This issue started at 11.15 and for 30 minutes you didn't raise your hand; you are raising your hand now. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not allowing you. ...(*Interruptions*)... I cannot allow more questions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज सर, मुझे भी कुछ पूछना है। **...(व्यवधान)...**

†**جناب میر محمد فیّ اض:** سر، مجھے بھی کچھ پوچھنا ہے ---(مداخلت)---

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, it cannot be allowed like this. ...(*Interruptions*)... You understand it. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not allowing you. ...(*Interruptions*)... That way, it will not work. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)..

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The issue started at 11.15. At least in five or ten minutes you should give me the name. ...(*Interruptions*)... You should raise your hand. ...(*Interruptions*).. Every name is written here. ...(*Interruptions*)... After thirty minutes, you are raising your hand. ...(*Interruptions*)... I cannot allow it. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not allowing anybody. ...(*Interruptions*)...

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज: *

---

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

* Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not allowing. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप आधे घंटे के बाद पूछ रहे हैं। आप पहले क्या कर रहे थे? ...(**व्यवधान**)... मंत्री जी, बोलिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राजनाथ सिंहः डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, सबसे पहले मैं इस सदन के सभी दलों के नेताओं के प्रति और पूरे सदन के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। आतंकवाद जैसे गम्भीर विषय पर जो एकजुटता इस सदन ने दिखाई है, यह केवल इस सदन की एकजुटता नहीं है, बल्कि यह हमारे देश की एकजुटता है। अब मैं पूरी तरह से आश्वस्त हूँ कि आतंकवाद, जो हमारे देश में भी अपनी जड़ें जमाने की कोशिश कर रहा है, उस आतंकवाद की जड़ों को उखाड़ने में हम लोग पूरी तरह से कामयाब होंगे, यह मेरा भरोसा और विश्वास है।

आज मेरे द्वारा दिए गए इस स्टेटमेंट पर हमारे नेता प्रतिपक्ष, जनाब गुलाम नबी आज़ाद साहब, डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी, श्री देरेक ओब्राईन साहब, मायावती बहन, राम गोपाल जी, दिलीप जी, हमारे सम्मानित शरद यादव जी, श्री नवनीतकृष्णन जी, श्री माजीद मेमन साहब, डी. राजा साहब, कानीमोझी जी, भुपेंद्र यादव जी और हमारे आनन्द शर्मा साहब, इन सभी लोगों ने अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि बहुत सारे प्रश्नों का यदि मैं अलग-अलग उत्तर दूँगा तो उसमें लम्बा समय लगेगा, इसलिए मैं अपनी बात संक्षेप में ही यहां पर रखना चाहूँगा। हमारे नेता प्रतिपक्ष, जनाब गुलाम नबी आज़ाद साहब ने जो यह बात कही है कि आतंकवाद के सवाल पर हमारे बहुत सारे लोगों ने, बहुत सारे नेताओं ने कुरबानियां दी हैं, तो इसमें कहीं दो मत नहीं है और मुझे यह कहने में रंचमात्र भी गुरेज़ नहीं है कि हमारे देश के जो भी प्रधान मंत्री हुए हैं, चाहे वे किसी भी दल के रहे हैं, उन्होंने आतंकवाद को इस हिन्दुस्तान से उखाड़ फेंकने के लिए अपनी प्रतिबद्धता जताई है और हर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फोरम पर जितनी भी प्रभावी भूमिका का निर्वाह किया जा सकता है, वह सभी ने किया है। और आज के भी प्रधान मंत्री जी उसी प्रकार उसी दृढ़ता के साथ अपनी भूमिका का निर्वाह कर रहे हैं। अब हमारी वहां पर जो स्पीच थी, कवर की गई या नहीं की गई और कवर करने की ऐसी परम्परा पहले रही है या नहीं रही है, नहीं की गई, क्या डेलिबरेटली नहीं की गई, इसका इस समय उत्तर देना हमारे लिए कठिन होगा। हां, इतना, मैं कहूंगा कि मैं तो स्पीच दे रहा था, मैंने नहीं देखा कि उसका लाइव टेलीकॉस्ट हुआ या नहीं हुआ, लेकिन यह सच है कि भारत से जो दूरदर्शन और एएनआई के रिपोर्टर और हमारे पीटीआई के रिपोर्टर्स थे, उनको अंदर प्रवेश करने की इजाज़त नहीं दी गई। यह सच है। वहां के मंत्री के द्वारा अथवा वहां की सरकार के द्वारा मर्यादित व्यवहार मेरे साथ हुआ कि नहीं हुआ, डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, यह बोलने में मुझे संकोच है। उन्हें जो करना था वह उन्होंने किया। मैं उस संबंध में कोई प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त नहीं करना चाहता हूं और मुझे कोई शिकवा-शिकायत नहीं है। लेकिन जहां तक हमारे भारत का सवाल है, मेहमाननवाज़ी में भारत की सारी दुनिया में साख है, अपनी उस साख को हमको बनाकर रखना है। हां, यह बात सच है कि मीटिंग समाप्त होने के बाद दोपहर को, जो होस्ट थे वहां के गृह मंत्री जी, उन्होंने सब को लंच पर आमंत्रित किया। लेकिन लंच पर आमंत्रित करने के बाद वे तुरन्त गाड़ी पर बैठे और चले गए। तो मुझे भी मर्यादाओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए, देश की मर्यादा का ध्यान रखते हुए जो कुछ भी करना था, वह मैंने भी किया। लेकिन मैं यह भी स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूं डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, कि मुझे इसको लेकर कोई नाराजगी नहीं है। मैं वहां भोजन करने नहीं गया था।

[श्री राजनाथ सिंह]

जो भी वहां पर प्रदर्शन चल रहा था भारत के खिलाफ और हमारी पाकिस्तान की विजिट के खिलाफ, वह प्रदर्शन चल रहा था। पहले यह तय किया था कि मैं बाई रोड रावलपिंडी एयरवेज से सेरेना होटल जाऊंगा, लेकिन शायद वहां के सिक्योरिटी ऑफिशियल ने अंत में यह फैसला किया कि नहीं, मुझे बाई हेलिकॉप्टर ले जाना चाहिए। तो होटल के पास में एक हेलिपैड था, वहां पर बाई हेलिकॉप्टर वे ले गए। लेकिन हेलिकॉप्टर से उतर कर जब मैं होटल जाने लगा तो कई स्थानों पर लोग सौ, पचास, पच्चीस, दस, पांच की संख्या में खड़े थे और अपना विरोध दर्ज करा रहे थे। आप तो जानते हैं कि श्रीमन, यदि विरोध की चिंता रही होती तो मैं पाकिस्तान नहीं जाता। लेकिन उन्होंने किया। लेकिन अपनी तरफ से ऐसा कोई अवसर भी नहीं आया कि मैं यह विरोध दर्ज कराऊं अथवा अपनी बात वहां पर रखूं। मुझे आना था तो क्यों पाकिस्तान में विरोध हुआ। यह सब कुछ मैंने नहीं किया, कोई विरोध दर्ज वहां पर मैंने नहीं कराया है। वहां जो होना था वह हुआ है। एक बात कि हमारी जो स्पीच ब्लैक-आउट कर दी गई, अब वहां पर इससे पहले क्या परम्परा रही है, उसके बारे में मुझे विदेश मंत्रालय से विस्तृत जानकारी लेनी पड़ेगी कि क्या परम्परा रही है, उस परम्परा की जानकारी मुझे नहीं है, इसलिए उस संबंध में तो मैं कुछ नहीं कह पाऊंगा।

जहां तक बी.एस.एफ. की बात है, राम गोपाल जी ने पूछा कि सिक्योरिटी फोर्स को बार-बार अनुमति लेने की जरूरत न पड़े। डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं इस सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूं कि इसी प्रकार के निर्देश हैं कि संयम से काम लें। गोली भी अपनी तरफ से चलाने की जरूरत नहीं है, पहल भी नहीं होनी चाहिए, लेकिन यदि चल जाती है तो उसके बाद क्या करना चाहिए, इसके लिए अनुमति लेने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है, यह बिल्कुल स्टैंडिंग ऑर्डर है, यह पहले से ही ऑर्डर है। वैसे हमारे जितने भी प्रधान मंत्री हुए हैं — आदरणीय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की वह बात तो बहुत ही प्रचलित है, सारे हिन्दुस्तान में ही नहीं, दुनिया के दूसरे देशों में भी प्रचलित है कि दोस्त बदल जाते हैं, लेकिन पड़ोसी नहीं बदलता है। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री श्री मोदी जी ने जिस तरीके से दरियादिली दिखायी है, उसके पहले के प्रधान मंत्री डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने भी वहां जाकर एक प्रकार से अपनी सहानुभूति व्यक्त कर दी कि Pakistan is also a victim of terror. पड़ोसी के साथ बेहतर रिश्ते बनाने के लिए सब जितना अधिकतम कर सकते थे, हमारे सभी प्रधान मंत्रियों ने किया है, लेकिन विडंबना यह है कि इसके बावजूद यह पड़ोसी है कि मानता ही नहीं। महोदय, ज्यादा कुछ न कहते हुए मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि परमात्मा सभी को सद्बुद्धि दे और सभी एकजुट होकर आतंकवाद का मुकाबला करने के लिए खड़े हैं। इतना कहते हुए मैं पुनः सभी सम्मानित सदस्यों के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं, धन्यवाद।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, कई मेंबर्स ने यह जानना चाहा कि क्या भारत की जो नीति अभी तक पाकिस्तान के साथ रही है, उस मामले में सरकार आज के हालात को देखते हुए क्या नए सिरे से पुनर्विचार करेगी? वहां बलूचिस्तान में भी उसी तरह के आंदोलन हो रहे हैं। Pak-occupied Kashmir के गिलगित क्षेत्र में भी लोग इसी तरह दमन के शिकार हो रहे हैं। इन तमाम चीज़ों को मद्देनज़र रखते हुए क्या भारत सरकार इस बात पर समग्र चिंतन करके पुनर्विचार करेगी, कई सदस्य इस बात को जानना चाह रहे थे।

श्री राजनाथ सिंहः डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, भारत सरकार को अपनी नीतियों पर पुनर्विचार करना है या नहीं करना है, जहां तक इस प्रश्न का सवाल है, मैं समझता हूं कि इस संबंध में हम जो कुछ भी करेंगे, सबको विश्वास में लेकर करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज़ः डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, जिस तरह से यहां पर एलओपी साहब और अन्य पार्टियों के सदस्यों ने कहा कि आतंकवाद के संबंध में हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने पाकिस्तान में जाकर अपना कड़ा रुख अपनाया। सर, इस आतंकवाद को इस देश में इस वक्त जो स्टेट सबसे ज्यादा भुगत रही है, वह हमारा जम्मू-कश्मीर है। पिछले 27 दिन से वहां पर, कहीं पर बंदिशें हैं, कहीं पर करफ्यू है, तकरीबन 50-60 बच्चे मर भी गए हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि जिस तरह से GST पर हम सबने एक-जुट होकर उस बिल को पास किया, इसी तरह हम, जो वायदे हमने अपने लोगों के साथ, जम्मू-कश्मीर के लोगों के साथ सन् 1947 से लेकर 2016 तक, नेहरू जी से लेकर हमारे वाजपेयी जी ने, चाहे उसमें वर्किंग ग्रुप की सिफारिशात थीं, Interlocutors की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसको हम पार्लियामेंट में लाएं, उस पर बहस करें, ताकि हम अपने लोगों का दर्द समझें। यहां पर जो भी पार्टी होती है, वह कहती है कि कश्मीर भारत का अटूट अंग है। मैं भी यही कहूंगा। क्यों हमें यह शक है कि बार-बार हमें यह कहना पड़ता है? मैं भी कहूंगा, यूपी भारत का अटूट अंग है, गुजरात भारत का अटूट अंग है। अगर वह हमारा अटूट अंग है, अगर वे अपने लोग हैं तो हम अपने लोगों की बात यहां क्यों न कहें, पाकिस्तान वालों को क्यों करने दें? पाकिस्तान वाले बार-बार हमारे ऊपर क्यों यह करें? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

†جناب میر محمد فی اض (جموں و کشمیر): ڈپٹی چیئرمین سر، جس طرح سے یہاں پر ایل۔او۔پی۔ صاحب اور دیگر پارٹیوں کے سدسیوں نے کہا کہ آتنک واد کے سمبندھہ میں ہمارے ہوم منسٹر صاحب نے پاکستان میں جاکراپنا کڑا رخ اپنایا۔ سر، اس آتنک واد کو اس دیش میں اس وقت جو اسٹیٹ سب سے زیادہ بھگت رہی ہے، وہ ہمارا جموں کشمیر ہے۔ پچھلے 27 دن سے وہاں پر، کہیں پر بندشیں ہیں، کہیں پر کرفیو ہے، تقریبا پچاس-ساٹھہ بچے مر بھی گئے ہیں۔ میں چاہتا ہوں کہ جس طرح سے جی۔ایس۔ٹی۔ پر ہم سب نے ایک جٹ ہو کر اس بل کو پاس کیا، اسی طرح ہم، جو وعدے ہم نے اپنے لوگوں کے ساتھہ، جموں کشمیر کے لوگوں کے ساتھہ سن 1947 سے لےکر 2016 تک، نہرو جی سے لے کر ہمارے واجپئی جی نے، چاہے اس میں ورکنگ گروپ کی سفارشات تھیں، Interlocutors کی جو رپورٹ ہے، اس کو ہم پارلیمنٹ میں لائیں، اس پر بحث کریں، تاکہ ہم اپنے لوگوں کا درد سمجھیں۔ یہاں پر جو بھی پارٹی ہوتی ہے، وہ کہتی ہے کہ کشمیر بھارت کا اٹوٹ انگ ہے۔ میں بھی یہی کہوں گا۔ کیوں ہمیں یہ شک ہے کہ بار بار ہمیں یہ کہنا پڑتا ہے؟ میں بھی کہوں گا، یوپی بھارت کا اٹوٹ انگ ہے، گجرات بھارت کا اٹوٹ انگ ہے۔ اگر وہ ہمارا اٹوٹ انگ ہے، اگر وہ اپنے لوگ ہیں تو ہم اپنے لوگوں کی بات یہاں کیوں نہ کہیں، پاکستان والوں کو کیوں کرنے دیں؟ پاکستان والے بار بار ہمارے اوپر کیوں یہ کریں؟ ---(مداخلت)---

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

12.00 Noon

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, my point is that high quality counterfeit currency notes are coming from Pakistan and are in circulation in India. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister towards this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, if you wish to reply to these points, you can do so. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवाः एक मिनट पंजाब की बात भी सुन लीजिए, कश्मीर की तो आपने सुन ली। **..(व्यवधान)..**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are two minutes to Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)... Zero Hour mentions. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Ram Kumar Kashyap. Two minutes only. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवाः सर, पंजाब की बात भी सुन लीजिए। **..(व्यवधान)..**

श्री उपसभापतिः श्री राम कुमार कश्यप। नहीं हैं। So, next is Mr. Ritabrata Banerjee. You have only one minute. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवाः सर, आपने कश्मीर की बात सुन ली है, पंजाब की भी सुन लीजिए। **...(व्यवधान)...** It is very important, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: They should have the guts to talk to Pakistan. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you speaking, Mr. Ritabrata Banerjee? ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay; tomorrow. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: What I want to say is that it is a very important matter. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What to do? ...(*Interruptions*)... Tell me what to do? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवाः सर, मिनिस्टर साहब तो चले गए। **...(व्यवधान)...** We needed to ask him ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापतिः उनको 12.00 बजे लोक सभा में जाना है। मैं क्या करूं? **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: We wanted to ask him what he has done on Dawood Ibrahim. ...(*Interruptions*)... What has he done on the multiple ex-servicemen who are in the jails of Pakistan? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; now it is time for Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: What has he done on these issues? ...(*Interruptions*)... And to deal with Pakistan, they should have followed the policy of Mrs. Indira Gandhi. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is time for Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, what he is saying is, this was agreed that there would be a discussion ..(*Interruptions*).. We can raise this matter ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He can meet me. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)... Question 211, Shrimati Kanimozhi. ...(*Interruptions*)... Order, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Order, order. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not permitted. Standing on the passage and walking is not permitted. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no; standing on the passage and walking is not permitted. Talking is not permitted. ...(*Interruptions*)... Order, order. ...(*Interruptions*)... Bajwaji, what are you doing? It is Question Hour. What are you doing? What happened to you? Sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Sir, I want to raise ..(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, this is not the time for that. Sit down. If you have any grievance, come and meet me.

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: I have a grievance with the Home Minister, not with you, Sir. You have been always graceful.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Q. No. 211.

Replacement of conventional coaches with light-weight coaches

*211. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to replace all conventional coaches with the light-weight Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches;

(b) if so, how allocation of LHB coaches to various Divisions of Railways is conducted;

(c) the number of LHB coaches allotted to various Divisions of Railways; and

(d) the number of LHB coaches put into service, so far, in the Southern Railway, which has 6,500 conventional coaches, the largest in the country?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) On Indian Railways, out of the overall holding of approximately 53,000 passenger coaches (excluding EMU/MEMU/DEMU coaches etc.) which are deployed for running Mail/Express and passenger trains, around 3800 coaches are of LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) design and around 49,200 coaches are of conventional type. These LHB coaches are utilized for running 102 pairs of trains. Out of these, 47 pairs of trains were introduced with LHB rakes and 55 pairs of trains were converted from conventional (Integral Coach Factory-ICF) design to LHB stock.

Conventional coaches are being replaced by LHB stock in a phased manner. In the current year, manufacture of about 1,600 LHB coaches is envisaged. LHB coaches are safer, have higher speed potential, better aesthetics, higher carrying capacity and superior ride comfort. These LHB coaches are being continually upgraded for higher speed, better passenger amenities and safety. The new train services announced in Railway Budget 2016-17 including Tejas, Humsafar and Antyodaya have been envisaged with LHB stock having enhanced features as under :

Tejas:

- Automatic doors,
- Infotainment system,
- Passengers Information display system,
- Superior toilet fittings,
- Dust sealed gangways,
- Integrated Braille displays,
- Aesthetically more pleasing colour scheme.

Humsafar:

- GPS based Passenger information system,
- Passenger announcement system,
- Fire and Smoke detection system (Power cars would have suppression system as well),
- CCTV,
- Integrated Braille displays,
- Aesthetically more pleasing colour scheme.

Antyodaya:

- Cushioned luggage racks which can serve as seat during rush,
- Provision additional hand hold in doorway area,
- Provision of J-hooks near longitudinal luggage racks,
- Potable Water through Water filtration system,
- Enhanced number of Mobile charging points,
- Portable fire extinguishers,
- Integrated Braille displays,
- More pleasing colour scheme for interior and exteriors with anti-graffiti measures.

UDAY airconditioned Double Decker train service has also been envisaged with LHB stock. Notwithstanding the above, the identified conventional coaches are also being upgraded by retrofitment during mid-life rehabilitation as a part of continual process. Such coaches have been introduced in Mahamana Express running between New Delhi and Varanasi. These coaches have been provided with superior interiors, enhanced passenger amenities and fittings. It has been envisaged to retrofit and upgrade more conventional coaches during mid-life rehabilitation in a phased manner. Recently, Deendayalu coach having additional features of potable water, cushion luggage rack, LED lighting, provision of hand holds, additional mobile charging points and J hooks near longitudinal luggage racks has also been made to provide greater comfort to General Second Class travellers.

(c) At present, about 3800 LHB coaches are being utilized over various Zonal Railways.

(d) 16 pair of Mail/Express trains with 321 coaches are running over Southern Railway by LHB coaches out of which 06 pair of Mail/Express trains utilizing 112 coaches are undergoing primary maintenance on Southern Railway and additional 21 LHB coaches are with Southern Railway to take care of maintenance and traffic spare. Further, during the current year *i.e* 2016-17, 101 LHB coaches have been allotted to Southern Railway to replace conventional coaches.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, in the recent CAG Report which was tabled in the Parliament on July 26th, it was pointed out that non-utilisation and delayed utilisation of coaches has resulted in blocking in investments on production of these coaches. What are the measures taken or considered to be taken by the Government to avoid such delays and non-utilisation in future?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I thank the hon. Member for raising this issue. The overall objective of the Government is to improve the overall travel experience of the passengers. The travel experience can be enhanced in multiple ways. The maximum time a passenger spends during his journey is in the coach itself. So, if we do not improve the quality of coaches, it is not going to result into the type of experience that the passengers expect. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is that Member doing? Sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Number two is safety and security. ...(*Interruptions*)... No doubt, we need to manufacture new coaches, as she was pointing out. At the same time, if you really look at it, we have got as many as 53,000 odd coaches in India. So, even if we manufacture more, the number of coaches that are already in service, which are working on the tracks, we really need to improve their quality also. Otherwise, this will not result in the quality of experience that people are expecting. So, we are working out on multiple strategies. I have told the officers to give us a timebound report about how we can actually retrofit the existing coaches, at least, their interiors, to make them look better.

Also, as you know, and as I have mentioned in the reply itself, we are launching four new products — *Humsafar, Tejas, Uday and Antyodaya.* All these coaches, that will be a part of this project, will have completely new interiors and very good design. Also, we have launched a coach which is called Deen Dayalu coach, which is, in fact, for the unreserved class. It is covered with so many additional features. So, these are really useful coaches. So, the whole idea is, as you are saying, we should manufacture more coaches. Your point is well taken. But, at the same time, just manufacturing more coaches is not going to result into that type of experience because those will be the new coaches which people will be using. But what about the existing coaches? So, we are also working on that.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, I would like to know whether the Integral Coach Factory located in Chennai is manufacturing any light weight coaches. If so, what is the total production in terms of number of coaches produced per year? Also, there is a clear-cut difference with regard to coaches. Many of the travellers have said that the up-North coaches are much better than the ones maintained in the South. Are they doing something in this respect?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, as you know, the technology for these LHB coaches came to India for the first time in the North, so the manufacturing of coaches was actually done there. Now, we are using the same technology to manufacture coaches

all over. There is always this feeling that when we do it in South, people feel that we are too much North-centric and if we do something in East, people think we are West-centric. Therefore, it is always the case. But I will assure you one thing that our attention is equal to them, like a mother who has to take care of all children irrespective of their age and background. Therefore, as a mother of Indian Railways, it is our job to make sure that we provide equal comforts to all the passengers, irrespective of the geography where they travel. ICF, which is Integral Coach Factory, located near Chennai, without surprising, is one of the best – I am happy that – it is in Chennai and, therefore, this factory is really one of the top-class factories. They are doing extremely well. We are, actually, upgrading that constantly. Some of the new coaches that you can see include – if I am not mistaken – the Deen Dayalu coach, which they are manufacturing at the same factory. We are really trying to upgrade each of the factories. In fact, I would like tell you – that though this is not a part of the questionbut you would be happy to know – that I have already directed the officers to find out how we can revamp some of the sick units in the Railways and they can be used in periodic overhaul of these coaches so that these new coaches can be retrofitted with modern amenities.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the Minister's reply gives details of the steps being taken to modernize Indian Railways and to introduce better facilities in the trains. This has been an on-going process and I would like to commend the Minister for taking this forward. But I would like to know, Sir, through you, from the hon. Minister, firstly, the steps being taken – as he has mentioned about superior toilet fittings – for upgradation of toilets in the trains. Are they implementing the biodegradable toilets system in our trains, especially, the new trains which are being introduced? When you introduce these new coaches, it is equally important that the toilets are good and that is why the DRDO has developed this technology for biodegradable toilets. Also, the steps required to be taken about defecation on railway tracks, which is there all over the country. You may introduce the most modern of trains but if these do not improve, then, I am afraid that the required upgradation will be inadequate.

My second question is about the catering in the Railways. There was a time when Indian Railways used to cater good food in the trains but, over the years, there has been a decline in quality and standards and also hygiene. What steps are being taken on these two fronts?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I thank the hon. Member, who is one of the senior Members of the House for his supplementary. He has asked about two things.

One is about the toilets on the trains. As he has already pointed out, we call them bio-toilets, which were initially designed by DRDO and it is currently having

an exhibition in the Parliament itself. Those toilets, actually, use such material where no human wastes are thrown on the tracks and, therefore, the tracks are safe. Additional advantage of that is the work on track maintenance is reduced because there is no human waste falling on the track. Besides having a clean environment, it also helps in maintenance because the corrosion of tracks goes down. Therefore, to that extent, we do not have to maintain the tracks. It makes economic sense also. We are, actually, on track to convert almost all the toilets into bio-toilets. In fact, you will be happy to know that, recently, only about two weeks ago, we launched, at Chennai – some hon. Members were present including him – a green corridor, in which, on the entire track, not a single train will pass which will have a human waste discharge. That is something which we did and he was present there. We are working on that. We are also taking this forward.

I would also take this opportunity to tell you that we are also developing a vacuum toilet. In the bio-toilet, the waste happens but it is eaten by some of the biodegradable material. We are also developing a vacuum toilet, which is what we see in the aircraft. The first of its kind, the bio-toilet-cum-vacuum toilet, has been designed by Railways. So, you must give credit for that. You must be proud that we have done it. Of course, we are not using it on a massive scale because it is still at a preliminary stage. The idea is to bring in both the elements. The only problem with the vacuum toilets is that the human waste is collected but not discharged. So, when it goes to its destination, like the aeroplanes, it can be connected to the drainage. But since we do not have such a drainage facility all over the country, it can be used only sparingly but we are still working on that. This is something in-between. So, that was about toilets.

Secondly, about catering, I am happy to say and I agree with you that the quality of catering needs to be improved. We have taken a number of measures. I will mention first two measures because of paucity of time. One is we are introducing e-catering. Now, you can get the food of your choice, when you are travelling on the train.

My good friend, Shri Anand Sharma, is, originally, from Himachal Pradesh and lives more in Delhi. So, he may miss *Himachali* food. Now, you can order *Himachali* food on the train. You can book it while booking the train ticket. I am sure, Mr. Antony would like to order *Malayali* food while he is travelling. He can also order that food. Therefore, it is possible to order all these because of e-catering. Secondly, we have already approved and I had announced it in my Budget speech that we are handing over the entire catering back to IRCTC, so that there will be Base Kitchens. The Base Kitchens can monitor the food. Today, what is happening is, when the contractors cook the food, we don't know about the quality of the food. We have to control the quality at the source itself. Therefore, we are asking

the IRCTC, which was created for that purpose, to now run Base Kitchens. They will be completely modern and technologically very, very advanced and only food prepared from that will be served in the trains. So we are taking these measures.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya.

डा. सत्यनारायण जटियाः उपसभापति जी, हम जानते हैं कि बिना डिब्बों के रेल नहीं बनती और बिना अच्छे डिब्बों के अच्छी रेल नहीं बनती। अच्छी रेल सेवाओं के लिए अच्छे डिब्बे भी चाहिए और अच्छी सेवाएं भी चाहिए। मुझे यह कहते हुए प्रसन्नता है कि "आना-जाना और अच्छा खाना" की अच्छी सुविधा हमारे यात्रियों को उपलब्ध हो रही है। मैं मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूं कि 1600 एलएचबी डिब्बे लगाए जाएंगे और नई रेल सेवाएं — तेजस, हमसफर और अंत्योदय गाड़ी मंत्री जी शुरू करने वाले हैं। मेरा कहना है कि आप ये 1600 डिब्बे बदलने वाले हैं, इस का एक कार्यक्रम आपने बनाया होगा। मैंने बहुत बार आग्रह किया है कि 12415 और 12416 इंदौर, उज्जैन, नागदा, कोटा, मथुरा, सराय रोहिल्ला की रेलगाड़ी और मालवा एक्सप्रेस में आप ये डिब्बे उपलब्ध कराएं। तो इन रेलगाड़ियों में डिब्बे बदलने का आपका क्या कार्यक्रम है, बताने की कृपा करें?

श्री सुरेश प्रभुः सर, जटिया जी हमारे बहुत ही सम्मानित सदस्य हैं। मैंने उनका सुझाव नोट कर लिया है और उनके सुझाव पर कार्यवाही करने की हम पूरी कोशिश करेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Thank you, Sir. While these are passengers' complaints of rattling and unclean coaches and poor maintenance of air-conditioned coaches in many Express and Passenger Trains operated across Tamil Nadu, dozens of brand new Linke Hofmann Busch coaches worth several crores of rupees are gathering dust in the yards of Southern Railways, awaiting clearance of the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS). I want to know from the hon. Minister as to when the clearance will be given and when the new coaches will be given to the South-bound trains in Tamil Nadu, especially, to the Nellai, Pandiyan and Duronto Express Trains. Many coaches are now being built in ICF, Perambur, Chennai and they are being sent to Northern Railways.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put the question.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, 20,000 new coaches are being sent to Northern Railways, Western Railways and Central Railways. But they are not being sent to Southern Railways. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether the new coaches which are being built in our places like Chennai will be given more importance and Chennai and South-bound trains will get new modernized coaches with a clean environment. Thank you.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: As you are aware, the Commissioner of Railway Safety, which is called CRS, does not come under the Ministry of Railways. This

is an independent organization which is mandated to look after the safety aspects in its realm. Therefore, the only thing I can do is to request them. Of course, I don't think there are these many coaches which are awaiting; the number may be different. But at the same time, regarding the point that the hon. Member has made that South India should not be discriminated against, I can assure her, it will not happen. I also happen to be a Member of Parliament from Southern India. ...(*Interruptions*.)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, I have got some complaints from passengers from South, especially, Kerala that old and dilapidated coaches are diverted to Kerala-bound trains. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I will take note of that. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, when the Chair itself is pointing out, we will take note of this. We will make sure that Southern India, now, will be taken care of in a more adequate manner. My party has told me to contest from South, probably, for that reason.

ओलावृष्टि के कारण रबी की फसलों को हुआ नुकसान

*212. **श्री नारायण लाल पंचारियाः** क्या **कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या राजस्थान में ओलावृष्टि के कारण रबी की फसल को हुए नुकसान का आकलन करने हेतु गठित केंद्रीय दल ने अपने सर्वेक्षण के बाद अपनी रिपोर्ट केंद्र सरकार को दे दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या केंद्रीय सरकार ने रिपोर्ट के आकलन के अनुसार क्षतिपूर्ति की राशि राज्य सरकार को दे दी है, यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या राजस्थान सरकार ने केंद्रीय सरकार से ओलावृष्टि के कारण क्षतिग्रस्त हुई रबी की फसल की भरपाई के लिए 4372 करोड़ रुपयों की मांग की है, यदि हां, तो उपर्युक्त धनराशि कब तक स्वीकृत की जाएगी और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह)ः (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा के पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) राज्य में ओलावृष्टि की स्थिति पर राजस्थान सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय आपदा अनुक्रिया कोष (एनडीआरएफ) से 4372.27 करोड़ रूपए की वित्तीय सहायता की मांग करते हुए ज्ञापन प्रस्तुत किया। कृषि, सहकारिता एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग (डीएसीएंडएफडब्ल्यू) द्वारा गठित अंतर-मंत्रालयी केंद्रीय दल (आईएमसीटी) ने ओलावृष्टि की वजह हुए से नुकसान तथा एनडीआरएफ से केंद्रीय वित्तीय सहायता की आवश्यकता का जायजा लेने के लिए 28.04.2016 से 01.05.2016 तक राजस्थान का दौरा किया। आईएमसीटी की रिपोर्ट पर यथोचित विचार करके, उच्चस्तरीय समिति (एचएलसी) ने ओलावृष्टि के कारण राजस्थान सरकार को 79.18 करोड़ रूपए की सहायता मंजूर करने का निर्णय लिया है।

Damage to Rabi crops due to hailstorm

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

(a) whether a Central team constituted to assess the damage to the Rabi crop owing to hailstorms has submitted it's report to the Central Government after the survey in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Central Government has provided the amount of compensation to the State Government as per the assessment in the report, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government of Rajasthan has demanded ₹ 4372 crore as compensation for the damages to the Rabi crops because of hailstorms, if so, by when the aforesaid amount will be sanctioned, if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Statement

(a) to (c) Government of Rajasthan submitted a Memorandum seeking financial assistance of ₹ 4372.27 crores from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in the wake of hailstorm in the State. An Inter Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) constituted by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) visited Rajasthan from 28.04.2016 to 01.05.2016 to assess the damage caused by hailstorm and requirement of Central Financial Assistance from NDRF. After giving due consideration to the report of IMCT, High Level Committee (HLC) has decided to approve ₹ 79.18 crores by way of assistance on account of hailstorm to the Government of Rajasthan.

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारियाः सभापति महोदय, मैंने माननीय मंत्री महोदय से राजस्थान में ओलावृष्टि से किसानों की फसलों को हुए नुक़सान के मुआवजे के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा था। महोदय, राजस्थान के किसानों को कुल 4,372.27 करोड़ रुपये का नुक़सान हुआ और राजस्थान सरकार ने भी नुक़सान की बाबत, पूरा आकलन कर अपनी रिपोर्ट भेजकर 4,372.27 करोड़ रुपये के मुआवजे की मांग की है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जवाब में बताया है कि भारत सरकार ने राजस्थान सरकार को सहायता के तौर पर 4,372.27 करोड़ रुपये के एवज़ में, मात्र 79.18 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता राशि मंजूर की है। माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि राजस्थान के किसानों के हालात को देखते हुए क्या सरकार उक्त सहायता राशि में बढ़ोतरी करने का विचार रखती है?

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः उपसभापति जी, इसके बाद मेरी टीम गई थी और हमारी टीम ने जो सिफारिश की थी, उस पर गृह मंत्रालय के अंदर एचएलसी ने जो निवेदन किया है और जहां तक गृह मंत्रालय से जानकारी मिली है, उसमें जो एग्रीकल्चरल इन-पुट्स हैं, जो एनडीआरएफ के नॉर्म्स के तहत आते हैं, उसमें 160 करोड़ रुपये की मांग थी। इसमें 78 करोड़ की बात हुई है।

दूसरे, जो मानव व पशु नुक़सान थे, उसके लिए 32 लाख रुपये की मांग की गई थी, तो इसके लिए 32 लाख रुपये की मंजूरी एनडीआरएफ नॉर्म्स के तहत, एचएलसी ने दी है, लेकिन उनकी जो शेष मांग थी, उसका संबंध एनडीआरएफ के नॉर्म्स से नहीं था।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारियाः उपसभापति जी, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है। सभी को पता है कि राजस्थान में बहुत अकाल पड़ते हैं। अभी हाल ही में कुछ जिलों में अतिवृष्टि हुई है, जिससे किसानों को फसलों में भी लगातार नुक़सान हुआ है और होता भी रहा है। उपसभापति जी, राजस्थान का किसान बहुत ही स्वाभिमानी है। वे राम और राज पर बहुत भरोसा रखते हैं। एक कहावत भी है, राम तो कभी-कभी रूठ जाते हैं, लेकिन राज कभी नहीं रूठता। इसीलिए वह कभी भी आत्महत्या नहीं करता। उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या सरकार राजस्थान की भौगोलिक परिस्थितियों को देखते हुए किसानों को प्रति हैक्टेयर दी जाने वाली मुआवजा राशि को बढ़ाने का विचार रखती है? हां, हाल ही में कुछ राशि अवश्य बढ़ाई है, लेकिन वह बहुत कम है। क्या सरकार की उस राशि को बढ़ाने की कोई योजना है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः उपसभापति जी, मोदी सरकार के आने के बाद, पिछले वर्ष एनडीआरएफ के नॉर्म्स में परिवर्तन किया गया था। उसके बाद राजस्थान को 2015-16 में 1,133 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता दी गई थी। वहां का जो एसटीआरएफ फंड है, इस फंड में भी जो राशि पहले जाती थी, उस राशि को और उन नॉर्म्स को भी बढ़ा दिया गया है।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवाः उपसभापति महोदय, एक बहुत ही relevant सवाल हमारे राजस्थान के मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट ने किया है। मुझे एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान इस तरफ खींचना है कि हिन्दुस्तान में 65 से 70 फ़ीसदी लोग एग्रीकल्चर-बेस्ड हैं। बीजेपी का जो इलेक्शन मेनिफेस्टो था, उसमें उन्होंने प्रॉमिस किया था कि अगर हमारी सरकार आ गई तो हम सभी किसानों को क्रॉप इंश्योरेंस देंगे। मेरी विशेष तौर पर मांग है कि पंजाब में भी बरसातों की वजह से खरीफ क्रॉप, व्हीट क्रॉप को बहुत ज्यादा नुक़सान होता रहता है। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आप कोई डेट, कोई टाइम तय कर पाएंगे कि आप हिन्दुस्तान के सारे किसानों को कब तक क्रॉप इंश्यारेंस कवर दे पाएंगे?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूं कि क्रॉप इंश्योरेंस रबी और खरीफ की फसल में होता है। मुझे यह कहते हुए प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि खरीफ की फसल में एक इंश्योरेंस योजना, "प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना" प्रारंभ हो गई है। देश के 22 राज्यों ने बड़ी तेजी से इस काम को प्रारंभ कर दिया है। खरीफ की फ़सल के लिए 31 जुलाई अंतिम तिथि थी, अब इसको बढ़ाकर 10 अगस्त कर दिया गया है। परसों हमने राज्यों से बात की थी, उसमें तीन-चार राज्य तो ऐसे हैं, जिन्होंने तीन-चार दिन पहले ही, गत वर्ष जितने किसानों का इंश्योरेंस किया था, उससे ज्यादा किसानों का इंश्योरेंस कर चुके हैं। मुझे विश्वास है कि 10 अगस्त तक किसानों का जो क्रॉप इंश्योरेंस होगा, वह पिछले वर्ष के किसानों की तुलना में ज्यादा होगा।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः उपसभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी और माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा कि जो पिछला फसल आपदा मुआवजा slab था, उसमें फसल नुकसान की भरपाई के लिए बहुत ही कम मुआवजा दिया जाता था, लेकिन अब भारत सरकार की तरफ से पिछली बार से मुआवजा बढ़ा है। फिर भी मैं राजस्थान के सम्बन्ध में एक प्रश्न पूछना चाहूँगा। हमारे राजस्थान में 2015 में खरीफ फसल में करीब 20 जिलों के अन्दर सूखा पड़ा था, जिससे काश्तकारों का करीब 39 लाख 80 हजार हेक्टेयर में 33 परसेंट से ज्यादा फसलों को नुकसान हुआ। उसका आकलन राजस्थान सरकार ने किया था और राजस्थान ने इन जिलों को अभावग्रस्त घोषित किया था। राजस्थान सरकार ने इस नुकसान के लिए करीब 10,537 करोड़ रुपए की सहायता के लिए केंद्र को प्रस्ताव भेजा था, जबकि भारत सरकार ने इसके लिए केवल 1,193 करोड़ रुपए ही भरपाई के तौर पर दिए। यह तो खरीफ का नुकसान था।

श्री उपसभापतिः आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः उपसभापति महोदय, मैं प्रश्न पूछ रहा हूँ। जब रबी के नुकसान का आकलन किया गया, तो राजस्थान में ओलावृष्टि से करीब 15 जिलों के अन्दर 657 गांवों में 1 लाख 36 हजार हेक्टेयर जमीन में नुकसान हुआ, लोगों की फसलें खराब हुईं। मोटे तौर पर जो आकलन किया गया, वह करीब 4,372 करोड़ रुपए था, जिसकी जगह केंद्र सरकार ने केवल 79.18 करोड़ रुपए ही दिए।

श्री उपसभापतिः आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहूँगा कि राजस्थान की भौगोलिक स्थिति ऐसी है, राजस्थान हिन्दुस्तान में क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से सबसे बड़ा भूभाग है।

श्री उपसभापतिः आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सवाल पूछ रहा हूँ। क्या केंद्र सरकार राजस्थान राज्य में बार-बार पड़ने वाले अकाल, ओलावृष्टि, सूखे व वहां के भौगोलिक क्षेत्र को देखते हुए उसे विशेष राज्य की श्रेणी के समान अतिरिक्त धनराशि देने का विचार रखती है? मेरा दूसरा सवाल है।

श्री उपसभापतिः एक ही सवाल हो सकता है।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः वर्तमान में मानसून के दौरान पश्चिमी राजस्थान में काफी कम वर्षा हुई है, तो संभावित सूखे को देखते हुए केंद्र ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ? क्या केंद्र सरकार ओलावृष्टि की वजह से पशुओं, जैसे भेड़, बकरी, गाय आदि को उनकी वास्तविक क्षति से होने वाली पशुहानि के आधार पर क्षतिपूर्ति करने का विचार रखती है?

श्री उपसभापतिः आपने तो एक स्टेटमेंट ही दे दिया।

श्री राम नारायण डूडीः सर, यह हमारा प्रश्न है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः सर, राष्ट्रीय आपदा कोष के जो norms हैं, उन्हीं के आधार पर राजस्थान या किसी राज्य को सहायता दी जाती है। जहाँ तक पश्चिमी राजस्थान का सवाल है, जब हमारे पास इस सम्बन्ध में कोई memorandum आएगा, तो तुरंत हमारी टीम वहां जाएगी और जो norms हैं, उनके मुताबिक निश्चित रूप से सहायता की जाएगी।

श्री उपसभापतिः श्री पी. एल. पुनिया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... पुनिया जी, आप बोलिए।

श्री पी .एल. पुनियाः माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। NDRF के कुछ नॉर्म्स हैं। राजस्थान और बाकी प्रदेशों में बेमौसम की तेज बारिश से जो नुकसान होता है, केंद्र सरकार की जो अधिसूचित आपदा सूची है, उसमें बेमौसम की बरसात से हुआ नुकसान शामिल नहीं है। क्या आप इसको भी उस सूची में सम्मिलित करके ऐसे लोगों को राहत पहुंचाने का काम करेंगे?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः राष्ट्रीय आपदा की जो सूची थी, उसमें अतिवृष्टि पहले भी शामिल नहीं था और आज भी नहीं है, लेकिन मोदी सरकार के आने के बाद एक परिवर्तन यह किया गया कि राज्यों को यह अधिकार दे दिया गया कि अतिवृष्टि के अलावा भी, यदि कोई स्थानीय आपदा है, तो कैबिनेट बैठ कर उसको नोटिफाई कर सकती है और उसमें भी राष्ट्रीय आपदा के नॉर्म्स के मुताबिक सहायता की जा सकती है।

Disbursing compensation to kin of farmers

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

(a) whether Government is showing laxity in disbursing compensation to the kin of farmers who committed suicide due to distress in agriculture sector, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) by when Government would disburse compensation to the kin of farmers through State Governments?

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) Disbursement of compensation to the kin of farmers who committed suicide due to distress in agriculture sector is not covered under any specific program of Government of India. However, 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. Some of the State Governments *viz.* Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Punjab, Karnataka etc. are administering schemes, which include payment of compensation/relief to kin of farmers who committed suicide due to distress in agriculture sector. The information has been sought from all States on the question. As reported by Government of Maharashtra, there is no laxity in payment of compensation. Government of Uttarakhand has reported that no suicide case of farmer is reported in the State. Government of Andhra Pradesh replied that

compensation has been paid to families of the farmer who committed suicide in all cases from 2012 to 2014. For the year 2015 and 2016, out of reported suicide cases of 104 farmers, compensation has been paid in 73 cases and remaining 31 cases are pending for final verification reports from Districts.

In last 2 years, Government of India has launched a number of schemes to alleviate the distress of agriculture sector. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been launched to reduce the risk in agriculture and scope of interest subvention scheme for provision of agriculture credit has been enhanced.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: Sir, thank you. Huge losses suffered by the farmers community of Maharashtra and other States due to drought spell in the last Kharif season has not yet been made good fully by the Centre. Sir, demands and detailed reports to this effect, surveys conducted by the Central Team and the State Government Team have been submitted to the Centre. But response from the Centre has not been satisfactory. Sir, under the Crop Insurance Scheme, this was the reply given last year on the floor of the Maharashtra State Assembly by the Agriculture Minister, that in Kharif season, Maharashtra alone out of 82.5 lakh farmers who have paid premiums under the Crop Insurance Scheme, only 71.5 lakh farmers were made eligible for claiming insurance on losses. The losses amounting to ₹ 4,205 crore were compensated and sanctioned. Ultimately, the payment of ₹ 3,656 crore were paid to the farmers. But 11 lakh farmers were declared ineligible under the scheme. May I know from the hon. Minister, through you, what will be the fate of 11 lakh farmers who were kept out of the Crop Insurance Scheme, and left high and dry?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, राहत एक अलग विषय है और फसल बीमा योजना अलग विषय है। फसल बीमा योजना में जो लोनी हैं या जो गैरलोनी भी हैं, वे अपना प्रीमियम देते हैं। मेरी जानकारी में अभी तक पिछले वर्ष तक का केंद्र का जितना अंश होना चाहिए था, वह सभी राज्यों को भुगतान कर दिया गया है।

यदि माननीय सदस्य का मूल सवाल यह होता, तो मैं महाराष्ट्र का पूरा चित्र उनके सामने रखता कि आज तक का उसका क्या हिसाब है। जो जानकारी है, उसके अनुसार पिछले वर्ष तक का जितना भी केंद्रांश है, वह राज्यों को दे दिया गया है।

जहां तक राहत का सवाल है, फसल बीमा योजना में लागत की भरपाई होती है और राहत के लिए राज्य आपदा कोष में पैसे भेज दिए जाते हैं। यदि किसी राज्य में कोई और गंभीर आपदा हो गई, तो राज्य सरकार केंद्र सरकार को मेमोरेंडम भेजती है, जिसके लिए यहां से टीम जाती है। मैं समझता हूं कि आज तक के इतिहास में पिछले वर्ष सबसे बड़ी सहायता, के रूप मे 4000 करोड़ रुपये महाराष्ट्र को दिए गए। इस बार भी महाराष्ट्र का मेमोरेंडम हमारे पास आया है, जिस पर HLC विचार कर रही है। अभी कुछ जानकारी ऐसी है, जो वहां से नहीं आई है, इसलिए उनसे जानकारी मांगी गई है। जब हमारे पास जानकारी आ जाएगी, तो केंद्र सरकार, HLC उस पर विचार करेगी और इसके जो नॉर्म्स हैं, उनके मुताबिक सहायता की जाएगी।

SHRI ANIL DESAI: My second supplementary is this: It has been recently reported that the hon. Supreme Court had passed stringent remarks on the apathy being shown by the Government and public sector banks in particular, in extending loans to the farmers. The Swaraj Abhiyan, an NGO, had filed a petition in this regard. The hon. Supreme Court has expressed its concern on this issue.

Sir, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, which is supposed to be a boon to the farmers against the crop losses they suffer, has also come under severe criticism, so also the new scheme which is being evolved. Here, exceptions or reservations have been expressed by many stakeholders particularly, the farmers community about the manner in which it has been designed, that it suits the insurance companies more than the farmers, the stakeholders.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: There is a difference between the premium and the sum insured and also the coverage. The other provisions which have been made are very good. As far as the minimum premium to be paid by the farmers and maximum coverage is concerned, the insurance companies have designed policies which are not to the advantage of farmers.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: May I know from the hon. Minister through you, Sir, what steps would be taken by the Government to see that this defect or deficiency in the Pradhan Mantri Yojana is removed?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः उपसभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि इस बार प्रीमियम का रेट सबसे कम रखा गया है, रबी के लिए डेढ़ प्रतिशत और खरीफ के लिए दो प्रतिशत रखा गया है। आज तक के इतिहास में यह सबसे कम प्रीमियम है और जो फसल बीमा में विसंगतियां थीं, उन सबको दूर किया गया है। पहले यह व्यवस्था थी कि जब फसल की कटाई हो जाती थी, उसके बाद यदि फसल खेत में पड़ी रही और उसका नुकसान हुआ, तो उसकी भरपाई नहीं होती थी, इस बार यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि यदि वह 14 दिन तक भी खेत में पड़ी हुई है और उसका प्राकृतिक आपदा में नुकसान होता है, तो उसकी भरपाई की जाएगी। यह योजना इतनी लोकप्रिय हुई कि मैं माननीय सदस्य को उदाहरण देना चाहूंगा कि कर्णाटक राज्य में पिछले वर्ष 8.72 लाख किसानों ने बीमा कराया था, अभी चार दिन पहले जानकारी मिली है कि इस वर्ष अभी तक वहां 12 लाख किसान बीमा करा चुके हैं। इसी तरह से झारखंड में पिछली बार 5.36 लाख किसानों ने कराया था, इस बार अभी तक 7.5 लाख किसानों ने कराया है। इसी तरह गुजरात में पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में इस वर्ष दुगुनी संख्या में किसानों ने अभी तक बीमा कराया है। यह 10 अगस्त तक का है और सभी राज्यों ने, मैंने पहले भी बताया, कि अभी पंजाब के अंदर तो इसे करते नहीं, लेकिन बिहार को अगर छोड़ दें, चूंकि बिहार अभी तैयार नहीं हो रहा है, जैसा कि आज अखबारों में खबर मिली है कि वहां के मुख्य

मंत्री इसके लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, बाकी लगभग सभी राज्यों ने नोटिफिकेशन करके, जो तीन-चार राज्यों का था, जैसे तमिलनाडु, केरल में चुनाव के कारण थोड़ा विलंब हुआ, नहीं तो बाकी सभी राज्यों ने शुरू कर दिया है और बड़ी तेजी से किसान अपना फसल बीमा योजना करा रहे हैं, जो सर्वाधिक लोकप्रिय है।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंहः उपसभापति महोदय, यह प्रश्न पूर्णतया आत्महत्याओं से संबंधित होते हुए भी क्रॉप इंश्योरेन्स को बीच में डाल दिया गया। आज देश के हालात, किसानों के हालात बिगड़े हुए हैं, आत्महत्याएं हो रही हैं और भारतीय जनता पार्टी के चुनाव घोषणा-पत्र में स्वामीनाथन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के आधार किसानों को 50 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा उनकी लागत का भाव देने का वायदा किया गया था, जिस पर सरकार मुकर गई है। इस देश में 76 प्रतिशत किसानों की जो आत्महत्याएं हो रही हैं, वे महाराष्ट्र, आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्णाटक, मध्य प्रदेश और केरल में हो रही हैं। इसमें एक अंडर-रिपोर्टिंग का भी प्रयास रहता है कि राज्य सरकार चाहती है कि इसे किसानों की आत्महत्या न बता कर कोई और कारण बताया जाए और मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के एक माननीय मंत्री जी के विधान सभा में दिए एक उत्तर में तो महा हद हो गई, जब कहा गया कि भूत-प्रेत के कारण उनकी आत्महत्या हुई है, किसान की खेती खराब हो जाने की वजह से नहीं हुई। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Madhya Pradesh Minister is not in the House ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I have not named him.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: How can the Assembly proceedings be mentioned in this House? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: This is a reported case ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record and expunge it if it is so ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I have not named the person.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot cast aspersions on the Assembly proceedings ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I am not casting aspersions. This is a statement which has been made in the Vidhan Sabha in reply to a question. This is as per the rules. I have not violated any rule. मेरा आपसे यह अनुरोध है कि क्या राज्य सरकारों या केंद्र सरकार उन किसानों को, जिन किसानों ने खेती में असफल हो जाने के कारण आत्महत्या की है, उनके लिए कोई विशेष योजना बना रही है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने अच्छी बात कही है कि स्वामीनाथन आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी कि लागत का 50 फीसदी से अधिक किसान को मिलना चाहिए। उसी रिपोर्ट के आधार पर 2007 में उस समय भारत की जो सरकार थी, माननीय तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री जी

यहां बैठे हैं, तो एक किसान नीति उस समय की भारत सरकार ने बनाई थी। उसने स्वामीनाथन आयोग के इस सुझाव को रिजेक्ट कर दिया।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंहः आपने वादा किया था। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः मैं बता रहा हूँ। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप मेरी बात सुनिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंहः आपने चुनावी घोषणा-पत्र में वादा किया था। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः आप आगे सुनिए। तो उसे आपने रिजेक्ट कर दिया था। जब हम सरकार में आए हैं, तो हमने अपने घोषणा-पत्र में भी कहा है और आज भी हमारे प्रधान मंत्री और मैं बोल रहा हूँ कि हम किसानों की आमदनी लागत से डेढ़ गुना नहीं, दो गुना तक ले जाएँगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसके लिए हमने योजना बनाई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंहः सर ...(**व्यवधान**)... दोगुना करने की बात नहीं कही थी। ...(**व्यवधान**)... लागत का 50 प्रतिशत ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः आपके समय में इस आयोग की रिपोर्ट आई। ...(**व्यवधान**)... उसे आपने रिजेक्ट किया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... हम उस आधार पर काम कर रहे हैं और उसके लिए हमने कई प्रकार की योजनाओं का निर्माण किया है। इस पर आप अलग से चर्चा करा सकते हैं।

सर, जहां तक किसान आत्महत्या करते हैं, उनके लिए सहायता का जो सवाल है, तो यह राज्य का विषय है और राज्यों ने यह काम शुरू भी किया है। मैं आपकी जानकारी में यह बात देना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे जो राज्य हैं, उनमें पंजाब 25 जुलाई, 2015 तक 2 लाख रुपये प्रति किसान देता था, अब वह 3 लाख रुपये प्रत्येक मृतक किसान के परिवार को देता है। आंध्र प्रदेश 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देता है, तेलंगाना की सरकार ने भी इसे 1 लाख रुपये से बढ़ा कर 5 लाख रुपये किया है। कर्णाटक ने मृतक किसान के परिवार के प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को 1-1 लाख रुपये की राशि दी है। इसी तरह से महाराष्ट्र सरकार 1 लाख रुपये की अनुग्रह राशि देती है। मैं आपकी भावनाओं के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करते हुए सभी राज्यों से निवेदन करता हूँ कि वे इस दिशा में जरूर कार्रवाई करें।

श्रीमती छाया वर्माः सर, छत्तीसगढ़ का बताइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... छत्तीसगढ़ में कितनी राशि दी गई है? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Sir, Karnataka is third, as far as farmers' suicides are concerned. First, I think, is Maharashtra; second is Andhra Pradesh; and third is Karnataka. Sir, there was no crop at all in the last two years and there was complete drought in the State. As a result, the number of farmers' suicides has increased. As the hon. Minister just said, the State Government gives a compensation of just ₹ 1 lakh. I want to know whether the Government of India is planning to give some more compensation to the farmers.

Sir, the Prime Minister's Fasal Bima Yojana is really a revolutionary scheme. But some horticulture crops like grapes, sugarcane, etc., are not included in it. I want

to know whether the Government of India is planning to include these horticulture crops in it because horticulture crops get damaged with climatic conditions. Is it possible to include it in the Prime Minister's Fasal Bima Yojana?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, 'फसल बीमा योजना' में राज्यों को यह अधिकार है कि हर राज्य की प्रकृति अलग-अलग है, वहां अलग-अलग फसलें और फल पैदा होते हैं, तो किन फसलों का होगा। फलों के लिए अलग से भी मौसम-आधारित 'कृषि बीमा योजना' है, लेकिन किस फसल का हो, किस फल का हो, यह राज्य सरकार notify करती है।

जहां तक अनुग्रह राशि का सवाल है, यह काम राज्य सरकारें करती हैं। मैं पुनः कहूँगा और राज्यों से मेरा निवेदन है, चूँकि यह राज्य का विषय है, कि इस दिशा में सभी राज्य सरकारों को प्रयत्न करना चाहिए।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्माः सर, यह बड़ा ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है, क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान में विपरीत परिस्थितियों के कारण किसानों को आत्महत्या करनी पड़ रही है और यह बहुत ही दुखद है।

सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि कृषि क्षेत्र में आई विपत्तियों के कारण आत्महत्या करने वाले किसानों के परिजनों को मुआवजा देने के विषय को भारत सरकार के किसी विशेष कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत शामिल नहीं किया गया है। तो भारत सरकार जिम्मेदारी से बच गई है और राज्य सरकारों पर यह डाल दिया है। माननीय मंत्री जी बता रहे थे कि किसी राज्य में 1 लाख, किसी में 2 लाख तो किसी में 5 लाख का compensation दिया जा रहा है। सर, जो किसान मर रहे हैं, उन पर बड़े ऋण रहते हैं, कर्ज रहते हैं। तो यह पता नहीं चल पा रहा है कि बाद में उनके बच्चों की क्या दुर्गति हुई, वह जमीन को सम्भाल पाए, कर्ज को सम्भाल पाए, कर्ज को चुका पाए या नहीं चुका पाए। यह बहुत चिन्ता का विषय है और जो किसान निराशा के शिकार हैं, क्या उनकी काउंसलिंग कराये जाने की जरूरत आपको नहीं लगती और जो समितियां हैं, जहां पर किसान बैठ कर आपस में interact करते हैं, वहां पर कोई ऐसी एजेंसी खोली जाए? मैं आपसे इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक यह क्लियर नहीं हो रहा है कि कुल कितने किसानों ने आत्महत्याएँ की हैं, तो authentic way में यह पता लग जाए कि कितने किसानों ने आत्महत्याएँ की हैं। सर, इसलिए मुझे बार-बार यह लग रहा है कि इसके लिए राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कोई नीति होनी चाहिए। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इन चीजों का इंदराज करते हुए, जो परिवार प्रभावित हुए हैं, उनकी जो दुर्दशा है, उससे बचाने के लिए, उनकी मदद करने के लिए, उनको इससे उबारने के लिए मुआवजा देने का कोई specific प्रयास राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कृषि नीति में कर पाएंगे?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, राज्यों को हमने जो निर्देश जारी किया है, उसके तहत आत्महत्या करने वाले जो किसान हैं, उनके जो परिवार हैं, उनकी जागरुकता और काउंसिल की बात है और मुझे यह बताते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि कई राज्यों ने इस काम को बड़ी तेजी से प्रारंभ किया है। जहां तक आत्महत्या करने वालों की संख्या का सवाल है, यह हमें गृह मंत्रालय से प्राप्त होता है। 2014 का आंकड़ा मेरे पास है। 2014 में जो आत्महत्याएं हुई हैं, यदि आपकी अनुमति हो, तो मैं इसको पढ़ दूं।

2014 में 5,650 किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है, 6,110 कृषि श्रमिकों ने आत्महत्या की है। इस तरह

से वर्ष 2014 में कुल 12,360 आत्महत्याएं हुई हैं। इसके साथ ही पूरे देश में जो आत्महत्याएं हुई हैं, उनमें किसान, कृषि श्रमिक तथा अन्य भी शामिल हैं, उनकी संख्या 1,31,666 है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्माः क्या यह 2014 का आंकड़ा है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, मैंने पहले कृषि कारणों से किसान की आत्महत्या की संख्या के बारे में बताया, फिर कृषि श्रमिकों की आत्महत्या की संख्या के बारे में बताया। दोनों का टोटल 12,360 है। पूरे देश में जितनी आत्महत्याएं हुईं, जिनमें सिर्फ कृषि से संबंधित नहीं है, बल्कि इनमें जनरल यानी सारे मामले शामिल हैं, उनकी संख्या, जो गृह मंत्रालय ने दी है, वह 1,31,666 है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्माः सर, बाकी लोग जो आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं, उनके इश्यूज़ अलग हैं, लेकिन किसानों के इश्यूज़ अलग हैं। हम आपसे खास तौर से किसानों के संबंध में जानना चाहते हैं कि अब तक cumulative अलग-अलग वर्षवार कितने लोग मर गए हैं और उनका क्या हुआ?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, मैंने एक वर्ष का बताया और यदि आज़ादी से लेकर आज तक का आंकड़ा चाहिए, तो मैं यह गृह मंत्रालय से उपलब्ध करके माननीय सदस्य को भिजवा दूंगा, लेकिन एक साल का मैं बता रहा हूँ। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्माः सर, जो किसान मर गए हैं, मेहरबानी करके उनके कर्ज माफ करा दीजिए। आज इस चीज की विशेष आवश्यकता है।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंहः महोदय, यह नारा अच्छा है, लेकिन जब तक किसानों की आमदनी नहीं बढ़ेगी, तब तक किसान अपने संकटों से मुक्त नहीं होगा। कर्ज के लिए व्यवस्था है, restructuring होती है और समर्थन मूल्य भी बढ़ता रहता है, लेकिन इन्हीं दोनों से किसान का भला होगा, इसी सोच में देश के किसान बरबाद होते चले गए। इसलिए किसानों की आमदनी कैसे बढ़े, इस पर भी फोकस करना है और मैं चाहूंगा कि इसकी जितनी योजनाएं चल रही हैं, उनमें अपने-अपने राज्यों में सब सहयोग करें ताकि किसान का भला हो।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 214. Shri A. K. Selvaraj, Hon. Member, not present. Are there any supplementaries?

*214. [The questioner (SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ) was absent.]

Scheme for parity in pension of serving and retired staff of BSNL

*214. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved a scheme for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees which will ensure parity in pension between the serving and the retired staff;

(b) whether the decision will benefit over 1.18 lakh pensioners across the country;

(c) whether this will cost an estimated ₹ 155 crore annually apart from ₹ 284 crore approximately to be paid in arrears; and

(d) whether this will help reduce BSNL's financial burden, if so, the details thereof?

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

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Revision of pension of BSNL pensioners, who retired prior to 10.6.2013, at par with the serving employees of BSNL has been approved by Cabinet *vide* No. 30/CM/2016 dated 05.07.2016.

(b) and (c) The number of such retired employees is over 1.18 lakh. The estimated additional annual expenditure on account of (a) above comes to ₹ 129.63 crores for pensioners and ₹ 24.93 crores for family pensioners approximately. Arrears upto 2015-16 would be ₹ 369.55 crores for pensioners and ₹ 69.55 crores for family pensioners approximately.

(d) The pension to employees absorbed in BSNL is paid by Government as per Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules 1972. Hence, (a) above will not have any major impact on BSNL's financial burden.

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there has been a demand by pensioners of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited to increase the amounts of death-cum-retirement gratuity, leave encashment and commutation of pension to them. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering acceding to these demands of pensioners of BSNL. Is the Government considering extending similar pension facilities to MTNL pensioners also?

श्री मनोज सिन्हाः महोदय, बीएसएनएल जब 2000 में बना, तो Department of Telecommunication के अनेक लोग बीएसएनएल में समायोजित कर लिए गए। बाद में कठिनाई आई, तो 2007 में सरकार को इस पर विचार करना पड़ा। सरकार ने सैलेरीज़ के लिए तो अमेंडमेंट किया, लेकिन उसके पहले के जो कर्मचारी थे, उनकी पेंशन में विसंगतियां हो गईं। केबिनेट ने फैसला लेकर इसको दूर किया, उसमें कुछ तारीखों महत्वपूर्ण हैं, 01.01.2007 को 68.8 परसेंट बेसिक सैलेरी में जोड़ते हुए और फिर 78.2 परसेंट... 2007 के पहले जो रिटायर हुए और 2007 के बाद जो रिटायर हुए, उनमें पेंशन की जो anomalies उत्पन्न हुई थीं, केबिनेट ने 2011 में इस पर निर्णय लेकर इसको खत्म किया। फिर 2007 और 2013 के बीच जो कर्मचारी थे, उनके लिए अभी जुलाई, 2016 में केबिनेट ने निर्णय करके इसको 10.06.2013 से लागू कर दिया है। तो पेंशन की अब कोई anomaly बी.एस.एन.एल. में नहीं रह गई। जहां तक एम.टी.एन.एल. का सवाल है, तो एम.टी.एन.एल. को भी 2014 में इसमें शामिल कर लिया गया, लेकिन यह जो 78.2 परसेंट है, एम.टी.एन.एल. के बोर्ड ने एग्री नहीं किया है और वह एम.टी.एन.एल. को ही करना है, इसलिए अभी तक वह नहीं हो सका है।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Respected Deputy Chairman, Sir, with empathies to the pensioners of BSNL, I request and I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Communications to the plight of Gramin Dak Sevaks numbering three lakhs, those who are serving 24X6 and who are not having any benefit, though they are serving through the payment banks, insurance coverage, besides the day-in-and-day out service of the posts throughout the country. The predecessor of yours has constituted a Committee to look into the plight of the Gramin Dak Sevaks. I would like to know from the Minister whether his Ministry is ready to take note of the plight of the Gramin Dak Sevaks. Are you going to do justice to their plight, including social security concerns?

श्री मनोज सिन्हाः माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मूल प्रश्न से इस सप्लीमेंटरी प्रश्न का कोई वास्ता नहीं है। मूल प्रश्न बी.एस.एन.एल. के कर्मचारियों की पेंशन से संबंधित है और उन्होंने डाक विभाग के कर्मचारियों के बारे में मुझसे जानकारी चाही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You need not reply.

श्री मनोज सिन्हाः मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहता हूं कि प्रधान मंत्री जी बार-बार एक बात कहते हैं कि डाकिया भारत सरकार का ग्रामीण प्रतिनिधि है और हमारी सरकार एक संवेदनशील सरकार रही है। हमारे पूर्व के मंत्री जी ने भी इसमें बहुत काम किया है और हमारी पूरी सहानुभूति है कि जो इस सरकार से संभव होगा, डाकियों के लिए हम काम करेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Chhaya Verma. She is not there. Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, the original question belonged to our party. So, my second supplementary is, the Telecom Commission has proposed a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for MTNL employees who are 50 years of age, involving ₹ 2,000 crores in all, for Voluntary Retirement Scheme, and, if implemented, MTNL can save around ₹ 500 crores to ₹ 600 crores in a year. So, I would like to know, through you, Sir, from the hon. Minister whether the Government has approved the said proposal of the Telecom Commission in this regard and whether the employees of MTNL have agreed to it or welcomed it.

श्री मनोज सिन्हाः उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने पहले ही कहा कि मूल प्रश्न बी.एस.एन.एल. से संबंधित है, लेकिन माननीय सदस्या ने एम.टी.एन.एल. के बारे में जानना चाहा है। मैं केवल एक तथ्य उनके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूं कि एम.टी.एन.एल. का जो कुल रेवेन्यू अभी तक आ रहा है, उसमें से 70 परसेंट हम वेतन और पेंशन पर खर्च कर रहे हैं और इसके कारण एम.टी.एन.एल. की आर्थिक स्थिति खराब बनी हुई है। जो प्रस्ताव आया है उस पर सरकार विचार कर रही है और जिस तरह पिछले दो सालों में बी.एस.एन.एल. और एम.टी.एन.एल. में सुधार के कदम हमने उठाए हैं, हमारी सरकार ने, मुझे लगता है कि आने वाले दिनों में हम इस कदम को और तेजी से आगे बढ़ाएंगे।

Central assistance for promotion of Hathkargha in Rajasthan

*215. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under instructions of the Central Government, the Government of Rajasthan had constituted a State Cell for promotion of Hathkargha;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has not yet sanctioned the related funds for the years 2012-13 and 2013-14 for the said scheme, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would sanction the Central assistance to the Government of Rajasthan under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No such instruction has been issued by Ministry of Textiles to States to set up a State Cell for promotion of Hathkargha.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

श्री भुपेंद्र यादवः सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि बुनकर क्षेत्र जीविकोपार्जन के लिए देश का एक बहुत बड़ा क्षेत्र है। तो क्या केंद्र सरकार द्वारा इस क्षेत्र में जो काम कर रहे कामगार हैं, जो उनका परम्परागत हथकरघे का काम होता है, उसके लिए कोई राज्य सरकारों में उसके प्रोत्साहन के लिए, संरक्षण के लिए, उसके संवर्द्धन के लिए, उसके व्यापार को बढ़ाने के लिए, टेक्नोलॉजी को बढ़ाने के लिए किसी भी प्रकार की कोई नीति बनाई गई है और अगर नीति बनाई गई है तो क्या राज्य सरकारों को उसमें अनुपालन करने का आदेश केंद्र सरकार द्वारा दिया जाता है?

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानीः सर, माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है कि हमारे जो हथकरघा बुनकर हैं, उनके संरक्षण के लिए राज्य सरकारों के माध्यम से क्या प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं? मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि हैंडलूम रिज़र्वेशन ऐक्ट का एन्फोर्समेंट हम राज्य की सरकारों के साथ समन्वय में करते हैं। वर्तमान में 10 राज्यों में एन्फोर्समेंट मशीनरी काम कर रही है। माननीय सदस्य स्वयं राजस्थान का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं और वर्तमान में राजस्थान के जयपुर में यह केंद्र कार्य कर रहा है। हमारे हैंडलूम बुनकरों के संरक्षण के लिए पॉवरलूम का इंस्पेक्शन एन्फोर्समेंट डिपार्टमेंट से प्रदेश की सरकारों के साथ समन्वय में होता है।

श्री भुपेंद्र यादवः सर, इसके लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा अगर कोई वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराई जाती है, तो इन 10 राज्यों में कितनी सहायता उपलब्ध कराई गई है और विशेष रूप से, क्या राजस्थान में भी कोई वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराई गई है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Good. You have asked a specific question.

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानीः सर, इस समन्वय के आधार पर प्रदेश की सरकारों में जो एन्फोर्समेंट मशीनरी है, उसमें क्रियान्वयन के लिए जिन अधिकारियों को रखा जाता है, उनका जो भुगतान है, उसे हम प्रदेश की सरकार को केंद्र की सरकार के माध्यम से पहुँचाते हैं। यह काम 100 परसेंट सेंट्रल असिस्टेंस से होता है। राजस्थान की सरकार को साल 2011-12 तथा 2012-13 में इस संदर्भ में राशि पहुँचाई गई है। वर्ष 2013-14 की चुनौती यह रही है कि हमारे पास यूटिलाइज़ेशन सर्टिफिकेट्स उपलब्ध नहीं कराए गए हैं, पेपर वर्क पूरा होने पर यह सहायता भी पहुँचाई जाएगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Very good. Both, questions and answers are specific and to the point. I think, all should follow this.

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ताः श्रीमान जी, भुपेंद्र यादव जी द्वारा एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल माननीय मंत्री महोदया से पूछा गया और इसका इतना easy, lightly और if I can use the word, * जवाब सरकार की तरफ से दिया गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, that word should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. The word is expunged. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is expunged. Don't say like this.

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ताः श्रीमान जी, यह हथकरघा का सवाल है। यह पूरे देश के वीवर्स से जुड़ा सवाल है। इसमें लाखों लोग employed हैं। जैसे, बिहार के मधुबनी में लोग पेंटिंग करते हैं, भागलपुर में लोग टसर का काम करते हैं, झारखंड के खूँटी आदि इलाकों में हथकरघा का काम होता है, इसी तरह गुजरात और राजस्थान के साथ-साथ पूरे देश में हथकरघे का काम होता है। भुपेंद्र जी द्वारा पूछे गए मूल प्रश्न का अर्थ मेरी समझ में यह आया कि हथकरघा को प्रमोट करने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है और उसकी क्या प्लानिंग है? इसका जवाब "हां" या "ना" में देना, मेरे हिसाब से ठीक नहीं है। यह हो सकता है कि आपकी ऐसी सोच हो।

श्रीमान जी, हथकरघा में लाखों लोग employed हैं। देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के ऊपर इसका बड़ा भारी इम्पैक्ट पड़ सकता है, क्योंकि इसका एक्सपोर्ट भी होता है। मेरा यह सवाल है कि क्या सरकार इस बारे में इंटरनेशनल एग्जिबिशन वगैरह करके देश तथा विदेश में हथकरघा प्रोडक्ट्स को प्रमोट करने के लिए कुछ कर रही है? अगर माननीय मंत्री महोदया चाहें, तो इसका जवाब दे सकती हैं, धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानीः उपसभापति जी, सर्वप्रथम मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करना चाहती हूँ। आपने उदारता दिखाते हुए मेरे उत्तर का और जिन्होंने प्रश्न किया है, उन माननीय सदस्य का जिस प्रकार से प्रोत्साहन किया, तो, as young Parliamentarians, we both – I think, I can also speak for my esteemed colleague, Shri Bhupender Yadav – are obliged and extremely grateful that you could bless us with your compliments.

---

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

In so far as the explicit question that has been posed to me by the hon. Member from RJD, let me bring to his notice that, yes, we are ensuring, through 28 Weaver Service Centres in the country and in conjunction with our weavers, बुनकरों के साथ design intervention, financial service, research — साथ ही बुनकर अगर चाहता है कि लूम की रिपेयरिंग में उसकी कोई सहायता की जाए, तो वे सहायता उपलब्ध करवाते हैं। उपसभापति जी, मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगी कि भागलपुर, बिहार में भी एक Weaver Service Centre चलता है। देश भर में इन Weaver Service Centres के माध्यम से अब हमारी यह कोशिश है कि बुनकर और उनके परिवार में शिक्षा हेतु जो चुनौतियां हैं, उनको हम NIOS and IGNOU के साथ मिलकर पार कर पाएँगे। साथ ही हमने देश भर के विख्यात डिज़ाइनर्स से अपील की है कि वे बुनकरों से सीधा जुड़कर उनकी आय को बढ़ाने में हमारी सहायता करें। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अगस्त, 2015 में 'India Handloom Brand' लांच किया। उपसभापति जी, मुझे बोलते हुए हर्ष होता है कि अगर आप 'India Handloom Brand' की मात्र अगस्त से लेकर मार्च तक की सेल को देखें, तो वह 15 करोड़ हुई है, जिसका सीधा लाभ हमारे बुनकरों को हुआ है और अप्रैल से लेकर जून तक 9.3 करोड़ की सेल इस ब्रांड के अंतर्गत हुई है, जिसका सीधा लाभ बुनकरों को पहुंचाया गया है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन के ध्यान में यह भी लाना चाहती हूं कि हैंडलूम सेक्टर में 760 करोड़ स्क्वेयर मीटर क्लॉथ सन् 2015-16 में हमारे बुनकर राष्ट्र को समर्पित कर पाए हैं, जो 5.7 परसेंट की वृद्धि का संकेत है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुरः सर, माननीय मंत्री महोदया आज पहली बार टेक्सटाइल का जवाब देने के लिए आयी हैं, इसलिए मैं यहां पर इनका स्वागत करती हूं। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदया से कहना चाहती हूं कि उन्होंने बड़े विस्तार से बुनकरों के बारे में बताया। जैसे हमारे यहां पर कुल्लू की शॉल है, चम्बा का रूमाल है, वहां का हैंडीक्राफ्ट है, इसके अलावा भी कई ऐसी जगहें हैं जहां पर उनका अपना फेमस आर्टिकल बनाया जाता है, क्या उनको पेटेंट करने के लिए आप कोई ऐसी पॉलिसी ला रहे हैं, जिससे वर्ल्ड में उनकी कॉपी न हो सके? जैसे कुल्लू की शॉल्स या जो हिमाचल की शॉल्स हैं, वे लुधियाना में भी बनती हैं, पॉवरलूम्स पर भी बनती हैं, लेकिन नाम उनका कुल्लू की शॉल हो जाता है और लोग ऐसा समझ लेते हैं कि शायद यह कुल्लू की शॉल है। क्या इसके बारे में भी आप सोच रहे हैं? दूसरा, जो 7 तारीख को 'National Handloom Day' मनाया जा रहा है, उसके लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं? क्या आप प्रदेशों के लोगों को यहां बुला रहे हैं या इसे अलग-अलग प्रदेश में कर रहे हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहती हूं।

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानीः सर, मैं माननीय सदस्या को उनके सुझाव और उनकी चिन्ता के लिए धन्यवाद देती हूं। I thank her also for the compliment and the good wishes that she has extended. Yes, she is right that there are concerns in the handlooms and the handicrafts sector that the uniqueness of the product needs to be tagged with the place of origin of that product. We are pursuing G.I. tags and we see to it that industries pursue it similarly in the handloom sector. In so far as what we are doing on the 7th of August, which will be the second National Handloom Day celebration, the main event will happen in Banaras, where we would not only be giving national awards to those who have done exemplary work in the sector, but,

for the first time, in fact, we would also be giving compliments to e-commerce sites which are connecting consumers directly with weavers. As I have said in the answer before, our intention is also to ensure, बुनकर की सबसे बड़ी चुनौती यह है कि उसके बच्चे पढ़-लिख जाएं। जब-जब हमने बुनकरों के साथ यह चर्चा की, उन्होंने कहा कि साधारणतः स्कूल के समय पर हम बच्चे को भेज नहीं पा रहे हैं अथवा हमारी आर्थिक क्षमता इतनी नहीं है कि उन्हें अच्छी शिक्षा दे पाएं, इसलिए भारत सरकार का NIOS, जो National Institute of Open Schooling है और IGNOU, जो उच्च शिक्षा विभाग से संबंधित है, उनसे हमने निवेदन किया है कि आप विशेष रूप से बुनकरों के बच्चों और उनके परिवार की पढ़ाई के लिए हमारी मदद करें। उस समझौते को भी हम लोग 7 तारीख को करेंगे। जहां तक celebrations की बात है, मैं आज आपके माध्यम से कई सांसदों को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी, जिन्होंने 'I WearHandloom' के हैशटैग को काफी प्रचलित किया है, काफी समर्थन दिया है, उनमें कुछ सांसद इस सदन के भी हैं। मुझे लगता है कि यह भी देश भर के सेंटर्स में सेल्स को बुनकरों की उपस्थिति के साथ बढ़ाने का हमारा प्रयास है। यह celebration मात्र बनारस तक सीमित नहीं रहेगा, हमारे सभी सेंटर्स में भी इसको celebrate किया जाएगा।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुरः ऐसा न हो कि उसके साथ हम अपनी ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसका भी ध्यान रखिएगा।

श्री उपसभापतिः श्री राम विचार नेताम।

श्री राम विचार नेतामः धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय, आज बुनकरों की जो समस्या है....

श्री उपसभापतिः आपके पास एक ही मिनट का समय है, इसलिए जल्दी से प्रश्न पूछ लीजिए।

श्री राम विचार नेतामः सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में बहुत सारी बातों को रखा है, उसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूं, लेकिन पूरे प्रदेश में, खास करके छत्तीसगढ़ में जो स्थिति वहां के बुनकरों की है, वह बहुत ही खराब है। यह बच्चों के रहन-सहन, खान-पान, पढ़ाई-लिखाई से लेकर उनकी हेल्थ से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है। क्या भारत सरकार उनकी माली हालत को सुधारने की दिशा में कोई कारगर कार्रवाई कर रही है?

श्री उपसभापतिः सिर्फ आधे मिनट का समय बचा है।

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानीः सर, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, उसके उत्तर में, मैं बतलाना चाहती हूं कि छत्तीसगढ़ के रायगढ़ में एक सर्विस सेंटर चलता है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Development of infrastructure of courts

*216. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are enormous vacancies of judges in all the courts throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that due to space problem, Government is not able to fill up the vacancies;

(c) the action plan of Government to speed up disposal of pending cases through appointment of judges to full strength in all the courts of the country; and

(d) the details of Government proposal towards development of infrastructure for courts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The details of the sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy position of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy position of Judges/Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Courts are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

The sanctioned strength of High Court Judges has increased from 906 in June, 2014 to 1079 in June, 2016. The availability of infrastructure and other facilities to accommodate the additional strength of Judges was ascertained from the High Courts and the State Governments before necessary orders were issued for increasing the sanctioned strength of Judges in the High Courts. The fresh appointments to the higher judiciary could not be made during the period the constitutional validity of National Judicial Appointment Commission was *sub-judice*. However, after pronouncement of the judgement of the Supreme Court, while working on the new draft of Memorandum of Procedure, Government took initiative to resume the process of appointments and 110 Additional Judges of High Courts have been made Permanent Judges and 52 fresh appointments of Judges of High Courts have been made during the year 2016. Four fresh appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court have also been made in 2016.

The filling of vacancies of Judges/Judicial Officers in Districts and Subordinate Courts is within the domain of the State Governments and the High Courts concerned. There were 4,432 vacancies in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31st December, 2015. High Courts were requested in May, 2015 to make recruitment process more

broad based to fill up vacancies of Judicial Officers/Judges at all level in the District and Subordinate Courts. Most of the High Courts have responded and informed that the recruitment process for vacancies in Subordinate Judiciary at all level has been expedited in terms of the resolution passed in the Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi in April, 2015. The last reminder to the four High Courts who have yet to respond in the matter has been issued on 2nd August, 2016. Supreme Court is monitoring the recruitment of Subordinate Judiciary in the case of Malik Mazhar Sultan and Another *versus* U.P. Public Service Commission and Others.

The primary responsibility for development of infrastructural facilities for Subordinate Courts rests with the State Governments. However, in order to augment the resources of the State Governments, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for Judiciary has been in operation since 1993-94. Financial assistance to the tune of ₹ 5,350 crore has been provided to the States and Union Territories since inception of the Scheme out of which an amount of ₹ 1900 crores has been sanctioned since May, 2014. As per the information made available by High Courts, 16,513 court halls/court rooms were available for Subordinate Courts and 2,447 court halls/court rooms were under construction as on 31.12.2015.

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 e-Courts Mission Mode Project has resulted in computerisation of 13,672 District and Subordinate Courts in the country. Phase–II of this project has begun in August, 2015 with the total cost of ₹ 1670 crore.

During the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts held on April 5, 2015, it was resolved that the Chief Justices and the Chief Ministers shall institute a mechanism for regular interaction among themselves to resolve issues, particularly those relating to infrastructure and manpower needs and facilities for the Judiciary.

Statement-I

Details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy position of judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts

(As on 01.08.2016)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
A.	Supreme Court of India	31			28			3		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	61	17	78	15	67	82
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	46	15	61	24	0	24	22	15	37
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	55	9	64	16	14	30
4.	Calcutta	54	18	72	31	9	40	23	9	32
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	5	22	8	0	8	9	5	14
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	36	0	36	9	15	24
7.	Gauhati	18	6	24	6	7	13	12	-1	11
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	6	33	12	7	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	3	13	9	2	11	1	1	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	4	17	9	0	9	4	4	8
11.	Jharkhand	19	6	25	9	5	14	10	1	11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Karnataka	47	15	62	22	4	26	25	11	36
13.	Kerala	35	12	47	26	7	33	9	5	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	22	12	34	18	1	19
15.	Madras	56	19	75	38	0	38	18	19	37
16.	Manipur	4	1	5	3	1	4	1	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	3	1	4	3	0	3	0	1	1
18.	Odisha	20	7	27	16	3	19	4	4	8
19.	Patna	40	13	53	27	0	27	13	13	26
20.	Punjab and Haryana	64	21	85	42	2	44	22	19	41
21.	Rajasthan	38	12	50	24	7	31	14	5	19
22.	Sikkim	3	0	3	2	0	2	1	0	1
23.	Tripura	4	0	4	4	0	4	0	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	9	2	11	6	0	6	3	2	5
	TOTAL	771	308	1079	510	91	601	261	217	478

Statement-II

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 and 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 and Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7	6	1
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

1	2	3	4	5
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

Digital India outreach campaign

*217. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats connected through National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) till 30 June, 2016 under the Digital India Programme;

(b) the effectiveness of NOFN pipes and how many kilometres are operational and with what internet speed, the details thereof;

(c) the number of districts in various States, including Punjab, covered by vans under the first phase of Digital India Outreach Campaign; and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to meet the target of connecting India by 2018 under NOFN?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), now renamed as BharatNet, is planned to be implemented in phases. Under Phase-I of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) are to be connected by laying underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) by March, 2017. The status of progress made under BharatNet Phase-I, as on 30.06.2016, is given below:-

Items	Planned	Achieved
Pipe laid (km)	2,30,000	1,49,865
OFC pulled (km)	2,30,000	1,24,817

Items	Planned	Achieved
Pipe laid (Gram Panchayats)	1,00,000	64,492
Optical Fibre Network (OFC) laid (GPs)	1,00,000	53,557
Connectivity Provided (GPs)	1,00,000	7,229

(b) As on 30.07.2016, 1,53,340 km. pipe and 1,28,813 km. Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) have been laid connecting 56,117 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with OFC. Out of these, 7607 GPs have been provided with broadband connectivity upto 100 Mbps bandwidth.

(c) The number of districts in various States, including Punjab, covered by vans under the 1st phase of Digital India Outreach Campaign is as under:

State	Number of Districts
Punjab	22
Rajasthan	33
Haryana	21
Uttar Pradesh	75
Bihar	38
Jharkhand	24
Gujarat	33
Daman and Diu	2
Chhattisgarh	27
Maharashtra	35
Andhra Pradesh	13
Karnataka	30
Kerala	14
West Bengal	19
Odisha	30

(d) Under Phase-II of BharatNet project, connectivity is planned to be provided to remaining 1.5 lakh GPs in the country using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, by December, 2018. To achieve the target of connecting GPs within the timeframe, steps have been taken to speed up progress of work by streamlining the decision making, strengthening the Executing Agency *i.e.* Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), as well as strengthening the monitoring mechanism. These include the following:

(i) The work front in phase-I has been increased from 1,00,000 GPs to 1,25,000 GPs.

(ii) Permanently Lubricated (PLB) duct manufacturing capacity has been enhanced by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

(iii) Material procurement issues have been sorted out and procurement has been decentralised to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) executing the project.

(iv) Telecom Commission has approved the revised strategy to implement BharatNet with optimal mix of different media like Optical Fibre Cable (both underground and aerial), Radio, Satellite to connect GPs, involving States in execution of project.

(v) An agreement has been signed with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay for preparation of transmission media plan for Phase-II of the project.

(vi) Different Committees like Empowered Committee, Steering Committee and Technical Standing Committee have been constituted to speed up the implementation of the project.

Non-Bt. Cotton variety

*218. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-Bt. Cotton varieties have made a comeback in some parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the native non-Bt. Cotton varieties are more sturdy and more resilient to the vagaries of Indian weather?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes Sir, non-Bt. Cotton varieties are sown on 15.89 lakh hectares in kharif 2016 till July 28, 2016 in different regions of the country. State-wise area sown of non-Bt. Cotton is in Maharashtra (5.45 lakh ha) followed by Gujarat (4.08 lakh ha); Karnataka (1.45 lakh ha); Haryana (1.34 lakh ha); Rajasthan (1.31 lakh ha); Odisha (1.26 lakh ha); Madhya Pradesh (0.54 lakh ha) and Uttar Pradesh (0.17 lakh ha) during Kharif 2016. While last year non-Bt. cotton was sown in 8.57 lakh hectares only.

(b) It is a fact that native non-Bt. varieties especially of desi cotton species-*Gossypium arboreum* are tolerant to moisture stress, water logging, salinity, resistant to majority of diseases and insect pests.

National policy on software products

*219. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized a National Policy on Software Products to promote talent and contribute bigger share of software products to the global market, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what would be the growth of software products sector by the next ten years and the worth of IT industry in the country and its export share in the global market; and

(c) the details of steps taken to promote creation of sustainable software products industry with innovations and cutting edge technologies?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The National Policy of Software Products has not been finalised by the Government.

(b) As per iSPIRT (Indian Software Products Industry Round Table) estimates, the global software products industry is at present estimated to be US$ 411 billion and is expected to reach US$ 1.2 trillion by 2025. The revenue of software products industry in India at present is US$ 6.1 billion out of which US$ 1.9 billion is from exports. As per iSPIRT estimates, the revenues can grow to US$ 100-120 billion by the year 2025.

As per NASSCOM, the IT–ITES Industry revenue in year 2015-16 is US$ 143 billion out of which US$ 108 billion is from exports.

(c) The steps taken to promote creation of sustainable software products industry with innovation and cutting edge technologies are as follows:

I. Startup India, which is a flagship initiative of the Government of India, which aims to build a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and Startups in the country.

II. Creation of an Electronics Development Fund (EDF) as a "Fund of Funds" to participate in professionally managed "Daughter Funds" which in turn will provide risk capital to companies developing new technologies in the area of Electronics and Information Technology.

III. Support to research organizations and institutes of higher learning for Research and Development (R&D) of software products.

IV. Creation of incubation facilities in 55 STPI centres to provide plug and play facilities.

V. NASSCOM 10,000 start-ups initiative, which has set up 8 incubators, mostly in partnership with State Government, where product start-ups are being incubated.

VI. A dedicated website of NASSCOM namely "*productsmade.in*" lists Indian products and has user friendly searchable facility, along with product features to aid in business development.

Opposition to telecommunications service priority-agnostic intermediary

*220. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telecom companies, in their response to TRAI's consultation paper, have opposed mandating a Telecommunications Service Priority-agnostic intermediary for the purpose;

(b) whether it is also a fact that telecom companies have demanded free data for users; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that TRAI has made public, the comments it received for its consultation paper on free data, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has received 4224 comments and 9 counter comments till the stipulated dates on the Consultation Paper on "Free Data".

In their response, most of the Telecom Service Providers/ Internet Service Providers (TSPs/ISPs) are not in favour of mandating a TSP-agnostic intermediary and have urged that all types of business models including free data platform should be opened to all TSPs/aggregators.

Most of the TSPs/ISPs have supported provision of free data for the users.

(c) In keeping with the practice, comments and counter comments on the consultation paper on "Free Data" have been placed on the TRAI`s website *www.trai.gov.in.*

The category-wise total numbers of comments received are listed as under:

1. Comments from TSPs/ISPs-11
2. Comments from TSP/ISP Associations-05
3. Comments from companies/other organizations-26
4. Comments from other stakeholders broadly categorized as under:

(i) Individual responses which address questions raised in the consultation paper-14.

(ii) Individual responses which are general in nature-63.

(iii) Individual responses with personal information with held on request-05.

(iv) Common text responses-4100.

A total of 9 counter comments were received as under:-

(i) TSPs/ISPs-01.

(ii) TSP/ISP Associations-01.

(iii) Companies and organizations-07.

Payment of subsidy amount to Chhattisgarh

†*221. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that interest loss is being incurred by Government of Chhattisgarh because Central Government is not providing Public Distribution System subsidy amount in time; and

(b) whether the balance amount of 2014 and the amount due upto March, 2015 for subsidy of rice distribution from Central Government under various schemes is yet to be received by the State Government and whether the said subsidy will be released at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Food subsidy is released as per funds allocated in the Budget for food subsidy. Chhattisgarh has adopted Decentralised Procurement (DCP) scheme, under which subsidy for stock of food grains retained by the State Government and distributed under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) is released by Government of India directly to the State. Food subsidy is released to DCP States on quarterly basis as advance and adjusted on a provisional basis in the next quarter. As per existing principles, 90% of admissible claim of the State is released as advance subsidy. For provisional subsidy, 100% of fixed incidentals such as MSP, taxes and statutory levies etc. and 95% of balance incidentals which are variable are allowed. Balance 5% of variable cost is released after finalization of economic cost on the basis of audited accounts

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

furnished by the State. Details of claim submitted by Chhattisgarh and food subsidy released to them in the financial year 2013-14 and 2014-15 are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Year	Claim submitted by Chhattisgarh	Subsidy released
2013-14	2538.52	2529.27
2014-15	3368.52	3356.81

Some States including Chhattisgarh avail loans from banks to manage procurement operations on which interest is paid by them. Therefore, to save interest costs, State Governments are advised from time to time to make some budgetary provisions for DCP operations.

Food Corporation of India (FCI) releases subsidy for stocks delivered to the central pool by State Government agencies of Chhattisgarh as and when bills are submitted. FCI has made payments of ₹ 5239.86 crore and ₹ 5784.90 crore to the State Government agencies of Chhattisgarh for central pool stock of rice for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively. Payments of ₹ 7.76 crore and ₹ 77.87 crore are pending for KMS 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively due to non-submission of requisite supporting documents by the State.

Paperless railway tickets in Maharashtra

*222. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to introduce paperless railway tickets and railway platform tickets at all stations of Maharashtra or at some selected railway stations;

(b) whether this is going to be selective; and

(c) if so, the names of the stations and the reason for selected stations instead of all stations in Maharashtra, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) With a view to facilitate convenient booking of unreserved tickets by passengers without having to stand in long queues to purchase railway tickets, Indian Railways introduced the facility of paperless unreserved ticket, season ticket and platform ticket booking through mobile phone in suburban sections of Central Railway and Western Railway as a pilot project. At present, the facility of booking unreserved and season tickets through mobile phone is available at 108 stations of Mumbai suburban sections of Central Railway and Western Railway. The facility of booking paperless platform

tickets through mobile phone has also been provided at 12 stations of Mumbai suburban section of Central and Western Railways. Names of these stations are given in the Statement (*See* below). The pilot project of booking of mobile phone based paperless tickets is being run on stations in bigger cities with high demand and the project is subject to continuous review and refinements in the system and expansion to cover more Zonal Railways/stations. Apart from Central Railway and Western Railway, the project has also been introduced in some stations in Eastern, Southern, South Eastern, South Central and Northern Railway. Further, reserved e-tickets booked through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website including through mobile application based ticket, also has provision of paperless ticket as Short Message Service (SMS) sent by IRCTC.

Statement

Stations with facility paperless booking of platform tickets through mobile

Railway	Names of stations where paperless journey tickets are issued through mobile
Central (73 Stations)	Ambarnath, Ambivli, Airavali, Asangaon, Atgaon, Belarpur C.B.D., Bhivandi Road, Bhandup, Badlapur, Bhivpuri Road, Byculla, Chunabhatti, Chinchpokli, Kurla Jn., Chembur, Currey Road, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Cotton Green, Dombivli, Diva Jn., Dockyard Road, Dadar Central, Ghat Kopar, Ghansoli, Guru Tegh Bahadur Nagar, Govandi, Juinagar, King's Circle, Khadavli, Khardi, Kharghar, Khopoli, Kanjur Marg, Karjat, Kalva, Khandeshwar, Kopar, Kopar Khairna, Kasara, Kalyan Jn., Mansarovar, Mumbra, Mulund, Mankhurd, Masjid, Matunga, Nerul, Nahur, Neral, Panvel, Parel, Rabale, Reay Road, Shahad, Shelu, Sion, Sanpada, Sandhurst Road, Sewri, Sea Wood Darave, Thakurli, Tilak Nagar, Titavala, Thane, Turbhe, Ulhasnagar, Vadala Road, Vangani, Vikroli, Vithalwadi,Vasind, Vashi and Vidyavihar
Western (35 Stations)	Andheri, Bandra Jn., Mumbai Central, Boisar, Vasai Road, Borivali, Bhayandar, Church Gate, Charni Road, Dadar Western, Dahisar, Dahanu Road, Elphinstone Road, Goregaon, Grant Road, Jogeshwari, Khar Road, Kandivli, Kelve Road, Malad, Marine Lines, Mira Road, Mahim Jn., Matunga Road, Mahalakshmi, Naigaon, Nalla-Sopara, Lower Parel, Palghar, Saphale, Santacruz, Vangaon, Ville Parle, Virar and Vaitarna

Railway	Names of stations where paperless journey tickets are issued through mobile
Central (6 Stations)	Thane, Panvel, Dadar Central, Lokmanya Tilak Terminus and Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Kalyan
Western (6 Stations)	Andheri, Borivali, Vasai Road, Dadar Western, Mumbai Central and Bandra Terminus

Rise in prices of pulses

*223. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been an abnormal increase in the prices of pulses during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government proposes to import pulses from other countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has recently signed a pact with Government of Mozambique for the import of pulses, if so, the details thereof and at what rate it is proposed to be procured?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The details of the changes in prices over the last three years is given in the Statement (*See* below). The rise in prices of pulses is mainly on account of shortfall in domestic production due to adverse weather conditions and increase in demand because of rise in population and per capita income and change in food habits. In addition, speculation, cartelization, black-marketing/hoarding also put pressure on prices. However, over the last six months, there has been a moderation in the prices of major pulses.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved creation of a buffer stock of pulses both through domestic procurement and imports. As on 31st July, 2016, Government through Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has contracted 56,000 MT of pulses *viz.* 23,500 MT of Tur; 17,500 MT of Urad; and 15,000 MT of Masur for imports.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aims at promoting the production of Pigeon Peas/Tur and other pulses in Mozambique through active cooperation between the two countries by encouraging progressive increase in the trading of these pulses, with the objective of doubling the trade in pulses in five years. The MoU also fixes targets of minimum quantities of exports of Tur and

other pulses from Mozambique to India over the next five financial years, whether through the private channels or through Government to Government sales. If there is any shortfall in private imports from the targeted imports, the Government of India, through MMTC, would purchase surplus stocks available with the Government of Mozambique, at the price linked to the Minimum Support Price; with suitable adjustments for cost of procurement, freight, etc.

Statement

All-India Daily Average Retail Price (in ₹/kg.)

Items	Price as on 02.08.2016	1 Year Ago 31.07.2015	2 years Ago 01.08.2014	3 years Ago 02.08.2013	% Variation (Y-O-Y)		
					2016 Over 2015	2015 Over 2014	2014 Over 2013
Gram Dal	99.33	60.24	46.21	51.76	64.89	30.36	-10.72
Tur/Arhar Dal	136.81	99.55	70.55	68.69	37.43	41.11	2.71
Urad Dal	148.05	98.85	73.74	58.55	49.77	34.05	25.94
Moong Dal	95.35	98.85	87.43	74.05	-3.54	13.06	18.07
Masoor Dal	85.91	82.59	66.65	58.64	4.02	23.92	13.66

Source: State Civil Supplies Deptts.

Demand and supply of pulses

*224. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the production and price of pulses during each of the last three years and the current year in pulses producing States; and

(b) the domestic demand and supply of pulses during the said period, including mechanism to control its prices?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The prices of major pulses during the last three years and the current year along with latest available State-wise production of pulses is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The requisite details in respect of the domestic demand and supply of pulses during the said period are given in the Statement-II (*See* below). Government has taken various measures to control prices which includes creation of buffer stock of pulses through domestic procurement and imports; regular enhancement of Minimum Support Prices of pulses to incentivize production and improve availability; strict action

against hoarding and black marketing; setting up a mechanism for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. amongst the concerned agencies; strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility; export ban on pulses with exceptions and permitting import of pulses at zero duty; imposition of stock limit on pulses, etc.

Statement-I

Prices of major pulses for last three years including current year and their State-wise production

(A) Price Trends of major pulses

Items	All-India Daily Average Retail Price (in ₹/kg.)						
	Price as on 02.08.2016	1 Year Ago 31.07.2015	2 Years Ago 01.08.2014	3 Years Ago 02.08.2013	% Variation (Y-O-Y)		
					2016 Over 2015	2015 Over 2014	2014 Over 2013
Gram Dal	99.33	60.24	46.21	51.76	64.89	30.36	-10.72
Tur/Arhar Dal	136.81	99.55	70.55	68.69	37.43	41.11	2.71
Urad Dal	148.05	98.85	73.74	58.55	49.77	34.05	25.94
Moong Dal	95.35	98.85	87.43	74.05	-3.54	13.06	18.07
Masoor Dal	85.91	82.59	66.65	58.64	4.02	23.92	13.66

Source: State Civil Supplies Deptts.

(B) State-wise production of pulses

(Production of pulses 000 MT)

State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Andhra Pradesh	933.59	1132.73	1061.76	950.00	1228.00
Assam	68.55	84.42	104.31	110.97	106.00
Bihar	511.32	542.76	522.04	493.85	428.50
Chhattisgarh	499.13	648.72	484.54	738.53	511.60
Gujarat	780.00	572.22	729.00	574.45	532.50
Haryana	127.00	130.40	125.05	56.10	48.10
Himachal Pradesh	30.79	46.07	51.04	38.26	31.70
Jammu and Kashmir	13.20	14.17	13.85	9.23	10.30

State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Jharkhand	411.99	609.29	578.62	597.06	547.20
Karnataka	1134.15	1259.30	1600.51	1390.00	1389.00
Kerala	2.54	3.24	2.44	1.38	1.90
Madhya Pradesh	4161.90	5165.86	4644.32	4828.26	5117.10
Maharashtra	2268.00	2306.00	3169.00	2053.00	1409.60
Odisha	343.44	424.39	419.26	439.34	554.50
Punjab	15.00	53.00	39.60	41.60	43.70
Rajasthan	2432.11	1956.78	2490.89	1951.82	1952.60
Tamil Nadu	369.29	209.88	613.79	753.24	573.20
Telangana	296.42	490.27	489.24	263.00	243.00
Uttar Pradesh	2403.00	2332.00	1697.45	1438.70	1219.0
Uttarakhand	49.00	51.27	56.52	54.55	51.0
West Bengal	130.64	192.27	241.72	236.46	329.70
Others	101.88	111.46	111.28	124.07	134.30
ALL INDIA	17088.92	18342.45	19254.96	17152.27	16467.50

Source: 4th Advance Estimates, 2015-16, DES, DAC&FW.

Statement-II

Details of domestic demand and supply of pulses during last three years and the current year

Basic Indicators on Pulses in million metric tonnes (MMT)

Item/Period	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Production (MMT)$	18.34	19.25	17.15	16.47	20.75^
Demand (MMT)	20.90	21.77	22.68	23.62	24.61
Imports (MMT)	3.84	3.53	4.58	5.79	
Exports	0.20	0.34	0.22	0.26	
Total Availability (MMT)	21.98	22.44	21.51	22.00	

^: Target for 2016-17 (DAC&FW).
$: 4th Advance Estimates, 2015-16.
Note: Availability=Production/Domestic Availability(+)Imports(-)Exports.
Source: DAC&FW, DOC, Niti Ayog.

Railway link between Konark and Paradip

*225. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some representations/proposals have been received by Railways for a railway link between Konark and Paradip, if so, the details and status thereof;

(b) the present status of the Haridaspur-Paradip broad gauge rail link project along with the time-line fixed for its completion; and

(c) the initiative taken by Government for its timely completion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Representations from Government/Public representatives are received at various levels in Ministry of Railways, Zonal and Divisional Railways. Proposal for a rail link between Konark and Paradip has not been received in the recent past.

(b) The project of Haridaspur-Paradip (82 km.) new line, in the State of Odisha, was included in the Budget 1996-97. In 2005, the project was transferred to Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL). SPV was formed in September, 2006. All private land acquisition has been completed. Land acquisition of Government land is in advanced stage. Forest land, stage-I clearance has been received. Earthwork, blanketing and bridgework have been taken up for Haridaspur-Paradip new line project. Overall physical progress is 56%. The latest anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 1186 crore. An amount of ₹ 620 crore has been spent up to 31.03.2016. An outlay of ₹ 200 crore has been provided for the year 2016-17. No target has been fixed for completion of the project.

(c) To expedite the completion of Haridaspur-Paradip new line project, an enhanced allocation of ₹ 200 crore has been provided in 2016-17 compared to ₹ 36.8 crore provided in the last financial year, *i.e.* 2015-16. In addition, regular coordination meetings are held with State Governments to resolve land acquisition and local law and order related problems at the highest level.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO USTARRED QUESTIONS

Input grants for horticultural and cash crops

†2142. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the initial cost in horticultural crops, like orange, mandarin orange and cash crops like cumin seed, isabgol etc. is excessive;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether input grant is provided considering the initial cost of crops of this category as base, in case of crop loss; and

(c) whether Government proposes to enhance agricultural input grants on account of initial cost of horticultural and cash crops being excessive, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir. The initial cost of cultivation of perennial horticulture and cash crops are higher which includes crops like orange and mandarin orange due to higher input costs towards land preparation, cost of planting material, integrated nutrient and pest management etc. As far as crops like cumin seed and isabgol are concerned, the initial costs are lower compared to perennial horticulture crops.

(b) The assistance provided under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for these crops is based on the cost norms fixed on the basis of cost of cultivation. The input costs are also taken into account by providing grant in case of crop loss.

(c) As the cost norms were revised in the year 2014 under MIDH, there is no proposal to enhance the input grants at present.

Grant to farmers for damage to crops

†2143. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which damaged crops of farmers and the affected farmers are estimated;

(b) whether it is a fact that the reckoning of tenant farmers is made on the basis of agricultural census of 2010, which is very less than the present number; and

(c) whether Government proposes to give grants to all the farmers who have been actually affected, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) 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).

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Additional financial assistance over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature on the basis of Memorandum received from the affected States containing report of area suffered crop loss of 33% and above and eligible for input subsidy.

(b) The Agriculture Census in India is conducted at an interval of five years to collect data on various structural aspects of operational holdings (defined as "All land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others, without regard to the title, legal form, size or location") in the country. According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, the total number holdings, total number of wholly leased-in holdings, total number of partly owned and partly leased-in holdings in the country is given below:-

Agriculture Census 2010-11	Total Number of holdings	Total Number of Wholly leased-in Holdings	Total Number of Partly owned and partly leased-in holdings
	138348461	723872	1856148

(c) Assistance under SDRF/NDRF provided is for immediate relief and assistance to the farmers affected by natural calamities.

Implementation of NFSM in Madhya Pradesh

†2144. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the benefits and aims of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) scheme;

(b) the amount proposed to be spent for this mission by Government and the details of amount proposed to be spent, State-wise; and

(c) whether any work regarding implementation of NFSM has been executed by Government in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and current financial year, if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) The aim of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is to enhance production of food grains (rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals) through area expansion and productivity enhancement, restoration of soil fertility and enhancing farm income. Farmers are benefitted through various interventions under NFSM like crop demonstration, seed distribution micro-nutrients,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

soil ameliorants, plant protection chemicals, farm machinery and implements, irrigation devices, capacity building etc.

(b) The funds allocation, release and expenditure of NFSM for States including Madhya Pradesh for last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year (2016-17) is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The details of targets and achievements of Madhya Pradesh for last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year (2016-17) is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

(A) The funds allocation, release and expenditure of NFSM for States including Madhya Pradesh for last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year (2016-17)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2013-14			2014-15*		
		Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	191.87	157.37	101.73	131.36	75.23	129.17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.48	11.32	9.47	17.51	7.50	14.51
3.	Assam	112.80	95.10	108.92	110.88	94.94	99.85
4.	Bihar	96.77	15.22	55.03	95.23	73.52	58.88
5.	Chhattisgarh	101.29	79.46	67.46	95.89	47.94	53.01
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	65.59	38.51	33.46	48.23	12.64	10.67
8.	Haryana	66.06	42.15	40.45	55.11	36.03	38.36
9.	Himachal Pradesh	22.02	21.83	21.15	19.37	17.98	18.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	26.02	17.50	14.17	26.05	10.20	23.13
11.	Jharkhand	48.87	38.68	39.1	39.78	23.35	30.04
12.	Karnataka	144.85	127.74	110.81	168.12	133.51	134.71
13.	Kerala	2.60	0.89	1.10	3.15	3.13	1.99
14.	Madhya Pradesh	392.09	366.06	334.58	340	214.02	197.08
15.	Maharashtra	298.98	274.33	218.28	367.32	191.95	304.81
16.	Manipur	26.00	26.00	25.42	15.42	14.82	15.4
17.	Meghalaya	12.81	12.31	12.45	9.89	9.48	9.86

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Mizoram	7.50	7.50	7.5	7.08	7.08	7.08
19.	Nagaland	20.00	20.00	19.46	20.02	19.29	20.01
20.	Odisha	86.62	68.74	66.19	85.44	53.14	60.55
21.	Punjab	66.20	37.56	58.13	50.69	40.37	48.39
22.	Sikkim	3.38	2.12	2.15	2.83	2.42	2.83
23.	Rajasthan	218.15	126.35	147.79	268.89	213.58	159.63
24.	Tamil Nadu	65.63	37.65	51.56	75.78	72.88	75.66
25.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	84.64	66.01	84.64
26.	Tripura	35.00	34.09	34.65	30.40	29.30	29.3
27.	Uttar Pradesh	366.13	245.05	239.91	331.93	252.24	294.56
28.	Uttarakhand	23.69	13.46	16.30	17.18	8.83	8.98
29.	West Bengal	82.56	59.93	55.53	66.70	52.61	66.42
	TOTAL	2599.96	1976.92	1892.75	2584.89	1783.99	1998.33

(B) The funds allocation, release and expenditure of NFSM for States including Madhya Pradesh for last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year (2016-17)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2015-16			2016-17**	
		Alloc.	Rel.	Exp.	Alloc.	Rel.
1	2	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49.28	49.28	16.38	71.12	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.93	13.93	5.96	13.05	5.15
3.	Assam	86.59	66.57	29.15	95.60	0.00
4.	Bihar	87.49	54.72	51.12	59.52	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	66.73	37.50	53.72	66.29	32.14
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	18.44	9.22	8.38	46.48	0.00
8.	Haryana	20.25	11.12	0.00	18.43	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.12	8.55	8.38	16.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.46	6.48	8.16	14.26	0.00

1	2	9	10	11	12	13
11.	Jharkhand	29.77	29.46	21.88	36.12	0.00
12.	Karnataka	85.54	51.69	48.51	132.57	69.28
13.	Kerala	1.52	0.77	0.00	1.55	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	208.78	133.69	135.09	276.07	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	122.31	108.98	103.68	194.36	97.18
16.	Manipur	13.02	13.02	10.02	14.79	7.40
17.	Meghalaya	6.40	5.95	5.63	5.61	0.00
18.	Mizoram	3.55	2.03	1.53	2.26	1.13
19.	Nagaland	21.43	11.63	9.63	21.28	10.64
20.	Odisha	78.13	66.96	44.9	66.66	0.00
21.	Punjab	26.77	13.64	12.79	18.49	0.00
22.	Sikkim	5.97	3.24	0	7.67	0.00
23.	Rajasthan	185.52	106.26	87.41	206.88	103.44
24.	Tamil Nadu	35.75	35.32	34.25	50.21	25.10
25.	Telangana	49.66	38.42	28.26	39.29	0.00
26.	Tripura	17.99	16.79	8.52	8.81	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	164.53	118.63	83.35	182.92	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	10.41	6.53	6.74	21.34	9.65
29.	West Bengal	35.82	32.02	33.83	51.58	25.80
	TOTAL	1467.16	1052.40	857.27	1739.21	386.91

*Coarse cereals are included under NFSM from the year 2014-15

**As on 28.07.2016

Statement-II

Details of targets and achievements of NFSM in Madhya Pradesh for last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year (2016-17)

Sl. No.	Interventions	Unit	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target
1.	Demonstrations	Ha	105220.00	94987.00	175534.00	172645.00	193891.00	183533.00	190936.00
2.	Seed Distribution	Qtls.	402250.00	216728.80	552850.00	90824.75	282120.00	50038.89	576098.00
3.	Seed Production	Qtls.							227850.00
4.	Farm Machineries/ Implements	No.	34811	80156	28970	19174	43714	16845	39134
5.	Efficient Water Saving Devices								
	i Pumpsets	No.	6400	6213	8061	6205	7600	3420	6159
	ii Sprinklers	Ha	22334.00	21652.00	18034.00	19221.00	10625.00	7104.00	7970.00
	iii Water Carrying Pipes	Mtrs	9218400	9604000	10972200	6075000	2120000	868800	2430000
6.	Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)	Ha	402000.00	340782.00	562000.00	285622.00	528494.00	377572.00	704710.00
7.	Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Ha	271038.00	248094.00	162020.00	106382.00	491250.00	334413.00	488400.00
8.	Cropping System Based Training	No.	2800	2460	834	706	1750	1608	3163

Note: Seed production of pulses is included under NFSM from the year 2016-17

Implementation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

†2145. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds earmarked and allotted for the last two years and the current financial year under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), State-wise;

(b) whether it is planned to include deep borewell or other micro irrigation schemes under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether comprehensive district agricultural scheme is being prepared in various districts under the RKVY by Government, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The State-wise allocation and release of funds for the last two years and the current financial year under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Micro Irrigation activities and creation of small water sources including tube wells are being implemented under the "Per Drop More Crop" Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), PMKSY adopts State level planning and projectised execution that allows States to draw up their own irrigation development based on District Irrigation Plans and State Irrigation Plans. The State-wise allocation of funds for this component under PMKSY for 2016-17 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Comprehensive District Agricultural Plans (C-DAPs) are being prepared for various districts by the State Government as part of implementing RKVY in the country during Twelfth Plan. State-wise status of preparation of C-DAPs is given the Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise allocation and release of funds under RKVY during 2014-15 to 2016-17 as on 31.07.2016

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.07	263.54	197.79	192.66	234.16	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.83	13.92	31.55	31.55	37.35	0.00

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	483.53	267.71	128.07	94.10	198.66	0.00
4.	Bihar	564.55	545.73	164.86	111.20	195.59	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	385.44	341.75	150.11	145.07	184.43	90.06
6.	Goa	25.63	0.00	43.40	21.70	51.20	0.00
7.	Gujarat	593.55	290.03	182.09	174.55	222.51	0.00
8.	Haryana	372.03	254.68	143.10	141.54	144.42	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.11	86.11	28.30	28.30	29.70	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.50	78.25	74.72	37.36	33.91	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	306.94	153.15	87.68	78.32	115.99	0.00
12.	Karnataka	884.17	632.22	359.94	346.93	418.10	202.93
13.	Kerala	321.40	300.70	91.86	90.48	110.13	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	547.55	511.78	264.57	264.09	319.97	155.13
15.	Maharashtra	1013.49	942.09	438.11	438.00	445.40	200.24
16.	Manipur	43.00	43.00	20.46	20.46	24.48	11.86
17.	Meghalaya	68.77	60.64	16.52	8.26	19.74	0.00
18.	Mizoram	113.92	113.92	16.61	19.39	19.66	0.00
19.	Nagaland	52.75	52.75	25.25	25.25	30.11	0.00
20.	Odisha	504.13	482.07	299.67	292.36	334.20	45.86
21.	Punjab	508.71	413.71	215.94	107.97	246.01	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	740.55	695.28	342.47	325.97	411.51	198.71
23.	Sikkim	18.98	9.49	24.35	4.07	28.82	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	298.95	298.95	259.94	259.74	308.67	152.87
25.	Telangana	195.27	179.64	142.30	135.91	157.38	0.00
26.	Tripura	80.27	80.27	21.54	21.54	25.61	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	704.93	589.47	358.16	177.41	454.24	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	95.39	80.70	40.03	36.20	47.62	23.56
29.	West Bengal	598.61	582.34	285.26	284.56	332.74	0.00
	TOTAL STATES	9864.02	8363.89	4454.65	3914.94	5182.31	1081.22
30.	Delhi	Being done by MHA		1.50	0.00	1.50	
31.	Puducherry			1.51	0.76	1.51	
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			4.70	2.35	4.69	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33.	Chandigarh	Being done by MHA		0.31	0.00	0.31	
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			5.43	0.00	5.42	
35.	Daman and Diu			0.94	0.00	0.94	
36.	Lakshadweep			0.63	0.00	0.63	
	TOTAL STATES			15.02	3.11	15.00	0.00
	GRAND TOTAL	9864.02	8363.89	4469.67	3918.05	5197.31	1081.22

Statement-II

State-wise allocation (tentative) for PMKSY (Per Drop More Crop) for 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Allocation		
		Micro Irrigation	Other Interventions	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	220.00	43.0	263.00
2.	Bihar	25.00	36.0	61.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	20.00	28.0	48.00
4.	Goa	0.50	1.0	1.50
5.	Gujarat	220.00	40.0	260.00
6.	Haryana	40.00	5.0	45.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.25	16.0	18.25
8.	Jharkhand	20.00	31.0	51.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.00	9.0	16.00
10.	Karnataka	130.00	60.0	190.00
11.	Kerala	7.00	23.0	30.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	140.00	62.0	202.00
13.	Maharashtra	250.00	97.0	347.00
14.	Odisha	18.00	29.0	47.00
15.	Punjab	10.00	4.0	14.00
16.	Rajasthan	120.00	95.0	215.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	95.00	47.0	142.00

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Telangana	115.00	24.0	139.00
19.	Uttarakhand	10.00	13.0	23.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	49.0	69.00
21.	West Bengal	6.50	32.0	38.50
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.75	4.0	4.75
23.	Assam	1.50	43.0	44.50
24.	Manipur	3.75	6.0	9.75
25.	Meghalaya	0.75	6.0	6.75
26.	Mizoram	6.50	4.0	10.50
27.	Nagaland	0.50	9.0	9.50
28.	Sikkim	6.50	3.0	9.50
29.	Tripura	2.50	8.0	10.50
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		1.0	1.00
31.	Puducherry		1.0	1.00
	NCPAH (TSG)/HQ	1.00	11.0	12.00
	GRAND TOTAL	1500.00	840	2340.00

Statement-III

State-wise status of District Agriculture Plan (DAP) during the Twelfth Plan as on 31.07.2016

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of District	DAP Prepared
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17	In Progress
3.	Assam	27	In Progress
4.	Bihar	38	In Progress
5.	Chhattisgarh	27	27
6.	Goa	2	2
7.	Gujarat	33	In Progress
8.	Haryana	21	In Progress

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of District	DAP Prepared
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	In Progress
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	22	2
11.	Jharkhand	24	In Progress
12.	Karnataka	30	ln Progress
13.	Kerala	14	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	51	51
15.	Maharashtra	36	31
16.	Manipur	9	In Progress
17.	Meghalaya	11	ln Progress
18.	Mizoram	8	In Progress
19.	Nagaland	11	In Progress
20.	Odisha	30	In Progress
21.	Punjab	22	ln Progress
22.	Rajasthan	33	34
23.	Sikkim	4	In Progress
24.	Tamil Nadu	32	In Progress
25.	Telangana	10	8
26.	Tripura	8	8
27.	Uttarakhand	13	In Progress
28.	Uttar Pradesh	75	In Progress
29.	West Bengal	19	19
	TOTAL STATES	652	209

Protecting indigenous cows

2146. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to open more and more gaushalas in the country so that abandoned cows are spared of any kind of cruelty;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to promote indigenous cows in a big way to counter the effects of climate change on country's milk production; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that milk production in the country will decline by over 3 million tonnes per annum by 2020 due to global warming, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir. However the Department has been implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'National Livestock Mission' under which funds are given to the States including Gaushalas for grassland development. Ministry of Environment and Forests through Animal Welfare Board of India is also implementing following Schemes for providing assistance to Gaushalas.

(i) Provision of Shelter House for Looking After Animals.

(ii) Provision of Ambulance Service for Animals in Distress.

(iii) Natural Calamity Relief.

The Ministry of Agriculture Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries also provides opportunities to Livestock Development Boards to take up breeding programme in Gaushalas if same is recommended by the State Governments.

(b) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States for promoting bovine indigenous breeds including breeds of cows Government of India has initiated following programmes:

(i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD).

(ii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission initiated as a part of NPBBDD.

(iii) National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre (NKBC) funds released for establishment of two centres in the country.

(iv) National Dairy Plan-I.

(c) As informed by ICAR that Global Warming has been in place for last several decades but milk production continues to rise steadily 3-4% annually. This is because of better management breed improvement and stress amelioration methods etc. being employed by dairy farmers in general which offsets the adverse impact of global warming.

Concept of Krishi Vikas Vriksh

†2147. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the mandis that have been connected, so, far, to National Agriculture Market, State-wise, and the number and names of mandis that shall be connected by September, 2016; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the concept of Krishi Vikas Vriksh and the programme under the same and the details of the annual action plan formulated to double the income of farmers through a time-bound programme in the coming five years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The State-wise names of the mandis that have been connected so far to National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). 184 more mandis are targeted to be integrated with e-NAM by September, 2016. The names of such mandis are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) To achieve the target of doubling of income of farmers by 2022, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare for the following aspects.

(i) To study the current income level of farmers/agricultural labourers.

(ii) To measures 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 recommend an institutional mechanism to review and monitor implementation to realise the goal.

(vi) To examine any other related issue.

Statement-I

The names of 23 mandis of 8 States which have been connected with NAM Portal so far

Sl. No.	State	APMC	Sl. No.	State	APMC
1.	Gujarat	Patan	9.	Rajasthan	Ramganj Mandi
2.	Gujarat	Botad	10.	Madhya Pradesh	Karond, Bhopal
3.	Gujarat	Himmatnagar	11.	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur
4.	Telangana	Tirumalgiri	12.	Uttar Pradesh	Lakhimpur Kheri
5.	Telangana	Nizamabad	13.	Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur
6.	Telangana	Badepally	14.	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich
7.	Telangana	Malakpet	15.	Uttar Pradesh	Saharanpur
8.	Telangana	Warangal	16.	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura

Sl. No.	State	APMC	Sl. No.	State	APMC
17.	Haryana	Shahbad	21.	Jharkhand	Pandra, Ranchi
18.	Haryana	Ambala	22.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan
19.	Haryana	Karnal	23.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
20.	Haryana	Elanabad			

Statement-II

The number of 184 Mandis targeted for integration with NAM by Sept., 2016

State		Mandi Name	District
Uttar Pradesh	1.	Agra	Agra
	2.	Aligarh	Aligarh
	3.	Khair	Aligarh
	4.	Allahabad	Allahabad
	5.	Akbarpur	Ambedkar Nagar
	6.	Jais	Amethi
	7.	Auriya	Auriya
	8.	Azamgarh	Azamgarh
	9.	Badaun	Badaun
	10.	Barabanki	Barabanki
	11.	Safdarganj	Barabanki
	12.	Bareilly	Bareilly
	13.	Puranpur	Bareilly
	14.	Basti	Basti
	15.	Sahiyapur	Basti
	16.	Jahangirabad	Bulandshahar
	17.	Chandauli	Chandauli
	18.	Deoria	Deoria
	19.	Etawah	Etawah
	20.	Faizabad	Faizabad
	21.	Kaimganj	Farrukhabad
	22.	Sirsaganj	Firozabad

State		Mandi Name	District
Uttar Pradesh	23.	Noida	Gautambudhnagar
	24.	Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad
	25.	Gonda	Gonda
	26.	Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur
	27.	Rath	Hamirpur
	28.	Hapur	Hapur
	29.	Hardoi	Hardoi
	30.	Madhoganj	Hardoi
	31.	Hathras	Hathras
	32.	Konch	Jalaun
	33.	Jhansi	Jhansi
	34.	Chibramau	Kannauj
	35.	Kannuaj	Kannauj
	36.	Kanpur	Kanpur
	37.	Chaubepur	Kanpur Nagar
	38.	Kasganj	Kasganj
	39.	Golagokarnnath	Kheri
	40.	Lucknow	Lucknow
	41.	Partawal	Maharajaganj
	42.	Mahoba	Mahoba
	43.	Mainpuri	Mainpuri
	44.	Etah	Mainpuri
	45.	Meerut	Meerut
	46.	Moradabad	Moradabad
	47.	Chandausi	Muradabad
	48.	Muzzaffarnagar	Muzzaffarnagar
	49.	Pilibhit	Pilibhit
	50.	Bilaspur	Pilibhit
	51.	Pratapgarh	Pratapgarh
	52.	Rae Bareli	Rae Bareli

State		Mandi Name	District
Uttar Pradesh	53.	Rampur	Rampur
	54.	Powayan	Shahjahanpur
	55.	Shahjahanpur	Shahjahanpur
	56.	Sitapur	Sitapur
	57.	Mahmudabad	Sitapur
	58.	Robertsganj	Sonebhadra
	59.	Bangarmau	Unnao
	60.	Varanasi	Varanasi
Telangana	61.	Adilabad	Adilabad
	62.	Bhainsa	Adilabad
	63.	Karim Nagar	Karim Nagar
	64.	Jammikunta	Karim Nagar
	65.	Peddapalli	Karimnagar
	66.	Choppadandi	Karimnagar
	67.	Jagtial	Karimnagar
	68.	Gangadhara	Karimnagar
	69.	Gollapally	Karimnagar
	70.	Metpally	Karimnagar
	71.	Khammam	Khammam
	72.	Shadnagar	Mahabubnagar
	73.	Makthal	Mahabubnagar
	74.	Gadwal	Mahbubnagar
	75.	Mahbubnagar	Mahbubnagar
	76.	Nagarkurnool	Mahbubnagar
	77.	Kalwakurthy	Mahbubnagar
	78.	W. P. Town	Mahbubnagar
	79.	Achampet	Mahbubnagar
	80.	Narayanpet	Mahbubnagar
	81.	W. P. Road	Mahbubnagar
	82.	Athmakur	Mahbubnagar

State		Mandi Name	District
Telangana	83.	Devarakadra	Mahbubnagar
	84.	Sadasivpet	Medak
	85.	Siddipet	Medak
	86.	Gajwel	Medak
	87.	Zaheerabad	Medak
	88.	Jogipet	Medak
	89.	Miryalaguda	Nalagonda
	90.	Deverakonda	Nalagonda
	91.	Suryapet	Nalagonda
	92.	Nakrekal	Nalagonda
	93.	Kamareddy	Nizamabad
	94.	Tandur	Rangareddy
	95.	Vikarabad	Rangareddy
	96.	Shankarapally	Rangareddy
	97.	Narsampet	Warangal
	98.	Jangaon	Warangal
	99.	Kesamudram	Warangal
Andhra Pradesh	100.	Chittoor	Chittoor
	101.	Tiruchanur	Chittoor
	102.	Madanapalli	Chittoor
	103.	Bangarupallem	Chittoor
	104.	Gurramkonda, under AMC Valmikipuram	Chittoor
	105.	Kalikiri, under AMC Valmikipuram	Chittoor
	106.	Palamaner	Chittoor
	107.	Pakala	Chittoor
	108.	Tenali	Guntur
	109.	Pidugralla	Guntur
	110.	Vijaywada	Krishna
	111.	Rapur	Nellore

State		Mandi Name	District
Chhattisgarh	112.	Bhatapara	Baloda Bazaar
	113.	Kurud	Dhantari
	114.	Kawardha	Kabirdham
	115.	Navapara	Raipur
	116.	Rajnandgaon	Rajnandgaon
Himachal Pradesh	117.	Jassur	Kangra
	118.	Bhunter	Kullu
	119.	Takoli	Mandi
	120.	Bhattakufar (Dhalli)	Shimla
	121.	Parwanoo	Solan
Madhya Pradesh	122.	Baitul	Baitul
	123.	Berasia	Bhopal
	124.	Chhindwada	Chhindwada
	125.	Damoh	Damoh
	126.	Dewas	Dewas
	127.	Ashok Nagar	Gwalior
	128.	Harda	Harda
	129.	Pipariya	Hoshangabad
	130.	Indore	Indore
	131.	Jabalpur	Jabalpur
	132.	Mandsore	Mandsore
	133.	Neemuch	Neemuch
	134.	Jaora	Ratlam
	135.	Ratlam	Ratlam
	136.	Rewa	Rewa
	137.	Sagar	Sagar
	138.	Satna	Satna
	139.	Sehore	Sehore
	140.	Ujjain	Ujjain
	141.	Vidisha	Vidisha

State		Mandi Name	District
Haryana	142.	Mullana	Ambala
	143.	Charkhi Dadri	Bhiwani
	144.	Ratia	Fatehabad
	145.	Hansi	Hissar
	146.	Adampur	Hissar
	147.	Narwana	Jind
	148.	Safidon	Jind
	149.	Jind	Jind
	150.	Julana	Jind
	151.	Kaithal	Kaithal
	152.	Gohana	Kaithal
	153.	Nishing	Karnal
	154.	Gharaunda	Karnal
	155.	Taraori	Karnal
	156.	Thanesar	Kurukshetra
	157.	Pehowa	Kurukshetra
	158.	Ismailabad	Kurukshetra
	159.	Ladwa	Kurukshetra
	160.	Panipat	Panipat
	161.	Madlauda	Panipat
	162.	Samalkha	Panipat
	163.	Rewari	Rewari
	164.	Rohtak	Rohtak
	165.	Dabwali	Sirsa
	166.	Kalanwali	Sirsa
	167.	Sonepat	Sonepat
	168.	Ganaur	Sonepat
Jharkhand	169.	Jamshedpur	Jamshedpur
	170.	Chaibasa	West Simbhum
	171.	Dhanbad	Dhanbad

State		Mandi Name	District
Jharkhand	172.	Gumla	Gumla
	173.	Lohardaga	Lohardaga
	174.	Simdega	Simdega
	175.	Daltonganj	Daltanganj
Rajasthan	176.	Nagar	Bharatpur
	177.	Atru	Baran
	178.	Bundi	Bundi
	179.	Gangapur City	Sawaimadhopur
	180.	Hindaun	Karauli
	181.	Kota	Kota
	182.	Mandawari	Dausa
	183.	Padampur	Sri Ganganagar
	184.	Fateh Nagar	Udaipur

Focus on crop diversification and allied activities

2148. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked farmers to focus on crop diversification and go for allied activities like dairy, poultry and food processing to boost income; and

(b) if so, the incentives being provided by Government to farmers for crop diversification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is implementing Crop Diversification Programme in Original Green Revolution States of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh as a Sub Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) since 2013-14 to divert the area of water guzzling paddy to alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, maize, cotton and agro forestry system. The programme has been extended to tobacco growing States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternate crops/cropping system *w.e.f.* 2015-16. Under Crop Diversification Programme, assistance is being provided for four major components/interventions *viz*. (i) alternate crop demonstrations (ii) farm

mechanization and value addition (iii) site specific activities and (iv) contingency for awareness, training, implementation, monitoring, etc. Under RKVY, State Government can undertake agriculture including allied sector activities depending on State specific needs/priorities with the approval by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by Chief Secretary of the State.

Crop production technology of various agricultural and horticultural crops grown in different regions and ecologies are also promoted through other ongoing Schemes of DAC&FW like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), Soil Health Card Scheme, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The technology support to farmers helps in achieving higher productivity, better management for increasing their income.

Government also support allied sector activities like dairy and poultry through Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHD&F) for the benefit of farmers under various programmes *viz.*, National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD), National Dairy Plan, Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) and National Livestock Mission (NLM).

For boosting income of farmers, promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a number of Schemes, namely Scheme for Mega Food Parks, Scheme for Modern Abattoirs, Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation, Scheme for Quality Assurance and Scheme for Human Resources and Institutions.

Wastage of grains etc. in storage and transportation

2149. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that wastage of grains, vegetables and fruits etc. during transit and storage is 30 per cent, which is very high; and

(b) whether Government is serious to improve storage and transportation facilities to save precious production of our agriculture/horticulture produces, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The losses of grains,

vegetable and fruits etc. during transit and storage varies from crop to crop depending upon the perishable nature of crops/commodities and availability of infrastructure facilities. The overall total quantitative losses of major crops on this account varies from 3.08% to 15.88% as per a study made by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-All India Coordinated Research Project on Post Harvest Technology (AICRP) in 2015.

(b) Yes, Sir. In order to improve/create scientific storage capacity for storing farm produce, processed farm produce and agricultural inputs, etc. to reduce post harvest and storage losses, the Government is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) Sub-Scheme of Integrated Scheme of Agricultural Marketing (ISAM). Under the scheme, subsidy is being provided @ 25% to 33.33% to eligible beneficiaries for creation of storage infrastructure. However, the scheme is currently stopped *w.e.f.* 05.08.2014 for general category promoters due to exhaustion of funds. However, the scheme is open for SC/ST promoters and for promoters in North-Eastern Region. Under the scheme, since inception and up to 30.06.2016, a total of 37371 godown projects with storage capacity of 63.21 million MT have been sanctioned with subsidy release of ₹ 2193.18 crore.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture, assistance is provided for integrated post harvest management and food processing also in which Post harvest management includes establishment of cold storages, primary/mobile processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans, setting up of ripening chambers and marketing infrastructure. Under Post harvest management component, credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35-50% is available for creating of various types of post-harvest infrastructure.

Transportation of foodgrains is done in covered wagons *i.e.* BCN, BCNA and BCNHL which are categorized as covered bogie wagons (capable of being made water-tight for delicate commodities). These wagons are specially designed and used for foodstuffs etc. Before loading all wagons are inspected to make sure that the wagons supplied by the railway are fit in all respect and will not affect the consignment while in transit. Before commencement of loading wagons are properly cleaned and it is ensured that no dust remain in wagons. Tarpaulin sheets are spread over wagon floor for avoiding contamination of foodgrains. In case of any defective wagon, the same is rejected for loading.

Sale of sub-standard seeds

2150. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed the increasing trend of sub-standard seed market; and

(b) whether it is being ensured by enforcement agencies that genuine varieties are grown to produce quality seeds and the same are packed and sold as seed only, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the information received from the State Government, provisions of the Seeds Act, 1966 and Seed (Control) Order, 1983 are being followed to ensure the availability of quality seeds to farmers through Government, Semi-Government and other private seed dealers. Crop-wise seed samples are being drawn and sent for analysis during both Kharif and Rabi seasons. Analysis is being taken up in notified seed testing labs and legal action is being taken against sub standard seed cases. Some of the States have also constituted special squads for surprise checks and inspections of seeds dealers premises and seed processing units etc. action is being taken in case of contravention of the provisions of the aforesaid Act and rules.

Organic farming in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

2151. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the plans and programme that Government has for organic farming in the country, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) the reasons that in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana organic farming is not catching up;

(c) the role of ICAR in providing technological support to farmers for taking up organic farming; and

(d) the details of technologies developed by ICAR that have reached to farm level in the last five years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Government of India is promoting organic farming in the country through the dedicated Schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Some other Schemes of Government of India are also supporting organic farming *viz*., National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and ICAR network project on organic farming. The pattern of assistance are given in the Statement-I, IA and IB respectively (*See* below). The

detailed guidelines are uploaded on the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare website *www.agricoop.nic.in.*

The Government is implementing Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in both the States Andhra Pradesh and Telangana from 2015. The details are as under:

Andhra Pradesh: Annual Action Plan for the year 2015-16 was approved with a total outlay of ₹ 2933.75 lakh (Central share ₹ 1760.25 lakh) to form 411 clusters. An amount of ₹ 1100.15 lakh was released to the State during 2015-16. The allocation of funds for the year 2016-17 is ₹ 659.55 lakh (Central share) to take up 154 clusters and ₹ 798.17 lakhs has been released during 2016-17 with regard to drought affected state. The ratio of funding is 60:40 (Central and State share) to the State.

Telangana: Annual Action Plan for the year 2015-16 was approved with a total outlay of ₹ 2141.42 lakh (Central share ₹ 1284.85 lakh) to form 300 clusters. An amount of ₹ 1070.71 lakh was released to the State during 2015-16. The allocation of funds for the year 2016-17 is ₹ 394.02 lakh (Central share) to take up 92 clusters and ₹ 448.77 lakh has been released during 2016-17 with regard to drought affected state. The ratio of funding is 60:40 (Central and State share) to the State.

Besides above scheme, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is also implementing the following Programmes for promotion of Organic Farming under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Scheme (RKVY):

(i) Department implemented ongoing Organic Certification Scheme with physical target of 4550 ha with expenditure of ₹ 2.27 crores for 2015-16.

(ii) Initiated a New Project for bringing 1,25,000 ha under Certified Organic farming in 131 clusters with Zero consumption of pesticides and fertilizers benefitting nearly 2 lakh farmers of Andhra Pradesh in a period of 3-4 years and released ₹ 34.04 crores under RKVY for 2015-16. For 2016-17, ₹ 45.91 crore is allocated to continue the programme in 131 identified clusters and to start the programme in 160 clusters.

(c) and (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through its research scheme of Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) spread over 16 States (20 centres) provides technological backstopping to farmers and other stakeholders by developing and demonstrating location and crop specific organic package of practices in cropping and farming systems perspective. Under NPOF, suitable varieties of many cereals, oilseeds, vegetables, and spices for organic management have been identified. The details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Pattern of Assistance

A. **National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)-Organic and INM Components of Soil Health Management (SHM):**

1. Setting up of State of art liquid/carrier based Biofertilizer/Biopesticide units, 100% assistance to State Government/Government Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 160.00 lakh/unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹ 40 lakh/unit for individuals/private agencies through NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity.
2. Setting up of Bio-fertilizer and Organic fertilizer testing Quality Control Laboratory (BOQCL) or Strengthening of existing Laboratory under FCO, assistance up to maximum limit of ₹ 85 lakh for new laboratory and up to a maximum limit of ₹ 45 lakh for strengthening of existing infrastructure to State Government Laboratory under Agriculture or Horticulture Department.
3. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi-compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid/solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.), 50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.

B. **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):** It is the first comprehensive scheme launched by the Central Government as a Centrally Sponsored Programme (CSP). The scheme is implemented by the State Governments on a cluster basis of 20 hectare each. The farmer within the cluster is given financial assistance upto a maximum of 1 ha and the limit of assistance is ₹ 50,000 per ha during the conversion period of 3 years. The target is to promote 10,000 clusters covering 5 lakh acres over the period of 3 years during 2015-16 to 2017-18. Further, following assistance is given for procuring liquid bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides:

1. Liquid Bio-fertilizers consortia (Nitrogen fixing/Phosphate Solubilizing/ potassium mobilizing bio-fertilizers) @ ₹ 500/acre x 50 of ₹ 25000 per cluster in first year.
2. Liquid Biopesticides (Trichoderma Viridae, Pseudomonas, Fluorescens, Matarhizium, Beaviourie Bassiana, Pacelomyces, Verticillium) @ ₹ 500/acre x 50 of ₹ 25000 per cluster in second year.

The detailed component-wise pattern of assistance is given in the Statement-IA (*See* below).

C. **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER):** Under this Scheme, the assistance is provided for cluster development,

on/off farm input production, supply of seeds/planting materials, setting up of functional infrastructure, establishment of integrated processing unit, refrigerated transportation, pre-cooling/cold stores chamber, branding labeling and packaging, hiring of space, hand holdings, organic certification through third party, mobilization of farmers/ processors etc. Under this scheme, an area of 0.50 lakh ha will be covered under organic farming in North Eastern Region of the country during next three years The detailed component-wise pattern of assistance is at Statement-IB (*See* below).

D. **National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP):** Financial assistance@ 50% subsidy to the tune of ₹ 300/- per ha is being provided for different components including bio-fertilisers, Supply of Rhizobium Culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/Zinc Solubilising Bacteria (ZSB)/Azatobacter/Mycorrhiza and Vermi compost.

E. **National Food Security Mission (NFSM):** Under NFSM, financial assistance is provided for promotion of Bio-Fertilizer (Rhizobium/PSB) @50% of the cost limited to ₹ 300 per ha.

F. **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):** Organic Farming project components are considered by the respective State Level Sanctioning committee according to their priority choice

G. **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR):** The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), is implementing programmes under Network project on "Soil Biodiversity-Biofertiliser" and developed improved and efficient strains of biofertiliser specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid Biofertiliser technology with higher shelf life has also been developed. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) to educate farmers on all these aspects.

Statement-IA

PKVY Guidelines

Name of Component	Assistance
A. Cluster Approach	
Cluster formation	One cluster 50 acres (20 ha) contiguous area. Assistance eligibility to farmer maximum one ha @ ₹ 20,000/- acre (₹ 50,000/- per ha) Total ₹ 10.00 lakhs for three years. ₹ 4.95 lakh for mobilization and PGS certification. Total ₹ 14.95 lakh per cluster.

Name of Component	Assistance
Meetings and discussions of farmers	@ ₹ 200/- per farmer (₹ 10,000/- for 3 years).
Exposure visit for farmer	@ ₹ 200/- per farmer (₹ 10,000/- for 3 years).
Training of cluster member (3 Trainings)	@ ₹ 20,000/- per training (Total ₹ 60,000 for one cluster for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 80,000/-
B. PGS certification and quality control	
Training on PGS certification (2 days)	@ ₹ 200/- per Lead Resourceful Person (LRP) Total ₹ 400/- for 3 years.
Training of Trainers (LRP) (3 days)	@ ₹ 250/- day (Total ₹ 750/- for 3 years).
Online Registration of farmer	@ ₹ 100/- per member (Total ₹ 10,000/- for 2 years).
Soil Sample Collection and testing (21 samples/year/cluster)	@ ₹ 190/- per sample (Total = 21X190 = ₹ 3990/- per year). (Total ₹ 11970/- for 3 years).
Process documentation– inputs used, organic manures and fertilizer used etc. for PGS certification	@ ₹ 100/- per member (Total ₹ 5000/- per year) (Total ₹ 15000/- for 3 years).
Inspection of cluster member fields (3 inspections)	@ ₹ 400/- per inspection (Total ₹ 1200/- per year and ₹ 3600/- for 3 years).
Residue analysis of samples in NABL (8 Samples/year/ cluster)	@ ₹ 10,000/- per sample (Total ₹ 80,000/- per year). (Total ₹ 160,000/- for 2 years).
Certification charges	@ ₹ 2000/- for 3 years.
Administrative expenses for certification	@ ₹ 59950/- (Salary and maintenance)- for 3 years.
TOTAL	₹ 2,63,670/-
C. Adoption of organic village	
Conversion of land to organic	@ ₹ 1000/-per acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- per year) (Total ₹ 1,50,000/- for 3 years)
Organic seed/nursery raising, procurement	@ ₹ 500/- per acre/ (Total ₹ 25000/- per year (Total ₹ 75000/- for 3 years).

Name of Component	Assistance
Production Units *i.e.* Pachagavya/Beejamruth/ Jeevamruth etc.	@ ₹ 1500/ - per unit/acre (Total ₹ 75000/- for one cluster for 3 years).
Green Manuring/Biological Nitrogen Harvest Planting	@ ₹ 2000/- per acre (Total ₹ 1.00 lakh for 3 years).
Botanical extracts production units	@ ₹ 1000/- per unit/acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 4,50,000/-
D. Integrated Manure Management	
Liquid Bio-fertilizers	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000)- for one cluster for 3 years.
Liquid Bi-pesticides	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000/- for one cluster for 3 years.)
Natural Pest control mechanism	@ ₹ 500/- per acre (Total ₹ 25000/- for one cluster for 3 years.)
Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM)	@ ₹ 1000/- per acre (Total ₹ 50,000/- for one cluster for 3 years.)
Vermi-compost (Size 7'X3X1')	@ ₹ 5000/- per unit, 50 unit for one cluster (Total ₹ 2,50,000/- for one cluster for 3 years).
TOTAL	₹ 3,75,000/-
E. Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) Charges	
Agriculture implements	@ ₹ 15,000/- per year (Total ₹ 45,000/- for 3 years)
Walk in tunnels for Horticulture crops	As per MIDH Guidelines.
Cattle shed/Poultry/Piggery for animal compost	As per Gokhul guidelines.
TOTAL	₹ 45000/-
F. Packing, Labeling and Branding	
Packing material with PGS Logo+Hologram	@ ₹ 2500/- per acre (Total ₹ 1,25,000/- for 3 years).
Transportation of organic products (four Wheeler 1.5 Ton Capacity)	@ ₹ 1,20,000/- total for one cluster.

Name of Component	Assistance
Organic Fairs	@ ₹ 36330/- per cluster total for 3 years.
TOTAL	₹ 281,330/-
GRAND TOTAL	₹ 14,95,000/-

Statement-IB

MOVCDNER guidelines

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
A. Value chain Production		
A1. Development of Organic Production Clusters		
A.1.1.	Clusters development and formation of Farmer producer Companies, as per SFAC norms. For 100 FPCs each comprising of 500 farmers @ ₹ 20.375 lakh/FPC	4075/- per farmer.
A.1.2	Assistance for on-farm input production infrastructure (@ ₹ 3750/ha) and off-farm inputs (@ ₹ 3750/ha)	7500/ ha x2 =15000/ha
A.1.3	Assistance for quality seed and planting material (50% of maximum ₹ 35000/ha limited to the actual cost as per crop)	17500 per ha
A.2 Support for extension services, input facilitation, training handholding and certification		
A.2.1	Assistance for setting up of input delivery, distribution and argil-machinery custom hiring centre through State lead agencies	10 lakh/ FPO
A.2.2 Support and extension services for training, handholding and certification at production stage		
A.2.2.1	Training, hand holding, documentation and certification of crop production through service providers (As per MIDH)	10,000/- per ha
B. Value Chain processing (For FPC and private entrepreneur through Bank credit linked)		
B1. Value Chain Post harvest-Setting up of collection, aggregation, grading facilities		
B.1.1	Setting up of functional infrastructure for collection, aggregation and grading units @ ₹ 15 lakh (75% subsidy)	11.25 lakh (175 No. total)
B2. Setting up of value addition and processing units including packaging, storage and transportation		

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
B.2.1	Financial assistance for setting up of integrated processing units With TFO of ₹ 800 lakh or more limited to 75% to FPCs and 50% to private as credit linked back ended subsidy	600.00 lakh/ unit (10 No. total)
B.3 Value chain packaging, storage and transportation		
B.3.1	Integrated pack house 75% subsidy to FPCs on TFO of ₹ 50 lakh or more and 50% to private limited to ₹ 37.50 lakh	37.50 lakh/unit (20 No. total)
B.3.2	Transportation/4 wheeler up to TFO of ₹ 12 lakh (50%)	6.00 lakh/ FPC. (25 No. total)
B.3.3.1	Refrigerated transport vehicle up to TFO of ₹ 25 lakh (75% subsidy to FPC and 50% to private)	18.75 lakh/unit (16 No. total)
B.3.3.2	Pre-cooling/cold stores/ripening chambers. FPOs	18.75 lakh/unit (16 No. total)
C. Value chain Marketing–Branding, labelling, certification, quality control, retail outlets, awareness and publicity through lead agencies		
C.1	Branding, labelling, packaging, publicity and certification of processing units etc.	₹ 1100 lakh L.S. total
C.2	Seminars/conferences, workshops, Buyer-seller meets, Auction meetings, festivals.	₹ 400 lakh L.S. total
C.3	Consumer awareness Information dissemination through publicity, printed literature films and local advertisements	₹ 400 lakh L.S. total
C.4	Hiring of space in prime markets	₹ 600 lakh L.S. total
D. **Value Chain Support Agencies**		
D1.	**Setting up of Lead agency/Organic Commodity Board/ Organic Mission for scheme implementation and market facilitation. To be set up at State level**	
D.1.1	Staff, Manpower, Travel and contingencies, Institutional strengthening and hire/purchase of machinery and equipments	5% of total Scheme budget
D.1.2	Setting up of organic certification bodies. One time assistance will be provided for hiring consultants for preparation of operating manuals, training and exposure of manpower and facilitating institutional set up. Cost of manpower to be borne by the State.	₹ 500 lakh L.S. total

Statement-II

Varieties identified for promotion of organic farming in different crops and States

State	Kharif		Rabi	
	Crop	Variety	Crop	Variety
Himachal Pradesh	Okra	P-8	Pea	Pb-89
	Tomato Tomato (Summer)	Roma Red gold	Cauliflower	PSBK-1
Chhattisgarh	Rice	Badshahbhog	-	-
Jharkhand	Rice	Birsa vikas dhan 203	Wheat	Raj 4250
Karnataka	Soyabean	DSB-16	Wheat	DWR 162
	Groundnut	TGLPS 3	Chickpea	JAKI 9218
	Cotton	GHAM 34	-	-
Kerala	Turmeric	Sudarshana	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	Soyabean	RVS-2002-4	Wheat	GW-366
	Maize	Arawali	Chickpea	JG-130
	Rice	Madhuri	Wheat	HW 2004
Maharashtra	Rice	Jaya	-	-
	Groundnut	JL-776	-	-
Meghalaya	Maize	DA 61 A	French bean	Naga local
Punjab	Rice	Pusa Basmati 1121	Wheat	PBW 621
Tamil Nadu	Rice	CB05022	-	
Uttar Pradesh	Maize	Seed tech-2324	Mustard	NRCHB-506
Uttarakhand	Rice coarse	PD-19	Wheat	V6-UP-2843
	Basmati rice	Pusa Basmati 1121	-	-

Productivity of coconut, chilli, oilpalm and papaya in Andhra Pradesh

2152. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government is aware that productivity of coconut, chilli, oilpalm and papaya is highest in Andhra Pradesh compared to other States;

(b) if so, the special incentives Government is going to extend to Andhra Pradesh to improve its productivity of above crops as also for other crops like mango, banana, tomato, onion, etc., where the State has got a strong base;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start Horticulture Mission in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Andhra Pradesh has highest productivity in oilpalm and in case of other crops *i.e.* coconut, chilli and papaya it does not have the highest productivity as may be seen from the productivity table which in given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b)
- National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm Programme (NMOOP) is one of the programs aimed to bring more area under Oilpalm and also to improve the productivity and production in Andhra Pradesh.
- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) are some of the other Centrally Assisted State Plan Schemes (CASS) being implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh for overall development of all the Horticulture crops like mango, banana, tomato, onion etc.

(c) Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing Horticulture Mission at field level through Centrally Assisted State Plan Schemes (CASS)

(d) For holistic development of Horticulture sector in the State, National Horticulture Mission was launched on November, 2004 by the Government of India and now the programme is being implemented under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture. The allocations made under MIDH for the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 are as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	Allocation in crores	Central Share in crores	State Share in crores
1.	2015-16	90.50	54.30	36.20
2.	2016-17	106.72	64.03	42.69

Statement

State-wise Productivity

Productivity in MT/Ha

Sl. No.	Coconut		Chillies		Papaya		Oil Palm	
	State/UT	2014-15	State/UT	2014-15	State/UT	2014-15	State/UT	2014-15
1.	Lakshadweep	18.99	Telangana	17.58	Tamil Nadu	235.95	Andhra Pradesh	1.18
2.	Telangana	10.34	Andhra Pradesh	17.33	Telangana	80.26	Kerala	1.13
3.	Chhattisgarh	11.24	Karnataka	14.09	Andhra Pradesh	78.75	Telangana	0.62
4.	Tamil Nadu	10.24	Jharkhand	13.48	Maharashtra	70.98	Goa	0.42
5.	Karnataka	6.87	Himachal Pradesh	12.19	Karnataka	69.84	Karnataka	0.05
6.	Andhra Pradesh	9.50	Puducherry	11	Gujarat	61.20	Tamil Nadu	0.03
7.	West Bengal	8.71	Maharashtra	10.37	Madhya Pradesh	32.92	Odisha	0.03
	Others	63.70	Others	58.06	Others	215.37	Others	0.03
	All India	7.12	All India	11.01	All India	42.73	All India	0.66

Doubling the income of farmers

2153. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons that Government is not clarifying whether it proposes to double the present income of farmers by 2022 or provide support price double of the cost of production in 2022 to farmers;

(b) whether the committee, constituted under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, for doubling the income of farmers, has submitted its report, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and by when it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government aims to double the farmers' income by 2022.

(b) and (c) An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare on 13th April, 2016. As of now, the Committee held three meetings.

Establishment of offices under Ministry of Agriculture in Amaravati

2154. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has initiated setting up of its offices/departments in Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether procurement of land and infrastructure are needed for this purpose from the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether any requests have been made to the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Central Public Works Department (CPWD) under the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) has requested this Ministry to furnish its requirement for office space in Amaravati.

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

2155. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) the details of the insurance companies which have been allowed under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana;

(b) whether private companies have been allowed under the said scheme and public sector insurance companies, which have wide reach, have not been allowed, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons and rationale for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Total 16 insurance companies including all concerned Public Sector Insurance Companies and 11 Private Sector General Insurance Companies have been empanelled for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Names of these companies are given below:

Public Sector Insurance Companies

1. Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd.
2. Oriental Insurance Company Ltd.
3. National Insurance Company Ltd.
4. United India Insurance Company Ltd.
5. New India Assurance Company Ltd.

Private Sector General Insurance Companies

1. IFFCO-Tokio General Insurance Company Ltd.,
2. ICICI-Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.,
3. HDFC-ERGO General Insurance Company Ltd.,
4. Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Ltd.,
5. Tata-AIG General Insurance Company Ltd.
6. Future Generalli General Insurance Company Ltd.
7. Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd.
8. Bajaj-Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd.
9. SBI General Insurance Company Ltd.
10. Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Ltd.
11. Shriram General Insurance Company Ltd.

Amount of compensation paid to farmers by insurance companies

†2156. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of premium paid to insurance companies by Central and State Governments and farmers under Agriculture Insurance Scheme in last two years and the amount of compensation paid to farmers by insurance companies, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of farmers insured under new Agriculture Insurance Policy and the amount paid to insurance companies by farmers, Central and State Governments, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Details of total insurance premium received by insurance companies and farmers', Central and State Government shares alongwith total claims paid under various crop insurance schemes during 2013-14 and 2015-16 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Details of farmers insured and amount to be paid to insurance companies by farmers, Central and State Governments under new Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for current Kharif 2016 season are not available as the season is in progress.

Statement

Details of premium collected and claims paid during 2013-14 and 2015-16 under Crop Insurance Schemes

(₹ in lakhs)

Season	Total Premium	Farmer share premium	GoI Share in Premium	State Share in Premium	Total Claims
Kharif 2013	309843.13	153552.29	72574.81	83716.03	531816.75
Rabi 2013-14	165573.40	10791.10	30593.70	42514.60	240469.93
Kharif 2014	333821.93	182230.72	73392.18	78199.03	481440.30
Rabi 2014-15	161177.96	88741.40	28896.22	43540.34	296196.14
Kharif 2015*	360645	229956	60203	70487	1508295
Rabi 2015-16*	200758	110071	36617	54070	64396

* Provisional and Claims yet to be reported from some States and companies.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Assessment of cotton crop loss

2157. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the methodology used for assessing the cotton crop loss/damage in Punjab and other States;

(b) whether appointment of the assessing individuals or agencies is undertaken by the Central or State Government in Punjab and other States; and

(c) the time-period over which the assessment was conducted in Punjab and whether the Ministry received periodic review reports during the assessment period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) As per information received from Government of Punjab, the methodology used for assessing the cotton crop loss/damaged is conducted by Revenue Official at the level of District Administration by Patwari be verified cent per cent by the Kanungo/ Circle Revenue Officers, 50% by the Sub-Divisional Officers (C) and random check be undertaken by the Deputy Commissioner. The crop loss is conducted at the level of Government.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India also monitors the appearances of pest and diseases on cotton crop through surveillance mechanism available with the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (DPPQS), Field reports of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Department of Agriculture etc. in the States including Punjab during the crop season. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare sends its team of experts to the affected area of the States time to time including officials of Central and State Government and ICAR for preliminary reports.

In Maharashtra Crop Pest Surveillance and Advisory Project (CROP SAP) is being implemented in the State since 2009-10. The Project is mainly based on three major components *viz*. carryout regular and scientific surveillance of major pests of cotton give scientific plant protection advisories to farmers based on online pest surveillance reports and to create awareness about crop pest/disease and supply of chemical and biological pesticides in critical situations on 50% subsidy. All sown area of cotton crop in Kharif season is covered under the project. Various crop research institutes are involved *viz*. National Integrated Pest Management Centre (NCIPM), New Delhi; Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur, Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad; National Institute for Plant

Health Management, Hyderabad and State Agriculture Universities (SAUs). While, State Agriculture Department is implementing nodal agency. The project envisages regular scientific pest surveillance, on-line data feeding, data analysis and its on-line accessibility to experts for interpretation and issuance of on-line real time based location specific advisories. The advisory SMS are sent on-line to registered farmers and detail advisories are published at Gram Panchayat notice boards and in local media for mass awareness. Wherever the pest population crosses Economic Threshold Level (ETL) subsidized pesticides are supplied on priority through different programmes. Massive State wide campaign was organized and implemented in the state for cotton crops.

Other cotton growing States like Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Haryana have also informed to conduct assessment of crop losses through Government, extension officials, scientists and Relief Commissioners etc.

(c) In Punjab, the assessment is conducted for the Kharif Crop 16th September to 15th October and Rabi Crop-1st March every year. If there is a loss due to natural calamities then Special harvest inspection to be carried out after a period of ten days of the date of occurrence of the natural calamity. This Special Girdawari, if so ordered, may be completed within a week.

Compensation for cotton crop loss

2158. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the amount of compensation paid by Government of Punjab for cotton crop loss due to whitefly attack, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total area, in lakh hectares, under which cotton crop was cultivated during the year 2015-16 and the area in which the crop was damaged; and

(c) the total area, in lakh hectares, of cotton crop cultivation for which the compensation was awarded by the Revenue Department of the Government of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) As per the information received from the Punjab Government, an area of 3.39 lakh hectare was cultivated under the cotton crop during 2015-16. Approximately, all the cultivated area was affected. Further, they have informed that a compensation of ₹ 669 crore has been released for the loss of cotton crop.

De-listing of fruits and vegetables from States' APMC Act, 1963

2159. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Maharashtra has recently delisted fruits and vegetables from State's Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act, 1963 despite stiff opposition and strike by APMC, to protect the interests of farmers of the State;

(b) whether Government proposes to issue advisory to all States to follow the example of Maharashtra to protect the farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to encourage emergence of alternative marketing channels, reduce food supply chain and thereby moderate the price rise, Central Government has already issued advisories to the States that marketing of fruits and vegetables be deregulated outside the market yards while continuing regulation when traded inside the market yards, providing additional choice to the farmers to sell their produce in the mandis also.

Performance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

2160. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements of the Ministry in the last two years;

(b) whether presentation has been made before the Prime Minister about Ministry's last two years' achievements, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has fallen short of its targets and where it has excelled;

(d) the targets set for the coming three years and the road-map to achieve the same;

(e) the details of difficulties brought before the Prime Minister and suggestions made to overcome them; and

(f) the details of core areas the Ministry is going to focus on in the coming three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND

FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The details of the major achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) in last two years is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (f) The Prime Minister's office from time to time, does monitor the progress of this Ministry for imparting guidance. There has been no shortfall in the achievements of this Ministry.

The Government considers agriculture and allied sectors as crucial to the welfare of the nation. With this in view, in the coming years, the focus of the Government will be on reducing input cost, ensuring remunerative returns to farmers and facilitating access to enhance credit as also to provide adequate compensation for crop loss.

Some of the core areas the Ministry is going to focus in coming three years are generation of Soil Health Cards under the Soil Health Card Scheme, promotion of organic farming under the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, enhancing water use efficiency under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers through e-auction based National Agriculture Market and providing adequate compensation for crop loss to the farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and other Schemes of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF) and Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE).

The Government is committed to double the income of farmers in next six years. Towards this direction, an Inter-Ministerial Committee, has been constituted in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) with a mandate to study and recommend a road map for doubling the income of the farmers by March, 2022.

Statement-I

Details of major achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in last 2 years

A. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare

1. **Soil Health Management and Soil Health Card**

- ₹ 453.85 crore released to the States in last 2 years, which is 12 times of ₹ 36.23 crore released during 2012-13 and 2013-14.

2. **Soil Testing Labs**

- 180 Soil Testing Laboratories sanctioned during 2014-16.
- Employment potential for 30,000 samplers, 10,000 technicians created.

- Training Modules developed for Soil Samplers, Lab Assistant and Lab Analyst by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI).

3. **Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for Organic Farming**
   - Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, a comprehensive Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched to promote organic farming .This is being implemented on a cluster basis on 20 hectare each.
   - Against the target of 3330 clusters, 7186 clusters already have been sanctioned during 2015-16 under PKVY.
4. **Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region**
   - New Central sector Scheme Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region launched in January, 2016
   - ₹ 112 crore released to 8 North East States during 2015-16.
5. **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**
   - A Budget allocation of ₹ 2340 crore has been allocated for micro irrigation under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare which is about 51% more than the budget of ₹ 1550 crore in 2015-16.
6. **National Resource Management and Rainfed Farming**
   - Present Government is promoting micro irrigation in the country through more financial allocation with increase in area covered.
7. **Natural Calamities**
   - Significance jump in assistance under NDRF for Drought and Hailstorm.
   - ₹ 23121.55 crore released in 2014-15 and 2015-16 as against ₹ 12,516 crore released in previous 4 years, which is approximately double.
8. **Change in Disaster Relief Norms**
   - Norms for assistance for all categories increased by 1.5 times.
   - The threshold for eligibility for assistance due for crop loss lowerd to 33% from the earlier 50%.
   - Full MSP Payment to farmers without any deduction for procurement of defective food grains.
   - The admissibility for assistance has been raised from 1 ha to 2 ha in all cases.
   - The financial assistance paid to the farmers in the event of death increased to ₹ 4 lakh from ₹ 1.5 Lakh.

9. **Central Support under Crop Insurance Scheme**

- The total budgetary allocation has been increased from ₹ 4101 crores (2012-14) to 5580.82 crores (2014-16).

10. **Launch of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation from Kharif 2016 throughout the country after eliminating the deficiency of earlier crop Insurance Schemes to ensure adequate compensation for crop losses, lowest premium and early settlement of claims to the farmers.

11. **National Agricultural Mandi (NAM)**

- National Agriculture Market (NAM) was launched on 1st July, 2015 with an initial allocation of ₹ 200 crore, so that 585 wholesale APMC Mandis across the country through common e-platform.
- On 14 April, 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the pilot of e-NAM, the e-trading platform for the National Agriculture Market for the farmers. It was launched on 125th birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar

12. **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)**

- During recent two years more emphasis on protected cultivation, setting up nurseries and market Infrastructures with significant growth in all items in 2 years.

13. **Agroforestry**

- National Agroforestry Policy formulated to augment farmer's income and achieve climate resilience.
- A dedicated Scheme "National Project on Agro Forestry" to be launched with aim "HAR MEDH PAR PED".
- Budget allocation for Central share of ₹ 75 crore.

14. **Agricultural Mechanization**

- 13.59 lakh farm machineries distributed to farmers on subsidy during 2014-16.
- Allocation of funds increased by approximate 300% in 2014-16.
- More number of trainees trained at FMTTIS and State Agriculture Department under SMAM during 2014-16.
- 3033 Machinery tested at FMTTIs and Test Centres during 2014-16.

15. **Funds released to States/UT (₹ Lakhs) NeGP-A**

- ₹ 5556.27 lakh released during last 2 years to promote use of ICT for increasing farmer's access to information.
- ₹ 278.11 lakh funds released under Agrisnet during last 2 years for propagating use of ICT means for increasing farmer's access to information.

16. **Use of IT in Agriculture**

- First time Present Government launched mobile apps like Crop Insurance, Agri Market Mobile App, Kisan Suvidha and Pusa Apps to help farmers.
- Kisan Suvidha Krishi and Pusa Apps launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Agriculture Minister during Kisan Unnati Mela in March, 2016.
- These mobile Apps are used by farmers for getting information on new technology developed by Pusa, weather, crop insurance and market price etc.
- Tremendous growth (500%) in number of crop and weather advisories sent to the farmers.
- When compared to the 71.06 lakh calls answered by Kisan Call Centres (KCC) during 2012-14, the number of calls answered during 2014-16 increased to 104.76 lakh.

17. **Plant Protection**

- Sharp increase of 63% in pesticide export registration in two years of present Government in comparison to previous two years (1475 to 2412).
- The number of pesticide registration have increased about three and half times on account of better monitoring and use of technology. (15830 to 54041).

18. **National Food Security Mission (NFSM)**

- Apart from Rice, Wheat and Pulses, now Coarse Cereals, Sugarcane, Jute and Cotton have been added under NFSM.
- All States have been covered under NFSM now.
- More districts now covered under NFSM than ever before.

19. **Steps to increase production of Pulses**

- Pulses crop being encouraged in rice fallow areas under 'Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India' scheme.
- Summer moong cultivation being promoted.

- Pigeon peaon on rice bunds being encouraged.
- Crop Demonstrations through more than 500 KVKs.
- 150 Seed hubs in Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
- Enhanced breeder seed production.
- Distribution of Seed Minikits.
- Bio-fertilizer and bio-agent units in State Agricultural Universities.
- Substantial increase in MSP of pulses.
- Subsidy on seed production.

20. **National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)**

- Total 24 States have been covered under NMOOP Programme.
- 3 More States has been covered under Oil Palm Programme since 2014.

21. **National Bee Board (NBB)**

- Budget for Bee-keeping has more than doubled in 2 years of present Government as compared to previous Government. (3.17 crore to 7.15 crore).
- 16.75% increase in Honey production during the year-2015-16 over the year 2013-14.
- Additional income accruing to both Honey Beekeepers as well as Farmers'.

22. **Joint Liability Groups (JLG)**

- Against 6.7 lakh groups formed from 2007-14 (7 years) with loan amount of ₹ 6630 crores 10.49 lakh groups were formed between 2014-16 (2 years) with loan amount of ₹ 10225 crore.

23. **Agriculture Credit**

- Credit flow in Agriculture has increased from ₹ 5,75,000 crores in 2012-13 to ₹ 900000 crores in 2016-17 (Target).

24. **Kisan Credit Card**

- Total active KCCs has increased from 6.45 crores in 2012-13 to 7.43 crores in 2015-16.

25. **National Cooperative Development Corporation**

- Record 24% growth in fund disbursed to Cooperative Sector.
- An all time high release of ₹ 7113.43 crore in 2015-16 signifying a growth of 24% compared to previous year.

26. **National Seed Corporation (NSC)**

- Turnover of seed increased by 20% inspite of severe drought.
- 16% increase in seed sample tested internally. (41000 to 47674 from 2012-14 to 2014-16).
- 130 % increase in scientific storage facilities (from 73600 qtls. 2012-14 169000 qtls. 2015-16).
- To increase the seed production, uncultivated area was brought under cultivation.

27. **National level Krishi Unnanti Mela in Delhi**

- For the first time in country, a National Agriculture Fair "Krishi Unnanti Mela" was organized at IARI, PUSA, New Delhi from 19-21 March.

B. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF)

1. **Dairy Development**

- First time in the country–Focus on Development and Conservation of Indigenous Bovine Breeds Under Rashtriya Gokul Mission, 14 Gokul Gram are being established.
- Focus on Development and Conservation of Indigenous Breeds in a scientific and holistic manner with manifold increase in budget allocation. Budget allocation 13 times more during last two years compared to 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- Two new National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre (one in North India-Madhya Pradesh and one in the South India-Andhra Pradesh) are being set up for which an amount of ₹ 50 crore has been released (₹ 25 crore to Madhya Pradesh and ₹ 25 crore to Andhra Pradesh).

Following Schemes has been proposed with an allocation of ₹ 850.00 over a period of next few years from 2016-17.

- **Pashudhun Sanjivni:** an animal wellness programme encompassing:
- (i) Animal health cards (Nakul Swasthya Patra); (ii) Unique Identification number and (iii) National data base.
- **Advanced Breeding Technology:** including assisted reproductive technique improving availability of disease free female bovines.
- **Creation of E-Pashudhan Haat:** an e-market portal for bovine germplasm for connecting breeders and farmers of indigenous bovine breeds.

- **National Genomic Centre:** National Genomic Centre would be established to enhance milk production and productivity of indigenous breeds through rapids genetic upgradation.

2. **National Live Stock Insurance Scheme**
   - First time all the districts and animals covered under Livestock Insurance Scheme.
   - The scope and coverage of Livestock Insurance has been increased from 300 districts to all districts and from only 2 milch animals to 5 milch animals/other animals or 50 small animals.
3. **Foot and Mouth Disease**
   - FMD outbreaks recorded were 377 during the year 2013 while during the year 2015, outbreaks dropped to mere 109 which is considered to be an impressive achievement.
4. **Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Outbreaks**
   - In comparison to the year 2013, HS outbreaks have been reduced significantly during the year 2014 and further reduced to 89 during the year 2015.
5. **Veterinary College increase**
   - B.V.Sc. and AH qualification of 10 more Veterinary Colleges has been recognized and Nos. of colleges included in First Schedule of IVC Act, 1984 have increased to 46 from 36.
   - In order to meet the shortage of trained veterinary manpower, intake of students in various Veterinary Colleges was enhanced from 60 to 100 seats. Total number of seats has been increased to 1,334 from 914 in 17 Veterinary Colleges.
   - Consequent upon inclusion of 10 more colleges in the First Schedule of IVC Act, 1984, the B.V.Sc. qualification of 3,398 pass-out students from these colleges have been recognized.
6. **Initiatives under "Ease of Doing Business"**
   - Implementation of Single Window System for on-line clearance of livestock and livestock products by all six Animal Quarantine and Certification Services Stations at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru.
   - Launch of Sanitary Import Permit (SIP) website for online receipt and processing of SIP applications for import of livestock products on 27.04.2016.

7. **Fishery Blue Revolution**

- The Fish Production increased to 209.59 lakh tonnes during 2014-15 and 2015-16 which was 186.12 lakh tonnes during 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- **Under Blue Revolution:** Integrated Development Management of Fisheries-Saving-cum-Relief amount provided to fishermen during fishing lean/ban in period of 3 months was increased:
- 2013-14: ₹ 600 per month
- 2014-15: ₹ 900 per month
- 2015-16: ₹ 1500 per month
- Annual Insurance premium for fisher folk brought down to ₹ 20.27 from ₹ 29.00.
- Insurance cover increased to ₹ 2.00 lakh from 1.00 lakh for accidental death and permanent disability.

C. Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

1. **Agri Colleges and Universities Established**

- 4 new collages in Bundelkhand under Rani Laxmibai Central Agriculture University being established.
- 4 new collages proposed under Rajendra Central Agricultural University, Bihar.
- 6 new collages under Central Agricultural University, Imphal.
- Establishment of 2 more new universities in process; one on Agriculture in Rajasthan and another on Horticulture in Haryana.
- Converted RAU, Bihar to Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (11.05.2016).

2. **Admission in State Agricultural Universities through ICAR (UG&PG)**

- The number of students was increased at UG and PG level to encourage higher education in agriculture.
- 17% rise in admission of students in State Agricultural Universities through ICAR, compared to 2013.
- Total, 1,69,014 students in agricultural stream across the country.

3. **Experiential Learning Units at Agricultural Universities**

- 416 Experiential Learning units in 2014-16 to provide earn-while-learn opportunity to students in agricultural universities.

- Number increased by 58% compared to 2007-13 (416 in 2014-16 as compared to 264 in 2007-13).

4. **Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav**

- ICAR Institutes and Agricultural Universities have adopted more than 10,000 villages. Teams of scientists are providing advisory and inputs to farmers on agriculture and allied enterprises.

5. **Farmer First**

- From about 100 institutes and Agricultural Universities scientists have interface with 50,000 farm families during 2015-16 and by 2016-17 about 1 lakh farm families would be covered.

6. **Pulses Demonstration**

- To meet the growing demand of pulses, large number of Frontline Demonstrations have been initiated involving 475 KVKs on major pulses. More than 60,000 demonstrations covering 22,000 ha of land were conducted during 2015-16.

7. **Oilseeds Demonstrations**

- To meet the growing demand of oilseeds, large number of frontline Demonstrations have been initiated on 300 KVKs. More than 28,000 demonstrations covering 11,000 ha of land were conducted during 2015-16. In 2016-17, 4000 youth will be involved in this scheme.

8. **Pulses Seed Hub**

- Pulses Seed Hub will be established with involvement of ICAR institutes, Agricultural Universities and KVKs in participatory mode.
- Pulses hubs will provide basic quality seeds to neighbouring farmers.
- Each hub will produce 1000 Qunitals of pulses seeds.
- Initially 100 Pulses seed hubs will be established during 2016-17 and it will be enhanced to 150 during 2017-18.

9. **Awareness Campaign on Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**

- Organized Kisaan Sammelan and Exhibitions in 444 KVKs.
- Farmers across the country, Public representatives including 34 Central Ministries, 262 MPs and 23 Ministers and 168 MLAs from different States participated

10. **Soil and Water Testing Labs**

- Existing Soil and Water Testing Labs in 384 KVKs were activated.

- 400 mobile soil testing machines were provided to KVKs to support Soil Health Card Scheme

11. **Soil Health Awareness Campaign**
    - On World Soil Day 604 KVKs organized farmers-scientist's interactions with participation of public representatives. Soil Health Card distributed to 2.5 lakh farmers.
    - To make KVKs more efficient and effective, the Zonal Project Directorate were developed into Agricultural Technology Application and Research Institute (ATARI).
    - The number was increased from 8 to 11.
12. **New Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)**
    - Number of KVKs is being increased to propagate the new technologies to the farm gate.
    - Two KVKs each are planned for large/hill districts.
13. **New District Contingency Plans**
    - To mitigate the effect of natural calamities like drought, flood, fog, stroms etc. new Contingency Plans were developed at district level, in 2014-15, 521 district, in 2015, 600 district and in 2016, 614 district have been covered.
    - Crop advisories for 91 drought prone districts of different State developed.
14. **International Collaboration:** In order to lead science and technology application in agricultural development, MoU and Work Plans are signed between ICAR with other Institutions abroad.
15. **Agri-entrepreneurs Incubated**
    - As a new initiatives farmers and youth were exposed to NRM Technologies and Products for encouraging entrepreneurship through business incubator.
    - With growing challenges in Soil Health, Water Crises and Climate Change Impacts, concerted efforts were taken in close association with State Government Departments and other Stakeholders through 253 interface meetings.
16. **Pine Oleoresin Coated Slow Release Urea**
    - Pine oleoresin coated of urea developed to Reduces loss of nitrogen and increase nitrogen use efficiency by 20%.

17. **Low Cost Portable Biochar Kiln for on Farm Crop Residue Recycling**
    - Biochar produced from maize, castor, cotton, and pigeon pea stalk.
    - Total carbon ranges between 51-71%.
    - Application of biochar resulted in increase in yield of pigeon pea by 32%.
18. **Soil Test–kit-cum-Lab developed (Marida-Parishak)**
    - A handy and inexpensive electronic moisture indicating device "Soil Moisture Indicator" developed, which is better than 'tensiometer'.
    - The device can assess the soil moisture level at different spots in the field/potted plants.
    - Technology licensed for commercial production.
    - Helps in planning the irrigation schedule.
    - ICAR has developed flexi-check dam is an inflatable structure built across a stream for water conservation, flood control, sediment flushing and regulating flow on water. It can be occasionally deflated during flood/high runoff to flush out sediment.
    - 136 Farmers Fairs specially organized for demonstration of farm machines and implements.
    - India's first nano cellulose pilot plant established at CIRCOT, Mumbai.
19. **Animal Science**
    - 86 technologies relating to livestock health and management have been commercialized.
    - 856 farmers exposed to different production technologies in livestock, poultry and piggery through agri-business incubation centres.
    - 58000 Artificial Insemination conducted under farm and field conditions.
    - Artificial Insemination Technique standardized and demonstrated under field conditions in cattle, buffalo, pig, yak, sheep, mithun and equines.
20. **Success Stories in Buffalo cloning**

    Lalima: Female cloned buffalo calf produced from an elite murrah Buffalo.

    Rajat: A male calf cloned from frozen semen of a highly ranked progeny-tested Murrah buffalo bull (MU-4393).

    Deepasha: A female calf cloned from the endangered wild-buffalo found in Chhattisgarh State.
21. **New vaccines and diagnostics**
    - Equiherpabort vaccine for prevention of herpes virus-1 infection in horses developed.

- Lateral flow assay for diagnosis of brucellosis developed.
- ELISA kit for diagnosis of Theileria equi (a parasite) developed.
- New indigenous vaccine developed for control and prevention of sheep pox.

22. **New Cross-bred sheep** 'AVISHAAN' released through cross breeding.

23. Kamrupa, Narmadanidhi and Jharsim new and improved poultry variety developed.

- National Surveillance Programme on Aquatic Animal Diseases initiated in 15 States and one Union Territory covering 100 districts with involvement of 25 organisations.
- Fuel efficient, multipurpose fishing vessel developed – FV Sagara Harita build and launched as Green Fishing System.

24. A web based Pan India Model for forecasting potato late blight.

25. **INDO-BLIGHTCAST or JHULSACAST**- A web based forecasting model (*http://cpri.ernet.in*) developed to predict the first appearance of potatos late blight disease using daily weather data of meteorological stations.

26. **Increase in Recruitment of Scientists**

- In 2014-15 and 2015-16 recruitment of agricultural scientist was 81% in comparison to 66% of 2013-14 against vacant positions.
- Representation of women scientists increased in Agricultural Research Service.

27. **'riceXpert' for Rice related Queries**

- Developed a unique and useful IT-enabled handheld Mobile App 'riceXpert'.–to provide information to rice farmers in real time on insect, pests, nutrient, weeds, nematodes etc.
- The app has web-based application systems which facilitates flow of information from the farmer to the farm scientist and get their instant solution.

28. **Goat Production Management Software**

- Successfully developed software on Goat Production Information System, a unique E-genetic resource system capable of handling pedigree, performance including growth, milk, reproduction, health, breeding and other management utilities. Implementation of this system will enable the nation to store information on goats of the country for better management of genetic resources and providing help to the farmers as and when required.

Average income of agricultural household

2161. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average income of an agricultural household in the country and their monthly savings; and

(b) the extent to which Government has accomplished it's target of implementing the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission which provides that the Minimum Support Price of crops for farmers should be atleast 50 per cent higher than the cost of cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a "Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households" during NSS 70th round (January 2013–December 2013) in the rural areas of the country with respect to the agricultural year July 2012–June 2013. The survey estimated the average monthly income and average total consumption expenditure per agricultural household for the agricultural year July 2012 — June 2013 as ₹ 6426/- and ₹ 6223/- respectively.

(b) The National Commission on Farmers' had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation was not accepted by the Government as MSP is recommended by Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) on objective criteria considering variety of relevant factors. Hence prescribing an increase of at least 50% on cost may distort the market. A mechanical linkage between MSP and cost of production may be counter productive in some cases.

Acquisition of land in Myanmar and Mozambique for production of pulses

2162. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has acquired land in Myanmar and Mozambique for production of pulses on contract farming basis, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of import of pulses during the last two years and the details of buffer stock thereof at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) India has imported pulses of ₹ 17063 crore (45.8 lakh tonns in quantity) in the year 2014-15 and of ₹ 25619 crore (58.0 lakh tonns in quantity) in the year 2015-16 respectively. At the end of July 2016, the buffer stock of pulses was 69 thousand tonns.

Increasing the income of farmers

2163. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted the article captioned "A thought for Food," published in an English daily on 18 July, 2016;

(b) whether it is a fact that the major roadblocks for increasing income of farmers are the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act and the Essential Commodities Act;

(c) if so, what way Government will find solutions to allow farmers to sell directly to the buyers without intermediaries;

(d) whether interim action or steps have been proposed in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to help farmers get the full benefits of market demand for their crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Essential Commodities Act empowers the Central and State Governments to regulate trade, commerce, production, supply and distribution of essential commodities. The level of implementation depends on the orders issued by the Central and State Government. In order to increase farmers' income through removing the restrictive provisions and monopolistic approach of States' Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts, the Government has asked the States to reform their Acts. The reform agenda of the Government includes, *inter alia*, direct purchase of agricultural produce from farmers' at their farm gate, contract farming and setting up of farmer-consumer market, wherein farmer can sell their produce directly to the consumers without the involvement of intermediaries. Further, to integrate the farmers with buyers, the Government has launched National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016. Under e-NAM, farmers will be able to sell their well assayed produce on-line to the buyers of their choice.

(e) The e-NAM enables the farmers to have access with more number of markets and buyers, thus, benefiting them with existing competition and demand among the markets and buyers.

All India single market for farmers

2164. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural market segmentation prevents gains for farmers as it reduces competition, efficient resource allocation and high number of intermediaries between farmers and buyers;

(b) what have been identified presently as the major causes of agricultural market segmentation;

(c) how does Government propose to reduce the negatives of market segmentation in the short run;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to bring about an all-India single market for agriculture; and

(e) if so, the details of creating a single market for farmers across the country in 2016-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) The Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts of States divide the entire area of the respective State into numerous notified market areas and assign the responsibility of regulated marketing of agriculture produce in such areas to concerned APMCs. Thus, the market of agricultural produce has become highly fragmented, not only across the country but even at the level of the State itself, which restricts integration of the markets and also the development of required infrastructure for handling the produce.

(c) to (e) In order to reduce the negatives of market segmentation, the Government has launched a reform linked Central Sector Scheme National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016. Under the Scheme, a national level e-trading portal has been developed to link 585 regulated wholesale markets across the country by March, 2018. Further, the mandatory requirements by the States to undertake reforms in their marketing regulations in respect of (i) a single license to be valid across the State, (ii) single point levy of market fee and (iii) provision for electronic auction as a mode for price discovery, to join the e-NAM portal, will facilitate to create a single market for farmers across the State/Country.

Loss to farmers due to climate change

†2165. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crops have been damaged, the production and the income of farmers has decreased due to sudden change in climate;

(b) if so, the total loss incurred to farmers due to this reason during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether sudden change in climate has caused heavy rainfall, hailstorm, cyclone, less rainfall, drought etc.; and

(d) if so, the names of areas which are affected by such abnormal weather system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The production of crops has fluctuated due to various reasons including aberrant weather conditions, sown area and change in productivity. The production of foodgrains in the country during last three years is as under;

Year	Production (in Million Tonnes)
2013-14	265.04
2014-15	252.02
2015-16*	252.22

*Fourth Advance Estimates

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.

Agricultural Land has been affected due to low rainfall in the country during last year. Eleven States, *i.e.* Karnataka (both for Kharif and Rabi), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra (both for Kharif and Rabi), Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh (both for Kharif and Rabi), Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand (Rabi) submitted Memoranda reporting crop loss due to natural calamities like drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost. The details regarding State-wise cropped

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

area affected during 2015-16 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The State-wise assistance given from NDRF for national calamities *viz*. drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below). In the financial year 2016-17, so far no State has submitted Memorandum on account of natural calamities like drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/ frost. The loss of crops results in decrease income of farmers who suffered loss.

(c) and (d) As per the Ministry of Earth Sciences, analysis of past more than 100 years of data by the scientist of India Meteorological Department and other institutions has found significant changes in the rainfall pattern, extreme events etc. Both flood and drought are part of natural climate variability and occurrences flood or drought in individual years do not depend on climate change. However as an impact of climate change, it is being reported that the spatial variability, intensity and frequency of extreme events like heavy rainfall have increased.

Unseasonal/heavy rains accompanied with hailstorm, cyclone etc. has affected the following States enlisted below during the past couple of years.

State	Event
Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Odisha, Manipur, Meghalaya and Jharkhand	Flood due to Heavy rainfall
Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab	Rain accompanied with hailstorm
Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Heavy rain due to cyclone

Statement-I

State-wise details of cropped area damaged due to natural calamities during 2015-16

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Cropped Area damaged (in lakh ha.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Karnataka	Drought-K	28.88
		Drought-R	22.33
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought-K	25.60
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought-K	51.54
4.	Maharashtra	Drought-K	53.11
		Drought-K (supplementary)	39.98

1	2	3	4
		Drought-R	13.35
5.	Odisha	Drought-K	13.41
6.	Telangana	Drought-K	12.30
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought-K	15.08
		Drought-R	6.43
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought-K	5.38
9.	Jharkhand	Drought-K	5.31
10.	Rajasthan	Drought-K	39.79
11.	Uttarakhand	Drought-R	1.09

K: Kharif R: Rabi

Statement-II

Assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for Natural Calamities (Drought, hailstorm, pest attack and cold wave/frost) in the States

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Calamity	Central assistance approved by GoI (under N.D.R.F)
During 2013-14			
1.	Bihar	Drought	931.87
2.	Karnataka	Drought	226.57
		Hailstorm	82.77
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	254.54
		Hailstorm	40.06
4.	Maharashtra	Hailstorm	552.88
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Hailstorm	494.95
6.	Uttar Pradesh	Hailstorm	270.55

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount approved
1	2	3	4
During 2014-15			
1.	Haryana	Drought	168.87
		Hailstorm	369.09

1	2	3	4
2.	Karnataka	Drought	200.85
		Hailstorm	105.33
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	777.34
		Hailstorm	2801.59
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	1962.99
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	237.51
6.	Rajasthan	Hailstorm	1447.73
7.	Bihar	Hailstorm	791.42
8.	Telangana	Hailstorm	83.744
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Hailstorm	71.534
During 2015-16			
1.	Karnataka	Drought	1540.20
		Drought-R	723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought	1276.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	Drought	3049.36
		Drought (Supplementary)	#
		Drought-R	#
5.	Odisha	Drought	815.00
6.	Telangana	Drought	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought	1304.52
		Drought-R	#
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	Drought	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	Drought	1193.41
		Hailstorm	#
11.	Uttarakhand	Drought-R	#

#under process and finalization.
R-Rabi

Research and development in agriculture sector

2166. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of agricultural development in the country;

(b) whether the amount of investment on research and development in Agriculture sector is not adequate, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated for and spent on agricultural research in the country during the last three years and the current year, State and year-wise;

(d) whether Government has stressed on the need for more research in agriculture sector, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government proposes to increase the allocation of funds for research and development in agriculture, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Agriculture, with its allied sectors, is unquestionably the largest livelihood provider in India with more than half of its population still dependent on agriculture for livelihood. Currently, the agriculture sector contributes only about 13.7 per cent, to the national GDP (compared to 30% in 1990) India is predominantly a small farm agriculture. According to 2010-11 Agriculture Census, the total number of operational holdings was 138.35 million with average size of 1.15 ha. Of the total holdings, 85 per cent are in marginal and small farm categories of less than 2 ha. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has three main departments under its Umbrella which are responsible for all aspects of Agricultural Development in the country. While the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) and the Department of Animal Husbandry Dairy and Fisheries (DAHDF) are the development wings of the Ministry, primarily responsible for various developmental schemes, the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) coordinates and promotes agricultural research and education in the country. DARE provides the necessary Government linkages for the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the premier research organisation for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country.

With 102 ICAR research institutes, 11 Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARIs) and 73 Agricultural Universities spread across the country, National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) is the

largest national agricultural research and educational systems in the world. While the Agricultural Research Institutes and Agricultural Universities are primarily responsible for Developing Technologies and/or agricultural education, at the district level there is a vast network of 645 KVKs working under 11 ATARIs all over the country and working in sync with Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMA) also operational at district level, are responsible for testing, refining and disseminating the agricultural technologies for greater reach among the farming community and other stakeholders. With the combined efforts of these three wings of the Ministry, India has made remarkable headway in attaining and sustaining the food security and rural employment for holistic development. Indian Agriculture and Allied Activities have witnessed a green revolution, a white revolution, a yellow revolution and a blue revolution.

National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed and released a total 4057 high-yielding varieties/hybrids of various field crops for different agro-ecological regions of the country during 1969 till Dec. 2015. During the period, 2014 till April, 2016 alone, the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed/notified 307 high yielding varieties of field crops. A number of early maturing and thermo-tolerant crop varieties with higher nutrient and water use efficiency for newer niches and cropping systems have been developed and released for cultivation. Through the adoption of the improved varieties and the agro techniques, the productivity of foodgrains, rapeseed-mustard and cotton have registered increases of 2-4 folds since 1950-51. India has emerged as the second largest producer of wheat and rice and is amongst the top exporters of rice. Development and adoption of new varieties of oilseeds and complementary technologies significantly improved oilseeds production. India is first in the world to develop hybrid cultivars of grain pearl millet, pigeon pea, castor and safflower, and second to develop hybrid cultivars of rice and sorghum. Hybrid cotton is a landmark achievement in hybrid research. The improved varieties have played catalytic role in the adoption of improved technology package, such as fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation water. Incorporation of resistance to pests and tolerance to abiotic stresses in high yielding background have enabled insulation of crop plants against these stresses and thus provided stability in food production and food security. Development of short duration varieties of rice, sorghum, cotton, pigeon pea, chickpea, greengram, blackgram etc. has opened up awareness for multiple cropping systems and helped in enhancing cropping intensity.

Spectacular success has been achieved in introduction and improvement of new crops, such as soybean and sunflower. India is now the fifth largest producer of soybean in the world. Improved varieties of sugarcane, wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, groundnut, mustard etc. developed, under NARES have been used for commercial cultivation in

many other countries. Adoption of Integrated Pest Management modules has helped in lowering the quantum of pesticide requirements and promoting non-chemical eco-friendly approaches. Refined hybrid seed production technologies for various crops refined.

As a consequence of these efforts, during 2015-16, the country produced 252.23 MT of food grains (235.17 MT Cereals and 17.06 MT Pulses), 25.90 MT Oilseeds and 346.72 MT Sugarcane besides producing more than 283 million tonnes of horticultural produce. Steady increase in breeder seed production has resulted in enhanced supply of quality seeds to the farmers. About 25,000 q. of breeder seed is being produced annually and supplied for production of foundation seed and in turn certified seed. NARS in association with DAC&FW, have made available 347.31, 351.77 and 343.52 lakh quintals of certified/quality seeds, to the farmers during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, respectively.

Likewise, the country has made phenomenal progress in various spheres of animal and fisheries sciences also. The milk production of the country touched a record 155.5 million tonnes (2015-16). The egg production also increased to 82.92 billion (2015-16). Similarly, the total fish production in the country has also increased to 10.7 million tonnes (2015-16) all of which have seen several fold increases during past 3-4 decades. By adopting a path powered by the science and technology, India has reaped dividends to become a strong, self-reliant, resilient farm economy. These achievements in the agricultural sector are attributable in large measure to technology-led improvements in agricultural productivity and investments in R and D in agriculture and allied sectors and effective pursuit of improved technologies by farmers.

(b) The total plan outlay of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) was ₹ 12023.00 crore during Eleventh Five Year Plan, which was 0.56% of the plan outlay of the country. The same was raised to ₹ 25553.00 crore in the Twelfth Five Year Plan which was 0.70% of the total plan outlay of the country.

(c) The funds are allocated sector-wise and not on State-wise. The details of funds allocated to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) during last three years and spent are given below:

2013-14 : RE – 2600 crore Expenditure : 2469.17 crore

2014-15 : RE – 2500 crore Expenditure : 2268.57 crore

2015-16 : RE – 3000 crore Expenditure : 2900.80 crore

2016-17 : BE – 3700 crore

(d) Various novel and cutting edge science-based research programmes are being pursued besides up-scaling the already developed technologies for maximizing the returns in agriculture for overall development of the country. The research

programmes are being prioritized to develop new high yielding pest resistant varieties of food crops, pulses, fodder and commercial crop varieties. New research Institutes/ programmes have basic, strategic and applied research related to crop improvement, crop production, crop protection, post-harvest operations, value addition, etc. ICAR's proposal for Twelfth Plan envisions a scenario of judiciously integrating conventional plant breeding, molecular biology, bioinformatics, genetic engineering, human resource and infrastructural development.

(e) ICAR seeks for enhanced allocations to the extent of 1% of agricultural GDP in forthcoming financial years so that agriculture research does not suffer due to paucity of funds.

Single cropping in Jharkhand

†2167. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total geographical area of Jharkhand is 79.70 lakh hectares, out of which agriculture is done on 23.62 lakh hectares only, which is 28 per cent of the total land;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 90 per cent area of the arable land in the State is under single cropping;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the agricultural output in the State is less as big portion of the land is not fertile; and

(d) if so, whether Government would run any special programme in order to make infertile, inferior and barren land arable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As per Land Use Statistics for 2013-14 (latest available), the total geographical area of Jharkhand is 79.72 lakh hectares out of which net area used for cultivation (net area sown) during the year has been 14.06 lakh hectares which is 32.43 per cent of geographical area of the State.

(b) As per Land Use Statistics for 2013-14 (latest available), the cropping intensity in the State during 2013-14 has been 119.86%. It implies that about 84.85 per cent of the sown area is used for single cropping.

(c) Productivity of major agricultural crops in the State of Jharkhand being lower than all India average impacts total agricultural output of the State.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Government and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps to convert infertile, inferior and barren land into arable/agricultural land.

However, to supplement State's efforts to convert infertile, inferior and barren land into arable/agricultural land by extending irrigation facilities the Government of India launched in July, 2015, the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The above scheme aims at providing end-to end solutions in irrigation supply chain, *viz.* water sources, and distribution network and farm level applications. It adopts State level planning and projectised execution that allows States to draw up their own irrigation development plans based on District Irrigation Plans and State Irrigation Plans. Under the above Scheme, micro irrigation is also popularised to ensure 'Per drop-More crop'.

Besides, Ministry of Rural Development had also been implementing an Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for development of rainfed/degraded areas. From 2015-16 onwards, the IWMP has been converted as the Watershed Component of the PMKSY.

Vacant posts of agricultural scientists

2168. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agriculture profession in the country is facing a dearth of agricultural scientists;

(b) whether more than 1000 posts of agricultural scientists, against sanctioned posts, are lying vacant in the country, including in institutions of ICAR;

(c) whether appointments are not being made even after constitutions of Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB); and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to deal with this problem and by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In this connection it is mentioned that the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) is a vast network with ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) Institutes, SAUs (State Agricultural Universities)/CAUs/KVKs spread across the country which meets the requirement of human resources engagement in the fields of research/extension/education in agriculture. The

responsibility for filling up the vacant positions pertaining to different SAUs vests with them and they work under the respective State Governments. In respect of ICAR, the ASRB (Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board), an independent recruitment agency, is responsible for recruitment of scientific positions both through the process of direct recruitment under ARS examination and lateral entry for senior scientific positions.

Recruitment of ICAR Scientists is a continuous process. All possible steps are being taken to fill vacant positions of Agricultural Scientists on priority basis through Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB)

Out of overall scientific cadres' sanctioned strength of 6313 in the ICAR, less than 10% of posts are vacant.

(c) and (d) It is normal that 7-8% of total posts of an organization remain vacant due to death, retirements on superannuation, resignations, inter-organizational movement etc. Recruitment is a continuous process being undertaken by the ASRB following due process for various scientific positions.

Policy to boost production of pulses

2169. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has formed a panel for formulating a long term policy framework to boost output of pulses, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the panel has been asked to look into interventions at the farm policy level, including reasonable increase in Minimum Support Prices for the pulses and bonus for farmers for producing pulses, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the panel is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Government has set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Economic Adviser to review Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and bonus for pulses.

(c) The report of committee is likely to be submitted not later than early September, 2016.

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

†2170. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has been launched to save the farmers from crisis due to crop damage caused by vagaries of weather;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount allocated under this scheme in the current financial year;

(c) the mandatory conditions for farmers to join this scheme; and

(d) the total insurance cover and the premium amount therefor under this scheme for the damaged foodgrains, oilseeds and cotton and whether there is any cap on premium, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen events, a new Scheme namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been approved for implementation in all States and Union Territories from Kharif 2016 season in place of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS). PMFBY is a marked improvement over the earlier schemes on several counts and comprehensive risk coverage from pre-sowing to post-harvest losses has been provided under it. A budget provision of ₹ 5501.15 crore has been made for the scheme during 2016-17. Salient features of the Scheme are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The PMFBY is compulsory for loanee farmers availing crop loans for notified crops in notified areas and voluntary for non-loanee farmers.

(d) Scale of Finance declared by the District Level Technical Committee has been taken as sum insured of the crops under the Scheme. There is no capping in premium, however, premium payable by farmers has been substantially reduced and simplified and there is one premium rate on pan-India basis for farmers which would be maximum 1.5%, 2% and 5% for all Rabi, Kharif and annual horticultural/ commercial crops, respectively.

Statement

Salient features of PMFBY

(i) Provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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 and 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 and 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 along-with their notified crops (under PMFBY/Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme-WBCIS).

Average income of farmers

2171. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' in 2015-16 to calculate the average income of farmers;

(b) whether the average income of farmers in comparison to the workers in industrial and service sectors is generally low; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government has not conducted 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' in 2015-16. However, a 'Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households' in rural parts of the country was conducted by the Government during NSS 70th round (Jan. 2013–Dec. 2013) with reference to the agricultural year July, 2012 to June, 2013. As per the results of this survey, which was published in NSS Report No. 569: "Some Characteristics of Agricultural Households in India", estimated average monthly income per agricultural household was ₹ 6426. State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Since the scope of this Survey was confined to agricultural households in the country, no inter-sectoral comparison on average income of farmers to the workers in industrial and services sector has been made.

Statement

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

State/Group of UTs	Average monthly 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
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

State/Group of UTs	Average monthly income# (₹)
Uttar Pradesh	4923
West Bengal	3980
Group of UTs	8568
ALL INDIA ##	6426

Source: Table No. 23, Appendix–A of NSS Report No. 569; "Some Characteristics of Agricultural Households in India".

* Households with at least one member self-employed in agriculture, either in the principal status or in subsidiary status, and having total value of agricultural produce more than ₹ 3000/- during the last 365 days were considered for being selected for this survey.

#The income includes income from salary/wages, net receipt from cultivation, net receipt from farming of animals and net receipt from non-farm business.

Includes all States and UTs.

Sowing of Kharif crops

2172. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sowing of Kharif crops is lagging behind last year's levels and is likely to pick up in coming weeks as deficient monsoon in June has turned surplus by mid-July;

(b) whether as many as thirty two of country's meteorological sub-divisions have recorded normal to excess rainfall;

(c) whether delayed onset of monsoon resulting in late plantings is unlikely to affect acreages with even a jump in area sown under all crops, barring, may be, cotton and soyabean; and

(d) whether surplus rains this season, due to Al-Nino factor, is likely to help recharge groundwater level leading to good Rabi crop as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) No, Sir. The area coverage under Kharif crops for the year 2016-17 at all India level is 799.51 lakh hectares as on 29.07.2016 against 752.29 lakh hectare in corresponding week of last year, which is more by 6.28%.

(b) During the entire season so far, from 1st June to 27th July, 2016, out of the 36 Met-Subdivisions, 28 have recorded normal to excess rainfall and remaining 8 have received deficient monsoon rainfall.

(c) Despite delayed onset of south-west monsoon, the trend of sowing has shown higher area coverage under various crops over last year's coverage as on 29.07.2016.

(d) Rabi crops coverage increases, if rains are received at the time of sowing of rabi crops particularly in the month of September, October and November in un-irrigated areas.

Steps to boost the income of farmers

†2173. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the policy of liberalization in place, there has been no substantial change in the conditions of farmers and deprived people;

(b) if so, the steps taken during last three years for promotion of agriculture and other means of employment so that agriculture sector and income of farmers could get a boost; and

(c) the details of enhancement in income of farmers during last one decade and the details about migration from villages on account of agriculture being abandoned by people during this period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Government of India has a National Policy for Farmers (NPF), which, *inter alia*, aims to improve economic viability of farming through substantially improving net income of farmers. As per Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) (Jan. 2013 — Dec. 2013), the average monthly income of a agricultural household for agricultural year July 2012 – June 2013 is ₹ 6426 as compared to ₹ 2115 for the period July 2002 — June 2003 (SAS 2003).

Notwithstanding the setback in Kharif crops due to bad monsoon and Rabi crops due to warm winter, total foodgrains production in the country has increased marginally. As per the Third Advance Estimates for 2015-16, the total foodgrains production is estimated at 252.23 million tonnes. In comparison to the estimated production of 252.02 million tonnes during 2014-15, the foodgrains production has marginally increased by 0.21 million tonnes.

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

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Schemes to rationalise input management:

(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. Against a target of 253 lakh samples, 184.75 lakh soil samples collected, 87.90 lakh soil samples tested and against target of 1400 lakh Soil Health Cards, 226.99 lac Soil Health Cards distributed as on 28.06.2016.

(ii) Neem Coated Urea is also 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 promoting organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices. The target is to cover 2 lakh ha. in 3 years. Each cluster will be 20 ha. each and total clusters 10,000. In 2015-16, 7186 clusters were sanctioned and ₹ 226.19 crore released to State Governments out of approved outlay of ₹ 511.67 crore. (GoI share is 335.05 crore). In 2016-17, remaining 2814 clusters have been sanctioned.

(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. In 2015-16, against a target of 5 lac ha., 5.6 lac ha. has been brought under micro irrigation.

Scheme to cover nature related risks:

(v) Government has also recently approved a new Crop Insurance Scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to replace National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNAIS) from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and would be available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. The farmers will get full insurance cover as there will be no capping of sum insured and consequently the claim amount will not be cut or reduced. This Scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances. The area coverage would be increased from 23% presently to 50% in two years.

Scheme to transfer remunerative prices to farmers:

(vi) A Market Intervention Scheme, namely e-NAM was approved on 1.7.2015 with a budget allocation of ₹ 200 crore to be implemented during 2015-16 to 2017-18. The releases of grants under the scheme are made on the basis of completion of 3 reform pre-requisites *i.e.* Single Trading License, Single License Fee and Creation of e-Platform for Trading. The scheme was launched on 14.04.2016 in 8 States *viz.* Gujarat, Telangana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand covering 21 markets. As of now 23 markets integrated.

Schemes to increase productivity:

(vii) **National Food Security Mission (NFSM) pulses:**

Out of a total allocation ₹ 1700 crore, an amount of ₹ 1100 crore is allocated for pulses as Centre share. The target set for pulses production during the year 2016-17 is 20.75 million tonns and the area coverage target is 26 million hectares during this year.

In addition, the Government is implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET); and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

Further, the Government undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under its 'MSP operations'. In addition, Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities not covered under the Minimum Support Price Scheme on the request of State/UT Government. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production.

As per NSS report the information on staying away from the usual place of residence for more than 15 days for the purpose of employment in respect of persons aged 7 years and above, was collected for the two halves of the agricultural year (seasons).

At all India level, 2 per cent of persons aged 7 years and above belonging to the agricultural households stayed away from their usual place of residence for more than 15 days for employment (hereafter referred as 'persons stayed away from home for employment') during each of the two halves of the agricultural year July 2012

– June 2013 is given in Statement-I (*See* below). Per 1000 of persons who stayed away from home for employment for agricultural households in each size class of land possessed is given in the Statement-II (*See* below). The results indicated that the percentage share of persons who stayed away from home for employment belonging to the lowest three size classes were slightly higher than the all India average of 2 per cent. Further, this share decreased with the increase in size class of land possessed. The trend among the male members of the agricultural households was observed to be similar to that of persons (male+female); whereas, in case of female members, the percentage share was highest in the middle size class (1.01 ha.–2.0 ha.). The observed pattern was broadly similar in both the halves of agricultural year.

Statement-I

Per 1000 distribution of persons aged 7 years and above who stayed away from usual place of residence for 15 days or more for purpose of employment among agricultural households by size class of land possessed

State/Group of UTs	Per 1000 distribution of persons who stayed away by size class of land possessed								Persons aged 7 years and above		
	<0.01	0.01-	0.41-1.00	1.0l-2.00	2.01-4.00	4.01-10.00	10.00+	All sizes	Number 1000 who stayed away	Estimate (00)	Sample
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Uttarakhand	0	985	15	0	0	0		1000	3	44209	1316
Uttar Pradesh	88	645	161	48	53	3		1000	15	884922	26816
West Bengal	33	556	381	23	8	0		1000	27	250955	11673
Group of UTs	0	569	273	106	28	23		1000	9	2967	2035
All India	28	356	362	166	63	22		1000	20	4008951	165527
Estimated number of persons (00)	96911	1200134	1378822	717091	416421	178089	21485	4008951	x		x
Sample number of persons	7317	26898	31795	48075	38513	11575	1354	165527	x		x

Statement-II

Per 1000 of persons aged 7 years and above stayed away from usual place of residence more than 15 days for the purpose of employment for each size class of land possessed

Size class of land possessed	July 2012-December 2012			January 2013-June 2013		
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<0.01	43	2	23	43	2	24
0.01-0.40	44	5	24	42	4	23
0.41-1.00	33	10	21	33	9	21
1.01-2.00	26	12	19	27	11	20
2.01-4.00	20	5	12	17	4	11
4.01-10.00	13	8	10	13	7	10
10.00+	19	6	11	13	3	8
ALL SIZES	33	8	20	32	7	20

Area of land under cultivation of pulses

2174. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) the existing gap between demand and supply of pulses;

(b) the area of land under cultivation of pulses in the country and whether there has been no increase in this area; and

(c) whether any incentive has been offered to farmers to increase production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Against the demand of 21 million tonnes of pulses projected by the Working Group for Twelfth Five Year Plan (as per Behaviouristic Approach), their production for 2015-16 is estimated at 16.47 million tonnes (4th Advance Estimates), leaving a gap of 4-5 million tonnes which is met through imports.

(b) Depending on yearly variations in weather, rainfall situation, irrigation facilities, shift in area to other competing crops etc., total area under pulses in the country in the past 5-6 years has been fluctuating in the range of around 23 to 26 million hectares.

(c) In order to increase production of the pulses in the country. Government of India has been implementing through State Governments, National Food Security Mission (NFSM) - Pulses since 2007-08. From 2016-17, NFSM - Pulses has been extended to 638 districts of 29 States. From 2015-16, pulses have also been included under the Scheme "Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)" as part of rice demonstrations under cropping systems based approach to target rice fallow areas.

Under NFSM, assistance is being provided for to the farmers on demonstrations, seed distribution, farm machineries/implements, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), water application tools, cropping system based trainings, and local initiatives suited to States. From 2016-17, seed mini-kits of newer variety of pulses are being distributed to farmers free of cost.

To encourage farmers to grow more pulses by ensuring remunerative prices, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses have been increased over the years. To incentivize farmers for cultivation of pulses in the country, over and above the MSPs, during 2016-17, the Government has also announced a bonus of ₹ 425/- per quintal for Kharif pulses, namely Arhar (Tur), Urad and Moong.

Production of pulses and cereals

2175. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in talks with other countries for long term supply contracts of pulses that will encourage farmers in those countries to produce more, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is increasing the MSP for pulses and other cereals to encourage Indian farmers to grow more pulses and cereals to bridge the gap between demand and supply; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to encourage Indian farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Government of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mozambique on pulses. This MoU fixes targets of minimum quantities of export of tur and other pulses from

Mozambique to India over the next five years whether through private channels or through Government to Government sales as given below:

Year	Target of import
2016-17	1,00,000 tonnes
2017-18	1,25,000 tonnes
2018-19	1,50,000 tonnes
2019-20	1,75,000 tonnes
2020-21	2,00,000 tonnes

(b) and (c) Government has increased Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for pulses and cereals for 2016-17 season. Further, to incentivize cultivation of pulses in the country. Government has announced a bonus of ₹ 425/- per quintal for Kharif pulses, namely arhar (tur), urad and moong over and above the MSPs for 2016-17.

The objective of the Government price policy is to ensure remunerative price to farmers by offering to procure their produce at MSP. However, farmers are free to sell their produced to Government procurement agencies at MSP or in the open market whichever is advantageous to them.

Whitefly attack on cotton crops

2176. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a substantial area under the cotton cultivation in Punjab and Haryana was affected by whitefly attack during 2015-16;

(b) if so, the quantum of area, in lakh hectares, under cotton cultivation and the area in which the crop was damaged;

(c) the amount of compensation paid by Government to the farmers for the loss of cotton crop in major cotton producing States; and

(d) the steps taken by Central and State Governments to check whitefly epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Punjab and Haryana Government, an area of 3.39 lakh hectare and 5.8 lakh hectare respectively was cultivated under the cotton crop during 2015-16. Approximately, all the cultivated area was affected in Punjab. However, in Haryana losses of more than 50% were reported in 0.25 lakh hectare whereas less than 50% losses were reported in 5.28 lakh hectare.

(c) As per the information received from the Punjab and Haryana Government, an amount of ₹ 669 crore and ₹ 967 crore respectively has been paid as compensation to the affected farmers.

(d) Advisories have been issued to maintain close vigil. State Governments have been sensitized to organize regular meetings of State Pest Surveillance and Advisory Units (SPSAU) and District Pest Surveillance and Advisory Units (DPSAU) to monitor pest and diseases. States have also been advised regularly through video conference to ensure timely availability of pesticides and bio-pesticides approved and recommended by Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee (CIBandRC) and farmers are advised through extension machinery to use only recommended varieties/hybrids and pesticides as per recommendation and label claims.

Adverse effect of insecticides on gene/DNA synthesis

2177. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the insecticides being used in India have been found to be impeding the gene/DNA synthesis; and

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted by the Ministry in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The Insecticides Act, 1968 has been enacted to regulate the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides with a view to prevent risk to human beings or animals, and for matters connected therewith. As per provision under Section 5 of the Act, the Government has constituted Registration Committee (RC). The Committee registers pesticides after evaluating efficacy and safety of pesticides to human health and environment. While, evaluating the safety, it reviews data submitted by the applicant on various toxicity parameters like acute, sub-chronic, chronic, reproductive toxicity including genotoxicity and carcinogenicity. If the data/information provided by the applicant do not meet all parameters as stated above, the Committee refuses to register such pesticides.

(b) No study has been conducted in this regard.

Availability of milk

2178. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of buffalo meat has increased four fold between 2009-10 and 2014-15;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the corresponding period, the population of buffalo in the country has come down; and

(c) if so, whether it has raised some apprehensions about its impact on domestic milk availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) As per the information furnished by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the buffalo meat exports have increased from USD 1163.54 million in 2009-10 to USD 4781.18 million in 2014-15.

(b) The female population of buffalo has increased from 85.75 million in 18th Livestock Census-2007 to 92.60 million in 19th Livestock Census-2012.

(c) The milk production in the country has increased from 116.4 million tonnes in 2009-10 to 146.31 million tonnes in 2014-15. Moreover, the per capita availability of milk has also increased from 273 gms/day to 322 gms/day during the same period.

Providing Central Agricultural University status to Pusa Agricultural Institute

†2179. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any plan to make Pusa Agricultural Institute as a Central Agricultural University; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of budget provision made, and the time by when action will be initiated on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) (i) Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi is a deemed university.

(ii) The Pusa Institute in Bihar was earlier called Rajendra Agricultural University under Bihar Government. Now the Parliament has enacted the law to convert it to Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University. The Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Act, 2016 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 28.05.2016.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Whitefly attack on cotton crops in Punjab

2180. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fear of whitefly infestation has led to biggest drop in areas under cotton cultivation in Punjab, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to help Punjab Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) As per the information received from the Punjab Government, the estimated area under the cotton crop during the current year is 2.56 lakh hectare which is less as compared to last year area of 3.39 lakh hectare.

(b) Advisories have been issued to maintain close vigil. State Government have been sensitized to organize regular meetings of State Pest Surveillance and Advisory Units (SPSAU) and District Pest Surveillance and Advisory Units (DPSAU) to monitor pest and diseases. States have also been advised regularly through video conference to ensure timely availability of pesticides and bio-pesticides approved and recommended by Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee (CIBandRC) and farmers are advised through extension machinery to use only recommended varieties/hybrids and pesticides as per recommendation and label claims.

Setting up of rice/paddy research centre in Andhra Pradesh

2181. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up a sub-regional centre of rice/paddy research centre in Naira, Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh, post-bifurcation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has decided to set up a regional station of National Rice Research Institute (NRRI), Cuttack at Naira, Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh. Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur has agreed to provide 25 acres of land for establishing the regional station at Agriculture College, Naira.

Revival of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited

2182. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to revive Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to revive the said unit from the sale of landholding it has, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Government is examining comprehensively the status of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited to decide on the future course of action.

Jan Aushadhi Stores

†2183. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jan Aushadhi Stores opened since its inception till date and the total number of Stores proposed to be opened for providing generic medicines at affordable rates;

(b) the details of Jan Aushadhi Stores functioning in the country, State-wise, including in Assam and Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the amount spent by Government till date under this scheme and under which heads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Till 01.08.2016 total 465 Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) have been opened. Out of these 382 Jan Aushadhi Stores spread over 24 States/Union Territories are operational across the country at present. By the end of the March, 2017, it is proposed to open 3000 JAS across the country. There is no JAS opened in Assam. In Uttar Pradesh 33 JAS are functional. A list of total functional Jan Aushadhi Stores, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below).

An amount of ₹ 4277.40 lakh has been spent for opening of these Jan Aushadhi Stores under various heads namely opening of new Jan Aushadhi Stores, One time Assistance, Working Capital, Information Technology Systems and Capacity Building, Media Campaign etc. upto 31.07.2016.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State-wise list of Jan Aushadhi Stores functional as on 01.08.2016

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Functional
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Chandigarh	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	120
6.	Delhi	11
7.	Gujarat	16
8.	Haryana	10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13
11.	Jharkhand	12
12.	Karnataka	2
13.	Kerala	22
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12
15.	Maharashtra	31
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Odisha	25
18.	Punjab	22
19.	Rajasthan	2
20.	Tamil Nadu	3
21.	Telangana	7
22.	Tripura	7
23.	Uttar Pradesh	33
24.	Uttarakhand	9
	TOTAL	382

Broadening the ambit of NPPA

2184. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to broaden the mandate of NPPA and include all essential medicines listed by Department of Pharmaceuticals under its ambit;

(b) with the details of action being taken by Government thereon;

(c) whether a number of life saving and other patented/branded drugs, including those for treatment of cancer, AIDS, diabetes etc. are outside the ambit of NPPA and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government proposes to include such drugs under NPPA, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Drug (Prices Control) Order, 2013 provides for fixing of ceiling prices of medicines appearing in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2015 issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(c) The life saving drugs are not defined under the Drug (Prices Control) Order, 2013. However, it provides for fixing of ceiling prices of medicines appearing in National List of Essential Medicines, 2015 issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which includes medicines used for treatment of critical diseases like cancer, AIDS, diabetes etc.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, does not arise.

Reduction in prices of key fertilizers

2185. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a big relief to farmers Government has reduced prices of key fertilizers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that reduction in prices will entail a benefit of ₹ 4,500 crore to farmers; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is passing on the benefits of fall in global prices of input costs to farmers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) While approving NBS

rates for 2013-14, the Cabinet also approved that in case the MRP of fertilizers are not reduced as expected and the Companies are found to be indulging in undue profiteering, the Government will review and take necessary action. In the light of above decision of the Cabinet and taking into consideration the falling international prices of P and K fertilizers, the matter was discussed with the fertilizer Industry and they were encouraged to reflect the fall in international prices in the MRP of these fertilizers. All P and K importers and manufacturers have confirmed in writing that they have reduced the prices of DAP, MOP and Complex Fertilizer grades by ₹ 125/-, ₹ 250/- and ₹ 50/- per 50 Kg bag respectively. Reduction in prices will definitely benefit the farmers.

Production of fertilizers

2186. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of fertilizers in the country is sufficient to meet the local demand;

(b) if so, the details of production of all types of fertilizers in the country during the last two years; and

(c) the reasons, if any, for importing fertilizers from foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Production of fertilizers in the country is not sufficient to meet the local demand. There is gap between domestic production and demand. The gap is met through imports. The details of production of major fertilizers in the country during last two years are given below:-

(Figure in 'LMT')

Sl. No.	Year	Urea	DAP	Complex Fertilizers
1.	2014-15	225.85	34.44	78.32
2.	2015-16	244.75	37.87	83.01

Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and its import is restricted and permitted through State Trading Enterprises (STEs), namely Metals and Mineral Trading Corporation of India (MMTC), State Trading Corporation Limited (STC) and Indian Potash Limited (IPL), under the Foreign Trade Policy of the Government. Urea for direct agricultural use is imported on Government account to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. Government is also importing

approximately 20 Lakh Metric Tonnes urea from Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO) under a Long Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GoI and OMIFCO.

Import of fertilizers (other than urea) is free, commonly known as Open General License (OGL). Various companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgement. Muriate of Potash (MoP) is the only fertilizer, whose demand is fully met through imports as there are no viable sources of MoP in the country.

Ethanol requirement by the chemical industry in the country

2187. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether chemical industry is the second biggest user of ethanol in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its quantity used during the last two years, year-wise;

(c) the total requirement of ethanol by the chemical industry in the country, particularly in the State of Odisha;

(d) whether there is a shortage of domestically produced ethanol and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to increase production of ethanol to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MUNSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) As per the information available from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the industry estimates, the chemical industry is the second biggest user of ethanol in the country.

(b) The quantum of ethanol used in the chemical industry during the last two years is as follow:

Year	2013-14	2014-15
Quantum (crore litres)	84	87

(c) As per the industry estimates, the total requirement of ethanol in the chemical industry is about 105 crore litres and it is almost negligible in the State of Odisha.

(d) There is a shortage of ethanol in the country as the domestic production is not able to meet the requirement of all the sectors namely Chemical Industry, Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme and the potable sector.

(e) The steps taken by the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India to increase the production of ethanol are as follows:

(i) **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare:** The enhanced production and productivity of sugarcane would increase the production of ethanol. Towards this end, 'Sugarcane Development Programme' is being implemented by the Ministry under the 'National Food Security Mission–Commercial Crops (NFSM-CC)' for enhancing the production and productivity *w.e.f.* 2014-15. Under this scheme, thrust has been given on transfer of technology through frontline demonstrations and training in order to extend benefits to the farmers.

(ii) **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:** To encourage production of ethanol, the Government is extending soft loans up to 40% of the project cost to the sugar mills from 'Sugar Development Fund' for setting up ethanol projects. As the production of alcohol or ethanol, is linked to the production of molasses, which is a by-product during production of Sugar, this initiative has been undertaken.

Controlling the prices of medicines

2188. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to control prices of many medicines;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the announcement of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2012, Government notified Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 15th May, 2013, all the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the First Schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. The Government has fixed the ceiling price of 530 scheduled formulations listed in NLEM-2011 as on 29.02.2016. The details of reduction in prices of 530 scheduled formulations effected under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

National List of Essential Medicines, 2015 was notified as the First Schedule of DPCO, 2013 *vide* notification of Department of Pharmaceuticals dated 10th March, 2016. There are approximately 834 formulations in the revised Schedule I out of

which the Government has fixed the ceiling prices of 404 scheduled formulations so far. The details of reduction in prices of scheduled formulations of revised Schedule-I effected under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013 for formulations of NLEM, 2015 are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

The Government has also capped the MRP of 106 non-scheduled formulations (84 cardiovascular formulations and 22 antidiabetics) under Para 19 of DPCO, 2013. The details of reduction in prices effected as compared to the highest price prevailing prior to price capping are given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

The Government has also fixed the retail price of 324 'new drugs' (which fall within the purview of Para 2(u) of DPCO, 2013) under Para 5 of DPCO, 2013, (as on 13.07.2016) since the promulgation of DPCO, 2013.

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) regularly monitors the prices of scheduled and non-scheduled formulations under provisions of DPCO, 2013. No person is authorized to sell any scheduled formulation (medicine) to a consumer at a price exceeding the ceiling price notified/approved by the NPPA/Government. In respect of non-scheduled formulations the annual price rise is limited to 10% of the previous year.

Statement-I

Reduction in price with respect to Maximum Prices under NLEM, 2011

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of drugs
0<= 5%	80
5<=10%	50
10<=15%	57
15<=20%	43
20<=25%	65
25<=30%	49
30<=35%	26
35<=40%	34
Above 40%	126
TOTAL	530

Statement-II

Reduction in price with respect maximum price under NLEM 2015

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	Grand Total
0<= 5%	75
5<=10%	47
10<=15%	50
15<=20%	51
20<=25%	53
25<=30%	36
30<=35%	29
35<=40%	17
Above 40%	46
TOTAL	404

Statement-III

% reduction with respect to Highest prevailing MRP (No. of Drugs)

	Diabetic	Cardiovascular	Total
0<= 5%	7	10	17
5<= 10%	2	10	12
10<= 15%	1	11	12
15<= 20%	1	8	9
20<= 25%	2	12	14
25<= 30%	2	7	9
30<= 35%	2	7	9
35<= 40%	1	4	5
Above 40%	4	15	19
TOTAL	22	84	106

Revival of closed fertilizer plants

2189. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether revival of closed fertilizer plants at Talcher, Ramagundam, Barauni, Gorakhpur and Sindri is fast progressing;

(b) whether revival plans have been approved by the Cabinet, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of revival of these fertilizer plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Cabinet has approved proposals for the revival of closed fertilizer units at Talcher, Ramagundam, Barauni, Gorakhpur and Sindri. Details about Cabinet approvals and present status of revival at these locations are as under:

Talcher and Ramagundam: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 4.11.2011 approved the revival of these units on "nomination route" through PSUs. Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Gail (India) Ltd., Coal India Limited and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) have been nominated to revive the Talcher unit while National Fertilizers Limited, Engineers India Limited and FCIL have been nominated to revive the Ramagundam unit. In order to facilitate the revival of closed units of FCIL, the CCEA on 9.05.2013 approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest on FCIL to make the net worth of FCIL positive and to seek its de-registration from Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction and paves way for revival of closed units of FCIL.

Pre-Project activities to revive these two units are currently in progress.

Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni: The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 13.07.2016 has approved to revive these closed fertilizer units by means of a Special Purpose Vehicle of Public Sector Units namely, National Thermal Power Corporation, Coal India Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited/Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, through "nomination route" instead of bidding route as approved earlier.

CAG report on understatement of revenue

2190. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAG report tabled in the Parliament on 12 March, 2016 on understatement of revenue by telecom operators, found six leading telecom operators understanding their gross revenue of over ₹ 46,000 crore between 2006-07 and 2009-10, causing a loss of ₹ 12,488.93 crore to Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to recover the loss incurred to the exchequer;

(c) whether Government has announced a special audit of these six telecom operators to re-evaluate the findings presented in the CAG report; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether this special audit will be carried out by the CAG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As per CAG report No. 4 of 2016 of Comptroller and Auditor General of India; six telecom operators understated revenue by ₹ 46045.75 crores, for four financial years *i.e.* 2006-07; 2007-08; 2008-09 and 2009-10. As per the report the short fall in License fee amounts to ₹ 3752.37 crores, in Spectrum usage charges amounts to ₹ 1460.23 crores and interest on short fall upto 31.03.2015 amounts to ₹ 7276.33 crores. The department has issued regular demands for all the four financial years and Special Audit demands for two financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08. These demands overlap the short falls pointed out in the CAG report. In the case of Financial Years 2006-07 and 2007-08; CAG had pointed out a short fall of License fees amounting to ₹ 1269.36 crores. Department of Telecom had already issued demands for License fees amounting to ₹ 896.07 crores in 2012 itself based upon the report of Special Auditors.

(b) The demands are being recalculated and being issued taking into account CAG report No.4 of 2016; previous demands issued as per license agreement, demands issued as per special audit conducted by Department of Telecom in 2009 and pronouncements of various court orders etc.

(c) Yes. Government has decided to conduct Special Audit for three financial years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. CAG and the Department of Telecom have independent powers of auditing the accounts of Licensee companies.

The CAG has the powers to conduct audit of Telecom companies as per Comptroller's and Auditor General (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 and the department has the powers to conduct the audit and special audit of Telecom companies as per clause 22.5 and 22.6 respectively of the Unified Service License agreement or equivalent clause in other License agreements. The special audit ordered by Department of Telecom is not to revaluate the findings presented by CAG report.

(d) Department of Telecom formed its opinion to conduct special audit of six private telecom companies, based on non-submission of required documents; submission of incomplete documents and non-disclosure of complete information in the submitted documents by these Telecom companies. The special audit has been ordered by the Department of Telecom. Department of Telecom has selected the audit firms for special audit which are empanelled by Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Facilities under NOFN to Karnataka

2191. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in implementation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) in the country, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the details of facilities being provided to people under the said scheme in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) State-wise status of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, renamed as BharatNet, as on 30.07.2016, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) BharatNet provides the middle mile connectivity from Block to Gram Panchayats to bridge the connectivity gap in rural areas. This connectivity is to be used by various service providers to deliver their services at Gram Panchayat (GP) level, on non-discriminatory basis. With the implementation of BharatNet, following services are being provided in Karnataka:

(i) Broadband connectivity to 929 GPs has been provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Karnataka.

(ii) 94 Wi-Fi Hot-spots of BSNL are working in villages using BharatNet Network.

Statement

State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 30.07.2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	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.	Assam	1013	2014	1904	728	156
2.	Bihar	5202	8049	6996	2627	215
3.	Chhattisgarh	2110	5244	5036	1717	664
4.	Haryana	6090	5771	5626	3542	168
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	624	253	240	103	0
6.	Karnataka	5599	10313	10650	5215	3215
7.	Kerala	977	720	826	1129	1129
8.	Madhya Pradesh	10516	20733	18601	6428	193

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Maharashtra	12055	16272	13637	6034	304
10.	Punjab	6128	5693	5322	4240	0
11.	Rajasthan	6967	14722	13956	4307	353
12.	UP (East)	14474	20129	15349	6816	158
13.	UP (West)	8040	11280	7343	3331	132
14.	Uttarakhand	1767	1849	1473	826	184
15.	West Bengal	2713	2548	2407	812	7
16.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	69	0	0	0	0
17.	Chandigarh	12	18	19	12	12
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	256	644	101	22	0
19.	Nagaland	743	2063	801	182	0
20.	Manipur	24	71	73	24	0
21.	Mizoram	163	448	110	0	0
22.	Tripura	1021	1514	1322	593	79
23.	Meghalaya	638	1086	266	76	0
24.	Gujarat	5735	7169	5520	2512	139
25.	Puducherry	98	82	92	98	101
26.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1913	19	0	0
27.	Telangana	2097	4191	3734	1714	106
28.	Odisha	3388	5396	4547	1877	122
29.	Jharkhand	1388	2916	2714	1105	170
30.	Himachal Pradesh	283	239	129	47	0
31.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	10	0	0	0	0
35.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Goa*	-	-	-	-	-
	GRAND TOTAL	100200	153340	128813	56117	7607

*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.

SIM cards sold on basis of fake identity

2192. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints that SIM cards for mobile phones are being sold on the basis of fake identity proofs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir, Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells have received complaints that SIM cards for mobile phones are being sold on the basis of fake identity proofs.

(b) TERM Cells have received a total of 395 complaints covering 45,775 mobile connections regarding selling of SIM cards on basis of fake identity proofs from various sources such as Public Grievances (PG) portal, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), State police authorities, banks such as ICICI, postal letters, e-mails and Non-Governmental Organization etc. across the country during last three years *i.e.* 2013 to 2015 and current year 2016 (upto 31.05.2016).

Expansion of internet services in Rajasthan

†2193. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes formulated by Central Government to expand internet services in the rural areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) the names of cities of Rajasthan covered under 4G services at present and names of important cities and tourist places where 4G services would be made available by the end of this year, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) BharatNet is planned to establish a network infrastructure by connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Rajasthan, for providing broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats, which can be used by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) through the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) namely Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and RailTel.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In first phase of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) is to be connected by laying underground OFC by March, 2017. Under Phase-II of BharatNet project, connectivity is planned to be provided to remaining 1.5 lakh GPs in the country using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, by December, 2018. Under Phase-I of the project, 6967 GPs are to be connected in Rajasthan. As on 30.07.2016, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid to 4,307 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with a total length of 13,956 km. Out of these, 353 GPs have been provided with broadband connectivity.

(b) Bharti Airtel has provided 4G services in 20 cities/towns of Rajasthan, the list of which is given in the Statement.

Statement

Name of the cities/towns in Rajasthan covered under 4G services

Sl. No.	Name of Cities/Towns	Sl. No.	Name of Cities/Towns
1.	Ajmer	11.	Chittaurgarh
2.	Banswara	12.	Churu
3.	Bargaon	13.	Jhunjhunu
4.	Beawar	14.	Kishangarh
5.	Bedla	15.	Kota
6.	Bhilwara	16.	Nagaur
7.	Bhiwadi	17.	Neemrana
8.	Bhuwana	18.	Pali
9.	Boraj-Kazipura	19.	Sikar
10.	Chenar Village	20.	Udaipur

Challenge to the imposition of penalty on telecos for call drops

†2194. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Government to impose penalty on telecom companies against call drops was challenged by the companies in the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court gave its verdict in favour of the companies, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is contemplating adopting alternative measures to deal with the problem of call drops and to protect the interests of the consumers and if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Sir, from the point of view of compensating consumers for dropped calls, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had notified "The Telecom Consumers Protection (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 (9 of 2015) on 16th October, 2015, to be effective from 1st January, 2016. These regulations mandated originating CMTSPs (Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Providers) to credit one Rupee for a dropped call to the calling consumers as notional compensation, limited to three dropped calls in a day. The service providers and their associations filed a case in Hon'ble High Court of Delhi against this regulation. The Hon'ble High Court pronounced its verdict in TRAI's favour and TRAI issued instructions to service providers for the compliance of the regulation. The service providers then appealed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 11.05.2016 pronounced its verdict in Service Provider's favour, quashing the said regulations.

TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service standards for cellular mobile telephone service through regulations issued, from time to time. For assessing the performance of service providers on call drop, both for 2G and 3G services, TRAI has laid down two parameters *viz*. (i) "call drop rate/Circuit Switch Voice drop rate (benchmark - less than or equal to 2%)" and (ii) "worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH (Traffic Channel) drop/Circuit Switched Voice drop rate: CBBH (Cell Bouncing Busy Hour) (benchmark-less than or equal to 3%)."

TRAI has been pursuing with service providers for improving Quality of Service and in this regard regular interactions are held with the service providers. TRAI has also engaged independent agencies for auditing and assessing the quality of service and surveys are being done regularly through independent agencies to assess the customer perception of service. The results of the audit and assessment of quality of service and surveys are published for the information of stakeholders, which also force the service providers to improve the quality of service. 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, in accordance with the provisions of the regulations.

Further, the Department of Telecommunications has also been pursuing with service providers for improving Call Drop scenario and in this regard regular interactions were held with the service providers. In addition to the above, the Government has taken steps to resolve the issues raised by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and as a result the Ministry of Urban Development has agreed to permit installation of mobile towers/in-building solutions in the Government buildings under their control

subject to structural safety and payment of appropriate Licence fee by the TSPs. Such mobile towers/in-building solution shall be a shared facility for all TSPs. As on 15th July, 2016, allotments for installation of 18 towers in Delhi have been processed and lead operators have been asked to install such towers. In addition, two mobile BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) and one pole mounted BTS have been installed in Parliament House and 06 mobile BTSs have also been installed in the Lutyens Zone, Delhi [New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC)'s jurisdiction], which are shared by multiple operators.

At the National level, the TSPs have expanded their network and also added BTSs in their network to improve the Call Drop scenario. This can be seen from the status of 2G/ 3G network infrastructure of service providers for last four quarters (June, 2015, September, 2015, December, 2015 and March, 2016), which is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of TSPs who have expanded their network and added BTS in their network and the status of 2G/3G network infrastructure of service provider

Service Provider	3G	2G	CDMA	Total
BTS/Node-B as on 30.06.2015				
Bharti	51005	144927	0	195932
RTL	4411	16228	0	20639
RCL	5906	31411	21417	58734
Vodafone	35723	131001	0	166724
BSNL	27136	77575	11189	115900
Idea	32421	115357	0	147778
Tata	11282	43261	13303	67846
Aircel	11748	47056	0	58804
MTNL	1454	2110	275	3839
Sistema Shyam	0	0	8249	8249
Telenor	0	23589	0	23589
Quadrant	0	2235	13	2248
Videocon	0	5067	0	5067
TOTAL	181086	639817	54446	875349

Service Provider	3G	2G	CDMA	Total
BTS/Node-B as on 30.09.2015				
Bharti	55946	146771	0	202717
RTL	4411	16014	0	20425
RCL	5927	31097	21074	58098
Vodafone	38754	131928	0	170682
BSNL	27851	78286	11112	117249
Idea	38012	118980	0	156992
Tata	11910	43285	12997	68192
Aircel	12020	47711	0	59731
MTNL	1438	2107	275	3820
Sistema Shyam	0	0	8222	8222
Telenor	0	23594	0	23594
Quadrant	0	2293	13	2306
Videocon	0	5084	0	5084
TOTAL	196269	647150	53693	897112
BTS/Node-B as on 31.12.2015				
Bharti	60865	148181	0	209046
RTL	4519	6401	0	10920
RCL	5997	30787	20645	57429
Vodafone	40298	133248	0	173546
BSNL	28587	79027	11060	118674
Idea	44901	122215	0	167116
Tata	12471	42745	12978	68194
Aircel	14928	48831	0	63759
MTNL	1440	2112	243	3795
Sistema Shyam	0	0	8214	8214
Telenor	0	24112	0	24112
Quadrant	0	2376	13	2389

Service Provider	3G	2G	CDMA	Total
Videocon	0	5070	0	5070
TOTAL	214006	645105	53153	912264
BTS/Node-B as on 31.03.2016				
Bharti	90627	150893	0	241520
RTL	4982	6450	0	11432
RCL	6231	30783	19934	56948
Vodafone	54440	136202	0	190642
BSNL	29660	80004	11010	120674
Idea	48928	126571	0	175499
Tata	13113	43384	12867	69364
Aircel	16255	49540	0	65795
MTNL	1441	2114	0	3555
Sistema Shyam	0	0	8166	8166
Telenor	0	24575	0	24575
Quadrant	0	2394	13	2407
Videocon	0	5102	0	5102
TOTAL	265677	658012	51990	975679

BTS–Base Transceiver Station; Node-B–BTS for 3G Services

RTL–Reliance Telecom Limited;

RCL–Reliance Communication Limited;

BSNL–Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited;

MTNL–Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited.

Vacancies in Rajasthan under Department of Communications and Information Technology

†2195. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of sanctioned and vacant posts in various categories under the Department of Communications and Information Technology in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that targeted works are getting delayed due to vacancies in this Department, if so, by when these posts will be filled-up; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the number of such Saansad Adarsh Grams in Rajasthan which are covered under overall services of the Department and the factual position of all the Saansad Adarsh Grams in terms of Information Technology, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The position of sanctioned and vacant posts in different districts in respect of the Department of Telecommunications, Department of Posts and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in the State of Rajasthan is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Due to vacancies the targeted works/services have been affected to some extent. For meeting the situation as a result of vacant posts personnel are being taken on deputation, coupled with redistribution or combination of duties and taking up the matter with the concerned recruitment agencies.

(c) The number of Saansad Adrash Grams in the State of Rajasthan covered under overall services of Department of Telecommunications, Department of Posts and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology alongwith factual details is as under:-

Department of Telecommunications:- Out of 34 Gram Panchayats selected under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has provided landline telephone and broadband facility in 22 Gram Panchayats and land line telephones in 01 Gram Panchayat. In the remaining 11 Gram Panchayats landline telephone and broadband facility has not been provided due to commercial non viability but these panchayats are covered with 2G mobile connectivity. The details are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

Department of Posts:- Under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana 31 villages have been adopted in Rajasthan Circle and in all these villages postal services are available. The details are given in the Statement-III (*See* below).

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology:- In 25 out of 33 villages IT (Information Technology) services are being provided through e-mitra Kiosks. The details are given in the Statement-IV (*See* below). Besides this, benefits related to food security are also being provided through e-PDS platform in 17 villages. The details are given in the Statement-V.

Statement-I

The position of sanctioned and vacant posts in different districts in respect of Department of Telecommunications, Department of Posts and Ministry of Electronics and Information technology

(A) Department of Telecommunications

Sl. No.	Name of Post	No. of Sanctioned Posts	No. of Vacant Posts
TERM Cell			
1.	SAG of ITS Group 'A'	02	–
2.	JAG of ITS Group 'A'	03	–
3.	JTS/STS of ITS Group 'A'	08	05
CCA, Jaipur			
1.	CCA	01	00
2.	Jt. CCA	02	01
3.	Dy. CCA	03	00
4.	ACAO	02	01
5.	Sr. AO/AO/AAO	23	12
6.	Sr./Jr. Accountant	37	16
7.	LDC	15	11
8.	MTS	02	00

Acronyms:-

TERM Cells:-Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells

CCA:- Controller of Communication Accounts.

(B) Department of Posts

Sl. No.	Name of Division / Category	Alwar		Bharatpur		Dholpur		Sawaimadhpur	
		Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Indian Postal Services Group A	1	0						
2.	Accounts Officer/Assistant Accounts Officer								
3.	Postal Services Group B			1	0	1	0	1	0
4.	Assistant Supdt. of Post offices	5	0	2	0	2	0	2	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	Inspector of Post	2	0	3	1	3	2	5	1
6.	Post Master Grade-III	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
7.	Post Master Grade-II	1	1						
8.	Post Master Grade-I	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	0
9.	Higher Selection Grade II	3	2	3	1	0		3	2
10.	Higher Selection Grade I	2	1	1	1			2	2
11.	Lower Selection Grade (Norm Base)	6	2	4	1	4	4	4	0
12.	Higher Selection Grade I (SBCO)	1	1						
13.	Postal Assistant (SBCO)	11	5						
14.	Steno	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
15.	Driver	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
16.	Mail Overseer								
17.	Time Scale Postal Assistant/ Sorting Assistant	190	62	111	36	84	21	141	43
18.	Postman/Mail Guard	84	10	49	12	33	0	49	9
19.	Multi Tasking Staff	38	10	23	9	24	8	35	14
20.	Tea/Coffee Maker	3	1						
	TOTAL	352	97	201	62	154	36	246	72

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Jaipur City		Jaipur Moffusil		PSD		CSD	
	Category	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Indian Postal Services Group A	1	0						
2.	Accounts Officer/Assistant Accounts Officer							1	0
3.	Postal Services Group B	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
4.	Assistant Supdt. of Post Offices	6	0	6	0				
5.	Inspector of Post	1	0	8	2				
6.	Post Master Grade-III	2	1						

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
7.	Post Master Grade-II	5	4						
8.	Post Master Grade-I	7	0	3	1				
9.	Higher Selection Grade II	14	4	3	2				
10.	Higher Selection Grade I	11	3			1	0		
11.	Lower Selection Grade (Norm Base)	20	11	1	1	1	0		
12.	Higher Selection Grade I (SBCO)								
13.	Postal Assistant (SBCO)	22	4	8	0				
14.	Steno	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Driver	1	0	1	0				
16.	Mail Overseer			14	2				
17.	Time Scale Postal Assistant/ Sorting Assistant	431	21	190	55	9	0	6	0
18.	Postman/Mail Guard	469	4	50	3				
19.	Multi Tasking Staff	143	7	38	1	21	13	6	0
20.	Tea/Coffee Maker					1	0		
	TOTAL	1140	59	324	67	34	13	14	0

Abbreviation: PSD–Postal Stores Depot
CSD–Circle Stamp Depot

Sl. No.	Name of Division / Category	RMS Jaipur		DA(P)		RO Jodhpur	
		Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24
1.	Indian Postal Services Group A	1	0			3	0
2.	Accounts Officer/Assistant Accounts Officer					2	0
3.	Postal Services Group B	1				15	2
4.	Assistant Supdt. of Post Offices	5	0			27	0
5.	Inspector of Post	4	2			52	15
6.	Post Master Grade-III					6	2

1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24
7.	Post Master Grade-II					4	3
8.	Post Master Grade-I					25	5
9.	Higher Selection Grade II	7	2			21	12
10.	Higher Selection Grade I	7	7			20	15
11.	Lower Selection Grade (Norm Base)	21	8			86	28
12.	Higher Selection Grade I (SBCO)						
13.	Postal Assistant (SBCO)					65	33
14.	Steno	1	0			13	5
15.	Driver	10	5			11	5
16.	Mail Overseer						
17.	Time Scale Postal Assistant/Sorting Assistant	324	69			1918	489
18.	Postman/Mail Guard	25	7			884	119
19.	Multi Tasking Staff	205	41			554	194
20.	Tea/Coffee Maker					22	7
	TOTAL	611	141	0	0	3728	934

Abbreviation: RMS–Railway Mail Service
DA(P) – Director of Accounts (Postal)
RO–Regional Office

Sl. No.	Name of Division / Category	RO Ajmer		CO Jaipur		Total	
		Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
1	2	25	26	27	28	29	30
1.	Indian Postal Services Group A	5	1	5	0	16	1
2.	Accounts Officer/Assistant Accounts Officer	1	0	4	2	8	2
3.	Postal Services Group B	11	1	7	0	41	3
4.	Assistant Supdt. of Post Offices	30	3	9	1	94	4
5.	Inspector of Post	36	14	1	0	115	37
6.	Post Master Grade-III	4	4			15	8
7.	Post Master Grade-II	5	3			15	11

1	2	25	26	27	28	29	30
8.	Post Master Grade-I	20	4			60	12
9.	Higher Selection Grade II	13	4	1	1	68	35
10.	Higher Selection Grade I	21	17	2	0	67	41
11.	Lower Selection Grade (Norm Base)	65	23	5	2	217	80
12.	Higher Selection Grade I (SBCO)	3	2			4	3
13.	Postal Assistant (SBCO)	54	26	7	0	172	68
14.	Steno	12	6	5	0	37	11
15.	Driver	11	8	2	2	40	22
16.	Mail Overseer	72	7			86	9
17.	Time Scale Postal Assistant/Sorting Assistant	1508	380	53	1	4965	1177
18.	Postman/Mail Guard	590	85			2233	249
19.	Multi Tasking Staff	447	150	17	0	1551	447
20.	Tea/Coffee Maker					26	8
	TOTAL	2908	738	118	9	9830	2228

Abbreviation: RO–Regional Office
CO–Circle Office

District-wise Sanctioned and Vacant Post (DoITC-HQ and Office of ACP-DD District HQ)

(C) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No.	District	Technical Director		Additional Director		System Analyst (Joint Director)		Analyst-cum-Programmer (Deputy Director)		Programmer		Assistant Programmer		Informatic Assistant	
		Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Ajmer		0		0		0	1	0	9	4	1	1	12	0
2.	Alwar		0		0		0	1	1	15	8	1	1	14	2
3.	Banswara		0		0		0	1	0	9	7	1	1	8	0
4.	Baran		0		0		0	1	0	8	4	1	1	8	0
5.	Barmer		0		0		0	1	0	9	6	1	1	10	3
6.	Bharatpur		0		0		0	1	0	10	5	1	0	11	0
7.	Bhilwara		0		0		0	1	0	12	4	1	0	16	2
8.	Bikaner		0		0		0	1	0	7	3	1	1	8	0
9.	Bundi		0		0		0	1	0	6	3	1	1	6	0
10.	Chittorgarh		0		0		0	1	0	12	9	1	1	11	2
11.	Churu		0		0		0	1	0	7	3	1	1	7	1
12.	Dausa		0		0		0	1	0	6	2	1	1	6	0
13.	Dholpur		0		0		0	1	0	5	2	1	1	6	0
14.	Dungarpur		0		0		0	1	0	6	5	1	1	8	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15.	Hanumangarh		0		0		0	1	0	8	5	1	1	7	0
16.	Jaipur	1	0	4	2	9	1	24	0	44	10	23	13	34	0
17.	Jaisalmer		0		0		0	1	0	4	1	1	1	4	2
18.	Jalore		0		0		0	1	0	9	7	1	1	9	0
19.	Jhalawar		0		0		0	1	0	7	0	1	0	8	0
20.	Jhunjhunu		0		0		0	1	0	9	1	1	1	8	0
21.	Jodhpur		0		0		0	1	0	11	2	1	0	11	0
22.	Karauli		0		0		0	1	0	6	2	1	1	6	0
23.	Kota		0		0	0	1	0	6	4	1	1	6	0	0
24.	Nagpur		0		0	0	1	0	12	2	1	1	12	0	0
25.	Pali		0		0	0	1	0	11	7	1	1	10	0	0
26.	Pratapgarh		0		0	0	1	0	6	5	1	1	5	0	0
27.	Rajsamand		0		0	0	1	0	8	7	1	1	7	0	0
28.	Sawai Modhopur		0		0	0	1	0	6	3	1	0	8	0	0
29.	Shri Ganganagar		0		0	0	1	0	9	5	1	1	9	0	0
30.	Sikar		0		0	0	1	0	9	1	1	1	9	0	0
31.	Sirohi		0		0	0	1	0	6	3	1	1	5	0	0
32.	Tonk		0		0	0	1	0	7	1	1	1	7	0	0
33.	Udaipur		0		0	0	1	0	12	6	1	1	12	1	0
	TOTAL	1	0	4	2	9	1	56	1	311	137	55	40	308	14

Abbreviation: DoITC- Department of Information Technology and Communication
ACP-DD - Analyst-cum-Programmer (Deputy Director)

Statement-II

Details of Gram Panchayats having Telephone and Broadband facility under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

Department of Telecommunications

Sl. No.	Name of Gram Panchayat having landline telephone and broadband facility	Sl. No.	Name of Gram Panchayat having only mobile (2G) connectivity
1.	Kalesara	1.	Bhapura
2.	Salemabad	2.	Busi
3.	Rodwal	3.	Kantoli
4.	Taseeng	4.	Bhanin
5.	Baitu Bhopji	5.	Bara Padampura
6.	Bikampur	6.	Savaniya
7.	Pathena	7.	Hotigaon
8.	Bankra	8.	Ganhaidi
9.	Daulatgarh	9.	Loonas
10.	Nagari	10.	Banar
11.	Gada Khera	11.	Kalyansingh ki Sid
12.	Bhalta		
13.	Dhankya		
14.	Ramdeora		
15.	Doti		
16.	Chawandiya		
17.	Mirjewala		
18.	Chala		
19.	Toda		
20.	Tasol		
21.	Beswa		
22.	Khangata		
23.	Mandoli*		

*Only landline telephone available.

Statement-III

Number and name of villages adopted by Member Lok Sabha under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana in Rajasthan Circle

Department of Posts

Sl. No.	State	Name of Hon'ble Member	District	Tehsil	Village
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Rajasthan	Smt. Santosh Km Ahlawat	Jhunjhunu	Bubana	Gada Khera
2.	Rajasthan	Sh. Subhash Chandra Baheria	Bhilwara	Jabazpur	Bankra
3.	Rajasthan	Sh. Om Birla	Kota	Sangod	Doti
4.	Rajasthan	Sh. Ramcharan Bohara	Jaipur	Jaipur	Vijaypura
5.	Rajasthan	Sh. C. R. Choudhary	Nagaur	Koochaman	Chawaudiya
6.	Rajasthan	Sh. P. P. Chaudhary	Pali	Pali	Busi
7.	Rajasthan	Sh. Nihal Chand Chouhan	Ganganagar	Ganganagar	Mirjewala
8.	Rajasthan	Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram Chaoudhary	Barmer	Baytoo	Baitu Bhopji
9.	Rajasthan	Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat	Ajmer	Peesangar	Kalesara
10.	Rajasthan	Sh. Sukhbir Singh Jaunpura	Tonk	Malpura	Kantoli
11.	Rajasthan	Sh Chandra Prakash Joshi	Chittorgarh	Chittorgarh	Nagari
12.	Rajasthan	Sh. Rahul Kaswan	Churu	Taranagar	Bhanin
13.	Rajasthan	Sh Bahadur Singh Kuli	Bharatpur	Weir	Pathena
14.	Rajasthan	Sh Harish Chandra Meena	Dausa	Chaksu	Bara Padampura
15.	Rajasthan	Sh Arjun Lal Meena	Udaipur	Salumbar	Toda
16.	Rajasthan	Sh Arjun Ram Meghwal	Bikaner	Kofayat	Bikampur
17.	Rajasthan	Mahant Chand Nath	Alwar	Behror	Rodwal
18.	Rajasthan	Sh. Manshankar Ninama	Banswara	Ghatol	Savaniya
19.	Rajasthan	Sh Devji Manisingram Patel	Jalore	Sanchore	Hotigaon
20.	Rajasthan	Sh Manoj Rajoria	Dholpur	Rajakhera	Ganhaidi

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Rajasthan	Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore	Jaipur Rural	Jaipur	Dhankya
22.	Rajasthan	Sh. Hariom Singh Rathore	Rajsamand	Rajsamand	Tasoi
23.	Rajasthan	Sh. Sumedhanand Saraswati	Sikar	Neem Ka Thana	Ghata
24.	Rajasthan	Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Jaisalmer	Pokaran	Ramdeora
25.	Rajasthan	Sh. Dushyant Singh	Jhalawar	Aklera	Bhalta

Number and name of villages adopted by Member Rajya Sabha under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana in Rajasthan Circle

1.	Rajasthan	Sh. Bhupender Yadav	Ajmer	Kishangarh	Saleemabad
2.	Rajasthan	Sh. V. P. Singh Badnore	Bhilwara	Asind	Daulatgarh
3.	Rajasthan	Sh. Narendra Budania	Churu	Taranagar	Loonas
4.	Rajasthan	Sh. Vijay Goel	Alwar	Behror	Taseeng
5.	Rajasthan	Shri Ram Jethmalani	Jaipur	Kotputli	Banethi
6.	Rajasthan	Sh. Narayan Lal Panchariya	Jodhpur	Phalodi	Kalyansingh Ki Sid

Statement-IV

List of e-mitra Kiosk working in different Gram Panchayats

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No.	Village name	No. of e-mitra Kiosk
1.	Gada Khera	3
2.	Bankra	3
3.	Doti	3
4.	Bhapura	3
5.	Chawandiya	2
6.	Busi	4
7.	Mirjewala	5
8.	Baitu Bhopji	6
9.	Kalesara	3
10.	Kantoli	3

Sl. No.	Village name	No. of e-mitra Kiosk
11.	Nagari	3
12.	Bhanin	2
13.	Pathena	5
14.	Toda	2
15.	Bara Padampura	3
16.	Bikampur	4
17.	Rodwal	2
18.	Savaniya	1
19.	Hotigaon	2
20.	Ganhaidi	4
21.	Dhankya	2
22.	Tasol	2
23.	Chala	9
24.	Ramdeora	3
25.	Bhalta	4
	TOTAL	82

Statement-V

Details of villages where benefits related to food security are being provided through e-PDS platform

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No.	District	Village
1.	Jhunjhunu	Gada Khera
2.	Kota	Doti
3.	Jaipur	Bhapura
4.	Pali	Busi
5.	Barmer	Baitu Bhopji
6.	Ajmer	Kalesara
7.	Tonk-Sawai Madhopur	Kantoli
8.	Churu	Bhanin
9.	Bharatpur	Pathena

Sl. No.	District	Village
10.	Udaipur	Toda
11.	Dausa	Bara Padampura
12.	Bikaner	Bikampur
13.	Alwar	Rodwal
14.	Karauli-Dholpur	Ganhaidi
15.	Jaipur Rural	Dhankya
16.	Sikar	Chala
17.	Jhalawar-Baran	Bhalta

Amendment in Unified License

2196. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Department of Telecommunications has amended the Unified License, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it means that the consumer can now call phone numbers from online voice service providers;

(c) whether the country has sufficient handsets which support Voice over Long Term Evolution; and

(d) if not, the reasons for amending the licence before hand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has issued an amendment to the Unified License for inter connection over Internet Protocol (IP) Networks on 19.04.2016 for access service providers licensed under section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

(b) No, Sir, it is only for interconnection of core-network on IP basis for Telecom Service Providers.

(c) Voice over Long Term Evolution (VoLTE) capable handsets are very low in Indian market and it is very small percentage of the total LTE handsets.

(d) The amendment is for interconnection of Core networks of Access Service Providers which are currently moving towards IP base. This amendment has no relation with VoLTE handsets.

New system of postal delivery

†2197. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to introduce a new system of postal delivery to deliver the speed post, registry and parcel on the same day of booking;

(b) whether Government is planning to start logistic services for postal delivery in all the district centres of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the number of district centres where logistic service has been started so far; and

(d) the number of post offices in Maharashtra which are currently working under Core Banking System and whether any time-frame has been fixed for starting online services in all the post offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Posts has introduced the same day delivery service for Speed Post, Express Parcel and Business Parcel in select post offices of the country.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However Logistics Post Service has been provided in 8 districts of Maharashtra.

(d) There are 2135 post offices in Maharashtra which are covered under the Core Banking Solution (CBS). However it has not been possible to cover 70 Post Offices in the State since they have been found to be technically not feasible.

False publicity of mobile networks by telecos

†2198. SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain mobile operators are making false publicity about their sound network, while the real condition is contrary to it;

(b) whether TRAI has taken action on the complaints received in this regard;

(c) whether TRAI has also issued guidelines that the mobile operators should keep their helpline number free-of-cost; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons behind not keeping the helpline service free-of-cost?

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At present, there is no mechanism in place for monitoring of the contents of advertisements/publicity campaign of the mobile operators about their network. As regards the quality of service performed by the service providers, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down the Quality of Service standards for 2G and 3G services through "The standards of Quality of Service for Basic Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations, 2009".

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending March, 2016, for cellular mobile telephone services, all the service providers are generally meeting the benchmarks related to the parameters for its 2G services. Non Compliance with the benchmarks is mostly observed in respect of the parameters (1) "Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH (Traffic Channel) drop (call drop) rate" (2) "Worst affected BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) due to downtime."

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending March 2016, for cellular mobile telephone services 3G services, all the service providers are generally meeting the benchmarks related to the parameters for its 3G services. Non Compliance with the benchmarks is mostly observed in respect of the parameters (1) "Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH drop (call drop) rate and Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate:- CBBH (Cell Bouncing Busy Hour)" (2) "Worst affected BTSs and Node-B's due to downtime (percentage)."

(b) TRAI Act, 1997 does not envisage handling of individual consumer complaints. Complaints received in TRAI are forwarded to the concerned service providers for taking appropriate action. Accordingly, complaints against poor networks of service providers received in TRAI have been forwarded to the respective service providers.

(c) and (d) TRAI has laid down the framework for redressal of complaints by service providers through "The Telecom Consumer Complaint Redressal Regulations, 2012." These regulations provide for a two tier complaint redressal mechanism *viz*. Complaint Centre and Appellate Authority. The complaint centre shall have a toll free consumer care number for lodging complaints and service requests. The service providers can also have a general information number at its complaint centre for information/enquiry. The IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System) access on this number is free but the service providers can charge nominal tariff for speaking to consumer care agent. The consumers can also lodge appeal with the Appellate Authority through the toll free consumer care number.

Relaxation in norms for opening post offices

†2199. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has relaxed the norms for opening post offices in remote, tribal, hilly and border States, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the goals set by Government for setting up or upgrading the branches of post offices during the current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has relaxed the norms for opening of post offices in hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas. The same norms are also applicable to border States if that is a hilly, tribal, desert or inaccessible area. The details of norms are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The goals/targets for opening of 400 new Branch Post Offices by redeployment and relocation were set for the current plan period, out of which 344 Branch Post Offices have already been opened by redeployment and relocation during the period from 2012-13 to 2015-16 and target for opening of Branch Post Offices during current financial year 2016-17 is 93.

No goal/target for upgradation of Branch Post Offices has been set for the current plan period. However, upgradation of Branch Post Offices is an ongoing exercise depending upon the requirements and subject to fulfilment of the prescribed norms for upgradation of Branch Post Offices to Sub Post Offices.

Statement

Norms for opening of new branch post offices and upgrading/opening of departmental sub post offices

1. **Norms for opening of Branch Post Offices (BOs):**

1.1 **Population:**

(a) **In Normal Areas:** 3000 population in the group of villages to be served by the proposed post office (including 1000 population in the proposed post office village).

(b) **In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:** 500 population in the individual village and 1000 population in the group of villages.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1.2 **Distance:**

(a) **In Normal Areas:** The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office should be 3 Kms.

(b) **In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:** The distance limit will be the same as above. However, in Hill Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Postal Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

1.3 **Anticipated Income:**

(a) **In Normal Areas:** The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33.33% of the cost.

(b) **In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:** The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of opening of a new BO, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor does its income reduce below the minimum prescribed.

2. **Norms for upgrading/opening of Departmental Sub Post Offices (SOs):**

(a) **In Rural Areas:** The minimum work load of the BOs proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is ₹ 2400/- in normal rural areas and ₹ 4800/- in hill and tribal areas.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor does its income reduce below the minimum prescribed.

(b) **In Urban Areas:** In urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting and at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.

The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Km. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above and 2 Km. in other urban areas.

No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. from each other. Delivery Post Office in urban areas should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.

Telecom spectrum auction

2200. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recently cleared mega telecom spectrum auction plan that would offer high-speed data, help reduce call drops etc., if so, the details thereof;

(b) the estimated revenue that is expected from the auction;

(c) whether this would increase the cost of operation of mobile service providers and consequently passed on to the customers, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC), which telecom firms have to pay, has been decided; and

(e) if not, when and who will decide the payment of SUC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The Government has approved the issues related to spectrum auction, *viz.* Quantum of spectrum, Block size, Conditions for minimum spectrum to bid, Spectrum Cap, Auction of partial spectrum, Rollout obligations, Eligibility Conditions, Validity period, Reserve price, payment terms etc., for auction of spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands.

(b) The expected revenue from spectrum auction is dependent on market dynamics such as behavior of bidders, etc.

(c) It is expected that competition in the telecom sector may force operators not to increase the tariffs.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken a decision on Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) on 3rd August, 2016.

Villages with access to telecom services

2201. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all inhabited villages in the country have not been covered with access to telecom services at affordable price though Government is releasing huge subsidies to telecom companies under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) since one and half decades, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is having steady monitoring mechanism on the expenditure of these funds and services delivered by the service providers; and

(c) the year-wise funds collected under Universal Access Levy (UAL) and expenditure since inception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) (i) 5,81,183 out of 5,93,601 inhabited villages (*i.e.* 97.9%) of the country as per Census 2011 have been provided with Village Public Telephones (VPTs) with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). State-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(ii) It is estimated that there are about 55,000 villages in the country that do not have mobile coverage. State-wise list of uncovered villages with mobile coverage is given in the Statement-II (*See* below). Mobile coverage to these uncovered villages is likely to be provided in a phased manner, subject to availability of financial resources. Government has prioritised provision of mobile services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected area, North Eastern States, Islands and Himalayan States (Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh) in the first phase.

(b) The agreements between USOF and Service Providers consist of the following provisions by way of monitoring mechanism and control of expenditure on activities:-

(i) Terms and conditions of the Agreement to guarantee adherence to Quality of Service.

(ii) Self-certification through an affidavit by Service Providers.

(iii) Deductions for service interruptions.

(iv) Roll out clause.

(v) Liquidated damages.

(vi) Post payment sample verification.

(vii) Physical inspection.

(viii) Annual auditor's certificate.

(ix) Recovery of overpayments with penal interest.

The USOF Administration is assisted by Controller of Communication Accounts (CCA) Offices spread across the country. These field units of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) have been delegated the functions of subsidy disbursement and verification of subsidy claims.

(c) The year-wise funds collected under Universal Access Levy (UAL) and expenditure since inception is given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise numbers of VPTs provisioned

Name of the State	No. of inhabited villages as per Census 2001	No. of VPTs provided
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	501	352
Andhra Pradesh/Telangana	26613	25107
Assam	25124	24692
Bihar	39032	38941
Jharkhand	29354	28821
Gujarat	18159	18054
Haryana	6764	6678
Himachal Pradesh	17495	16390
Jammu and Kashmir	6417	6385
Karnataka	27481	27451
Kerala	1372	1321
Madhya Pradesh	52117	51986
Chhattisgarh	19744	18328
Maharashtra	41442	40544
Meghalaya (NE-I)	5782	5290
Mizoram (NE-I)	707	704
Tripura (NE-I)	858	858
Arunachal Pradesh	3863	2810
Manipur (NE-II)	2315	2174
Nagaland (NE-II)	1278	1263
Odisha	47529	45215
Punjab	12301	12065
Rajasthan	39753	39568
Tamil Nadu	15492	15492
Uttar Pradesh	97942	97852
Uttarakhand	15761	15271
West Bengal excluding Sikkim	37955	37142
Sikkim (WB Circle)	450	429
TOTAL	5,93,601	5,81,183

Statement-II

State-wise list of uncovered villages with mobile coverage

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Total number of inhabited villages as per Census 2011	No. of uncovered villages
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16335	3812
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	2886
3.	Assam	25372	2885
4.	Bihar	39073	2534
5.	Chhattisgarh	19567	4041
6.	Goa	320	65
7.	Gujarat	17843	1275
8.	Haryana	6642	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17882	2416
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6337	460
11.	Jharkhand	29492	5949
12.	Karnataka	27397	0
13.	Kerala	1017	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	51929	5926
15.	Maharashtra	40959	4792
16.	Manipur	2515	610
17.	Meghalaya	6459	2389
18.	Mizoram	704	258
19.	Nagaland	1400	137
20.	Odisha	47675	10398
21.	Punjab	12168	91
22.	Rajasthan	43264	770
23.	Sikkim	425	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	15049	113
25.	Telangana	10347	1009
26.	Tripura	863	2

1	2	3	4
27.	Uttar Pradesh	97814	266
28.	Uttarakhand	15745	1876
29.	West Bengal	37469	487
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	684	190
31.	Puducherry		0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		5
33.	Daman and Diu		1
34.	Lakshadweep		1
	TOTAL	5,97,608	55,669

Statement-III

Year-wise funds collected under Universal Access Levy (UAL) and expenditure (subsidy disbursed) as on 30.06.2016

(₹ in crore)

Year	UAL collections (Booked figures as per DOT A/cs)	Funds allocated and disbursed through USOF	Balance (CB)
1	2	3	4
2002-03	1653.61	300.00	
2003-04	2143.22	200.00	
2004-05	3457.73	1314.59	
2005-06	3215.13	1766.85	
2006-07	3940.73	1500.00	
2007-08	5405.80	1290.00	
2008-09	5515.14	8548.64	
2009-10	5778.00	2400.00	
2010-11	6114.56	3100.00	
2011-12	6723.57	1687.96	
2012-13	6735.47	625.00	
2013-14	7896.39	2163.45	

1	2	3	4
2014-15	7537.88	2086.98	
2015-16	9835.70	3100.00	
2016-17 (Prov.)	450.77	1063.72	
TOTAL	76403.70	31147.19	45256.51

Note: Ministry of Finance allocated ₹ 6948.64 crore towards reimbursement of licence fees and spectrum charges to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the period 2002-03 to 2005-06 for fulfilling rural obligation.

Internet facility for full year

†2202. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering to provide internet facility for full year in just ₹ 100;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

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

State Food Commissions

2203. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Food Commissions for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of the National Food Security Act, are in place in all States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the names of States where the Commission is not in place and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to complete formation of the Commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for constitution/designation

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of State Food Commission (SFC) by State Governments. As per reports received, in all the 34 States/Union Territories implementing NFSA, except Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and West Bengal, SFC has been constituted/designated. No time-frame has been fixed for constitution of SFC.

Release of subsidy fund to FCI

2204. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to delayed and inadequate release of subsidy fund to FCI, it often needs to resort to raising short term loans and exhausting its cash credit limit of 54,000 crore with designated banks; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the FCI had raised about 2000 crore each as short term loans in financial year 2014, financial year 2015 and financial year 2016, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) There is no delay in release of food subsidy to Food Corporation of India (FCI) and fund allocated in the budget for food subsidy is released on time as per monthly/ quarterly expenditure plan. However, even though Government has substantially increased the budgetary allocation for food subsidy in recent years, the requirements of FCI has not been met fully. In order to meet operational expenses, FCI has been availing Short Term Loans (STL) to ensure smooth procurement operations, after fully utilizing Cash Credit Limit of ₹ 54,495 crore. Details of STL raised by FCI during financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Financial Year	STL Raised
2014-15	59,415
2015-16	70,820
2016-17 (upto 25.07.2016)	24,975

Using e-pass machine to check pilferage

†2205. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the States which have shown interest in using e-pass machine to check pilferage in ration system and the number of ration shops where ration is being provided under this system, State-wise;

(b) whether satisfactory steps have been taken in Uttar Pradesh in respect of this system; and

(c) whether any study has been conducted to see that the pilferage of food stuff has been curbed or not in the distribution of ration with the use of e-pass machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the information received from States/UTs, the total 1,25,104 Fair Price Shops (FPSs) have been automated so far by installation of ePoS machines, detail is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Uttar Pradesh has reported automation of only 6 Fair Price Shops against the total 77,837 FPSs.

(c) No Sir.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Fairs Price Shops automated by installation of ePoS machine so far

Sl. No.	State/UT	Operational ePoS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28,942
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
3.	Chhattisgarh	11,828
4.	Daman and Diu	51
5.	Delhi	34
6.	Gujarat	17,000
7.	Haryana	20
8.	Jharkhand	2,198
9.	Karnataka	3,877
10.	Madhya Pradesh	22,401
11.	Maharashtra	93
12.	Odisha	32
13.	Rajasthan	24,647

Sl. No.	State/UT	Operational ePoS
14.	Sikkim	20
15.	Tamil Nadu	12,297
16.	Telangana	1,622
17.	Tripura	25
18.	Uttar Pradesh	6
19.	Uttarakhand	8
	TOTAL	1,25,104

Rise in price of sugar and other food items

†2206. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that despite having sufficient stock of sugar in the country, a huge jump in the price of sugar has been witnessed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been phenomenal increase in the prices of other food items over last few months, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to reduce the price of sugar and other food items upto that level which is affordable, especially for the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Retail price of sugar was stable since last 3 months. However, in recent past, it has increased by about 5%.

(b) There has been some increase in the retail prices of some of the essential food items in past few months. The details of All India Monthly Average Retail-Price of Essential Commodities for past seven months are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

All India monthly average retail prices of essential commodities

(₹/Kg)

Centre	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16
Rice	27.06	27.04	26.95	26.85	26.83	27.03	27.39
Wheat	23.35	23.82	23.69	23.27	23.34	23.39	23.29

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Centre	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Jul-16
Atta	24.58	24.98	24.95	24.58	24.48	24.61	24.75
Gram Dal	67.42	66.05	65.48	68.26	73.58	79.26	92.65
Tur Dal	145.7	140.14	135.27	138.22	141.19	140.1	139.5
Urad Dal	139.6	137.17	135.29	141.35	152.19	152.73	151.7
Moong Dal	105.3	102.56	100.96	100.88	100.72	98.41	96.98
Masoor Dal	83.61	80.33	79.12	81.1	82.84	83.8	85.59
Groundnut Oil	123.6	123.2	122.8	125.03	129.3	132.23	134.4
Mustard Oil	111.9	110.87	107.76	106.34	108.36	108.42	108.3
Vanaspati	71.51	71.31	71.22	72.23	73.67	74.27	74.56
Soya Oil	81.46	81.23	80.66	81.57	82.28	82.27	82.39
Sunflower Oil	96.11	95.9	95.5	95.5	95.07	96.28	95.76
Palm Oil	62.57	64.11	64.77	67.4	69.94	69.67	68.73
Potato	15.19	14.92	15.32	16.55	19.01	21.24	22.61
Onion	22.66	19.62	17.16	16.4	15.68	15.77	16.64
Tomato	27.99	19.92	16.83	18.84	26.73	40.17	40.96
Sugar	33.15	33.92	34.64	37.4	39.23	39.5	39.77
Gur	39.65	39.49	39.25	40.08	40.98	41.72	42.38
Milk	39.58	39.69	39.53	39.47	39.75	40.26	40.39
Tea Loose	204.5	202.81	197.72	199.15	199.02	198.97	197.7
Salt	15.19	15.01	15.04	15.23	15	15.08	14.74

Source: State Civil Supplies Department.

Statement-II

Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

General Measure:

1. National Consultation Meeting with Food Ministers of States and UTs held;
2. Advisory issued to States/UTs to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing;
3. Review meetings on price and availability situation are regularly held;
4. Higher MSP announced so as to incentivize production;

Specific Measures:

Pulses

5. Export of all pulses banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils;
6. Import of pulses allowed at zero import duty; Stock limit on pulses extended;
7. MSP raised for Kharif pulses of 2016-17 for Tur, Urad and Moong as well as for Rabi pulses of Gram and Masoor for season 2015-16;
8. Approved creation of buffer stock of pulses; released around 39,274 MT of pulses from the buffer stock (consisting of Tur and Urad) to States/UTs at subsidized rates;
9. Banned new contracts in Chana; disallowed taking fresh positions in respect of running contracts to reduce speculative activities;

Edible Oils

10. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kg;
11. MSP (including bonus) increased for various rabi and kharif oil seeds;

Sugar

12. To keep a check on rise in price of sugar, the Central Government has imposed stock holding and turnover limits on sugar for 6 months. Further, Government has imposed custom duty @ 20% on export of sugar to conserve stocks in the country and ensure its availability at reasonable prices.

Allocation of foodgrains for tea garden workers in Assam under TPDS

2207. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Assam more than 20 lakh tea garden workers and their dependents are being allocated rice and wheat by the Central Government for the last more than 50 years under TPDS, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Central Government is planning to discontinue the age old practice of allocation of foodgrains for the welfare of tea garden workers and their dependents in future, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of

the Central and State Governments wherein the Central Government is responsible for procurement and allocation of foodgrains to the State/UT Governments. The responsibilities for lifting of foodgrains, identification of eligible beneficiaries and distribution of foodgrains rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Government of India thus does not make allocation directly to the beneficiaries.

(b) Government has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) under which the foodgrains are to be provided to the priority category @ 5 kg per person per month and AAY households @ 35kg per family per month at highly subsidized prices of ₹ 1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains/wheat/rice. Government of Assam has implemented NFSA from December, 2015 and at present Government of India has allocated a monthly total quantity of 1.41 lakh tonnes including 1.35 lakh tonnes of rice as a normal NFSA allocation and 0.57 lakh tonnes of wheat as a tide over allocation. Prior to implementation of NFSA by the State Government, Government of India was making allocation of 1.17 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to the State Government under erstwhile TPDS. However, keeping in view the special requirement of the State Government, a monthly quantity of 7590 tonnes of rice and 5000 tonnes of wheat is allocated to Assam for tea garden workers at economic cost over and above its entitlement under NFSA.

Transparency in PDS

†2208. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated/proposed any scheme to make food and Public Distribution System (PDS) transparent and sound, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is also formulating any scheme wherein subsidy would directly be transferred in the accounts of concerned persons, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Under Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17), Government has approved a plan scheme on 'End-to-End' Computerization of TPDS Operations, to make Food and Public Distribution System more transparent. The component-I of the Scheme comprises of activities namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

grievance redressal mechanisms etc. The present status of implementation of various activities of the scheme is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The 'Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015' was notified on 21.08.2015 under the National Food Security Act, 2013 for providing food subsidy in cash into the bank account of entitled households directly to enable them to purchase foodgrains from open market. As per rules, it can be taken up in the identified areas for which there is a written consent of the State Government/UT Admn. With the consent of 3 UTs, the scheme has been implemented on pilot basis in Chandigarh and Puducherry *w.e.f.* 01.09.2015 covering 2.09 lakhs and 5.81 lakhs beneficiaries and partially in Dadra and Nagar Haveli from 01.03.2016 covering 0.35 lakh beneficiaries.

Statement

Status of End-to-End computerization of TPDS operations

(as on 02.08.2016)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Digitization of Ration Cards	Aadhaar Seeding in RCs	Online Allocation of Foodgrains	Computerization of Supply-chain Management	Transparency Portal	Online Grievance Redressal	Toll Free Helpline Numbers	Operational ePoS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100%	33%	S. Andaman	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	29,027
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	100%	44.5%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	0
4.	Assam	100%	-	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
5.	Bihar	100%	0.13%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
6.	Chandigarh	100%	95%	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBT (Cash)
7.	Chhattisgarh	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	11,851
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100%	74%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
9.	Daman and Diu	100%	90%	Implemented	Partial	Yes	Yes	Yes	51
10.	Delhi	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	34
11.	Goa	100%	88%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Gujarat	100%	74%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	17,000
13.	Haryana	100%	89%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	20
14.	Himachal Pradesh	98%	93%	-	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	100%	62%	Up to TSOs	-	Yes	-	Yes	0
16.	Jharkhand	100%	88%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	2,198
17.	Karnataka	100%	97%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	-	Yes	3,877
18.	Kerala	100%	95%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
19.	Lakshadweep	100%	97%	-	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	100%	71%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	22,401
21.	Maharashtra	100%	87%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	93
22.	Manipur	100%	0.37%	Partial	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
23.	Meghalaya	100%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
24.	Mizoram	100%	0.39%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
25.	Nagaland	100%	0.41%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
26.	Odisha	100%	69%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	32
27.	Puducherry	100%	95%	NA	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBT (Cash)
28.	Punjab	100%	94%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	-	0
29.	Rajasthan	100%	100%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	24,647

30.	Sikkim	100%	69%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	20
31.	Tamil Nadu	100%	19%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	13,748
32.	Telangana	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	1,622
33.	Tripura	100%	91%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	-	Yes	25
34.	Uttar Pradesh	100%	48.71%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
35.	Uttarakhand	100%	66%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	8
36.	West Bengal	100%	57%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes	0
		100%	61.25%	26*	15	36	32	35	1,26,663

Note: State/UTs with partially implementation of Online Allocation (Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir and Manipur) are also counted in summary.

Production, consumption and import of sugar

2209. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, consumption and import of sugar in the country during the last two years;

(b) whether Government intends to reduce the sugar import; and

(c) whether Government has extended subsidy on export of raw sugar, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The details of production, consumption and import of sugar in the country during the last two sugar seasons 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given below:-

Particulars	Sugar Season (October-September)	
	2013-14	2014-15 (Prov.)
Production	245.54	284.63
Consumption	243.00	256.00
Import (Under OGL)	1.05	-

OGL- Open General Licence.

(b) Government has increased import duty on sugar from 25% to 40% with effect from 30.04.2015 to discourage import under Open General Licence (OGL).

(c) No, Sir. The incentive on export of raw sugar was applicable upto 30th September, 2015.

Proposal to connect old depot holders with any other scheme

†2210. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) has decreased at a large scale in Delhi, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether kerosene oil depots have been closed due to kerosene-free Delhi drive;

(c) whether Government is bringing any proposal to connect the old depot owners (licence holders) with any other scheme, if so, by when and the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether ration shopkeepers are also facing difficulties in getting their livelihood through FPS shops, if so, whether Government is considering this issue, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the information received from Government of NCT of Delhi total number of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) have decreased to 2281 in April, 2016 from 2323 in April, 2015 which is approx 1.8%.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information received from Government of NCT of Delhi, Food Supply Department has advertised vacancies of FPS in which preference will be given to such Kerosene Oil Depot holder for allotment of FPS.

(d) To improve the economic viability of FPSs the Government of NCT of Delhi has taken following steps:-

1. Margin Money for FPS have been revised to ₹ 70 per qtls from ₹ 35 per qtls since September, 2014.
2. The licensee of FPS allowed to sell the non PDS items.

Complaints against technology-based marketing firms

2211. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints received against technology-based marketing firms, including e-commerce companies, telemarketing companies etc. during last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of defaulting companies along with the action taken against them, including fine collected from the defaulting companies during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide protection to the consumers against such malpractices, including the safeguards which have been made a part of the amended Consumer Protection Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The details of complaints received through the National Consumer Helpline against technology-based marketing firms, including e-commerce companies, telemarketing companies etc. during last three years, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The National Consumer Helpline forwards the complaints to the companies concerned and monitors the process of resolution. In cases where the grievances of the consumers are not resolved by the companies, the consumers are advised to file complaints against such companies in the Consumer Fora.

(c) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides for a three tier quasi-judicial mechanism at the District, State and National levels where a consumer can file complaints against defective goods, deficient services and any unfair trade practices. The Consumer Protection Bill, 2015 has already been introduced in Parliament to carry out comprehensive amendments to further strengthen the existing legislation. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution in its Ninth Report on the said Bill has recommended to empower the Department of Consumer Affairs to make rules to regulate e-commerce, direct selling and multi-level marketing.

Statement

State-wise complaints received for e-Commerce, telemarketing and distance marketing at National Consumer Helpline

Sl. No.	State	April 2013-March 2014	May 2014-March 2015	April 2015-March 2016	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Delhi	1057	2668	4054	7779
2.	Maharashtra	669	1881	3213	5763
3.	Uttar Pradesh	507	1482	2677	4666
4.	Karnataka	358	1116	1884	3358
5.	Haryana	356	939	1507	2802
6.	West Bengal	255	889	1839	2983
7.	Gujarat	299	814	1481	2594
8.	Rajasthan	211	648	1152	2011
9.	Madhya Pradesh	120	478	950	1548
10.	Andhra Pradesh	163	470	850	1483
11.	Tamil Nadu	90	365	622	1077
12.	Punjab	124	323	497	944
13.	Bihar	115	295	519	929
14.	Jharkhand	58	176	325	559

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Kerala	38	176	209	423
16.	Odisha	49	164	377	590
17.	Assam	52	155	251	458
18.	Jammu and Kashmir	57	136	168	361
19.	Uttarakhand	48	127	274	449
20.	Chhattisgarh	35	120	267	422
21.	Telangana	0	91	346	437
22.	Himachal Pradesh	41	90	142	273
23.	Chandigarh	22	59	85	166
24.	Goa	16	44	58	118
25.	Tripura	11	25	44	80
26.	Manipur	2	10	12	24
27.	Sikkim	2	10	15	27
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	9	6	15
29.	Meghalaya	12	9	22	43
30.	Puducherry	4	8	15	27
31.	Nagaland	2	6	8	16
32.	Mizoram	0	5	5	10
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	4	27	34
34.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	3	9	16
35.	Daman and Diu	5	2	13	20
	TOTAL	4785	13797	23923	42505

Rotting of foodgrains in the godowns of FCI

2212. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of foodgrains rot in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last four years, year-wise;

(c) the revenue lost by FCI due to rotting of foodgrains during the said period; and

(d) the remedial measures Government has taken or proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

Foodgrains conforming to prescribed norms are procured for Central pool and stored in scientific manner in covered and CAP (cover and plinth) storage. All precautionary measures are taken for safe storage of foodgrains to avoid damage. Inspite of all precautions, some quantity may get damaged/become non-issuable during storage due to various reasons such as storage pests' attack, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc. Quantity of damaged/non-issuable foodgrains in FCI alongwith estimated loss during the last four years, year-wise is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Quantity of foodgrain accrued as damaged/non-issuable (fig in lakh tonnes)	Estimated loss (₹ in crores)
1.	2012-13	0.03	2.49
2.	2013-14	0.25	23.87
3.	2014-15	0.19	20.88
4.	2015-16	0.03	3.73

(d) Government has taken following measures to keep the damages of foodgrains to bare minimum:

(1) Foodgrains are procured for Central Pool by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Governments/agencies conforming to uniform specifications formulated by the Government and are stored in covered godowns as well as in CAP (cover and plinth) storage.

(2) Efforts are made to minimize storage of foodgrains in CAP storage and not to use unscientific (katcha) plinths.

(3) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels in FCI to monitor quality of stocks regularly and to reduce damages.

(4) In order to increase covered storage capacity, Government formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies. A capacity of 134.83 Lakh tonnes has been completed as on 30.06.2016 under this scheme. Government has approved the action plan for construction of 100 lakh tonnes silos across the country in a phased manner.

Scientific code of storage practices including periodic inspections, prophylactic and curative treatment for insect pest control, FIFO (First In First Out) principle etc. are followed for safe storage of Central Pool foodgrains.

Outstanding claims under LSPEF

2213. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Directorate of Sugar has issued directions for payment of difference of cost of sugar to States under LSPEF;

(b) whether there are any outstanding claims of Rajasthan State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd., Jaipur;

(c) if so, why LSPEF claims have not been released to the Corporation;

(d) whether any outstanding subsidy claims of the Corporation are also pending for non-lifting Levy Sugar from Lokmangal Sugar Mill because of revised policy of procurement of sugar from open market; and

(e) if so, whether Central Government will issue directions to its concerned authorities to settle the outstanding subsidy claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been advised to make prompt payment of differential cost of sugar to States under LSPEF.

(b) and (c) The outstanding claims of Rajasthan State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd, Jaipur have been paid on 30th July, 2016 by FCI.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has provisionally deducted equivalent subsidy amount from the sugar subsidy claims of States/UTs including Rajasthan State on account of pending un-lifted levy sugar allocated to them. The Government of Rajasthan has been requested to lift pending levy sugar against Lokmangal Sugar Mill in order to release the deducted subsidy amount.

Norms to protect direct selling agents

2214. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to bring in new norms to protect direct selling agents, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the direct selling industry is set to touch nearly ₹ 2000 crore by 2025, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) A proposal for issue of advisory guidelines on direct selling which also cover the protection of direct selling agents is under consideration of the Government.

(b) At present, no official data is being compiled on the sector. However, according to the recent joint study report by FICCI and KPMG, size of Indian direct selling industry has potential to reach INR 645 billion by 2025.

Storage of wheat in open plinth

2215. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total storage capacity of wheat and rice of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the country; and

(b) the quantity of wheat stored in the open plinth by FCI on an average in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As on 30.06.2016, total storage capacity with Food Corporation of India (FCI) was as under:-

(Figures in Lakh MT)

Storage Capacity	Covered	CAP*	Total
FCI Owned	128.13	26.02	154.15
Hired Capacity with FCI	207.10	0.66	207.76
TOTAL	335.23	26.68	361.91

*Cover and Plinth.

(b) The stock position of wheat stored in CAP in FCI during last three years and current year (Up to June 2016) is given below:-

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Average Stock	14.72	9.36	2.26	2.01
Maximum Stock	22.63	17.58	5.31	2.65
Minimum Stock	3.95	2.62	0.59	1.52

Wastage of foodgrains due to lack of storage facilities

2216. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of foodgrains in the country is wasted due to lack of storage facilities;

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

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to avoid wastage of foodgrains due to lack of storage facility; and

(d) the details of hired, acquired and built storage facilities for storage of foodgrains for the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is sufficient storage capacity available for storage of foodgrains in the country. As on 30.06.2016, total 816.24 Lakh MT capacity (including State Government/Agencies capacity) is available for storage of Central Pool foodgrains against peak stock requirement of around 600 Lakh MT.

(c) Storage capacities have been augmented across the country by using funds under Plan scheme as well as through Private Investors in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

Under the Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) scheme, godowns are constructed through private investors and hired by Food Corporation of India (FCI) for a guaranteed period of 10 years. A capacity of 134.83 Lakh MT has already been constructed under this scheme.

Under Plan scheme, funds are being provided to FCI and State Governments for construction of godowns, specifically in the North Eastern Region and a few other States, where PPP mode was not found to be practical. As on 30th June, 2016, a total capacity of 1.14 Lakh MT in North East and 0.20 Lakh MT in other than North East has been completed.

In addition, FCI has also taken action for construction of modern silos for storage of foodgrains in PPP mode. Private parties have been selected through tendering process for constructing wheat silos at 6 locations namely, Narela, Changsari, Katihar, Whitefield, Sahnewal and Kotkapura for total capacity 2.5 Lakh MT.

(d) FCI does not acquire storage capacity. Its godowns are either owned or hired. The State-wise details of storage capacities as on 31st March for the last three years are given in Statement-I, II and III, respectively.

Statement-I

Storage capacity with FCI and State Agencies as on 31.03.2014

(Figures in LMT)

Zone	Sl. No.	FCI Region	Total Storage Capacity with FCI (Owned/Hired)						Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains)		Grand Total	
			Covered		CAP		Total		State Agencies			
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	2.48	1.00	0.00	6.14	1.00	8.01	-	14.15	1.00
	2.	Jharkhand	0.67	1.07	0.05	0.00	1.74	0.05	-	-	1.74	0.05
	3.	Odisha	3.02	2.83	0.00	0.00	5.85	-	7.20	-	13.05	-
	4.	West Bengal	8.50	2.01	0.51	0.00	10.51	0.51	4.29	-	14.80	0.51
N.E.	5.	Assam	2.12	0.92	0.00	0.00	3.04	-	2.54	-	5.58	-
	6.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.23	-	0.05	-	0.28	-
	7.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.26	-	-	-	0.26	-
	8.	Mizoram	0.25	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.26	-	0.56	-	0.82	-
	9.	Tripura	0.33	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.42	-	0.42	-	0.84	-

	10.	Manipur	0.28	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.32	-	0.12	-	0.44	-
	11.	Nagaland	0.20	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.33	-	0.07	-	0.40	-
North	12.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.31	0.00	3.36	0.31	-	-	3.36	0.31
	13.	Haryana	7.68	29.24	3.33	0.00	36.92	3.33	25.24	53.53	62.16	56.86
	14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.35	-	-	-	0.35	-
	15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.62	0.10	0.00	1.65	0.10	1.26	-	2.91	0.10
	16.	Punjab	22.24	84.75	7.31	2.79	106.99	10.10	33.11	103.57	140.10	113.67
	17.	Rajasthan	7.06	14.75	1.85	1.08	21.81	2.93	1.64	-	23.45	2.93
	18.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	26.92	5.19	0.00	41.87	5.19	1.38	-	43.25	5.19
	19.	Uttarakhand	0.66	1.20	0.21	0.00	1.86	0.21	1.69	-	3.55	0.21
South	20.	Andhra Pradesh	12.73	14.33	2.62	0.00	27.06	2.62	16.07	-	43.13	2.62
	21.	Kerala	5.19	0.05	0.21	0.00	5.24	0.21	3.93	-	9.17	0.21
	22.	Karnataka	3.81	3.58	1.36	0.00	7.39	1.36	6.30	-	13.69	1.36
	23.	Tamil Nadu	6.24	4.86	0.67	0.00	11.10	0.67	5.71	-	16.81	0.67
West	24.	Gujarat	5.00	2.19	0.27	0.00	7.19	0.27	4.01	-	11.20	0.27
	25.	Maharashtra	12.05	11.74	1.02	0.00	23.79	1.02	10.04	-	33.83	1.02
	26.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.95	0.36	0.00	4.32	0.36	68.58	6.51	72.90	6.87
	27.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	3.53	0.01	0.00	8.65	0.01	13.35	-	22.00	0.01
		TOTAL	130.03	208.62	26.38	3.87	338.65	30.25	215.57	163.61	554.22	193.86
			338.65		30.25		368.90		379.18		748.08	

Statement-II

Storage capacity with FCI and State Government Agencies as on 31.03.2015

(Figures in LMT)

Zone	Sl. No.	State	Total Storage Capacity with FCI (Owned/Hired)						Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains		Grand Total	
			Covered		CAP		Total		State Agencies			
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	2.37	1.00	0.00	6.03	1.00	3.45	-	9.48	1.00
	2.	Jharkhand	0.67	1.52	0.05	0.00	2.19	0.05	-	-	2.19	0.05
	3.	Odisha	3.12	2.49	0.00	0.00	5.61	-	8.07	-	13.68	-
	4.	West Bengal	8.50	1.15	0.51	0.00	9.65	0.51	4.52	-	14.17	0.51
N.E.	5.	Assam	2.14	1.04	0.00	0.00	3.18	-	2.50	-	5.68	-
	6.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.23	-	0.10	-	0.33	-
	7.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.28	-	-	-	0.28	-
	8.	Mizoram	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	-	0.42	-	0.67	-
	9.	Tripura	0.29	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.37	-	0.23	-	0.60	-
	10.	Manipur	0.28	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.32	-	-	-	0.32	-

	11.	Nagaland	0.20	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.33	-	0.07	-	0.40	-
North	12.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.31	0.00	3.36	0.31	-	-	3.36	0.31
	13.	Haryana	7.68	36.42	3.33	0.00	44.10	3.33	29.09	29.62	73.19	32.95
	14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.48	-	-	-	0.48	-
	15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	1.15	0.10	0.00	2.18	0.10	-	-	2.18	0.10
	16.	Punjab	22.24	80.95	7.31	1.43	103.19	8.74	33.94	92.67	137.13	101.41
	17.	Rajasthan	7.06	13.93	1.85	0.00	20.99	1.85	2.44	0.34	23.43	2.19
	18.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	24.13	5.19	0.00	39.08	5.19	14.12	-	53.20	5.19
	19.	Uttarakhand	0.66	1.01	0.21	0.00	1.67	0.21	1.79	-	3.46	0.21
South	20.	Andhra Pradesh	7.36	7.06	1.60	0.00	14.42	1.60	11.34	-	25.76	1.60
	21.	Telangana	5.37	2.40	1.02	0.00	7.77	1.02	9.17	-	16.94	1.02
	22.	Kerala	5.29	0.05	0.21	0.00	5.34	0.21	0.34	-	5.68	0.21
	23.	Karnataka	3.81	3.34	1.36	0.00	7.15	1.36	20.36	0.41	27.51	1.77
	24.	Tamil Nadu	6.24	5.06	0.31	0.00	11.30	0.31	5.71	-	17.01	0.31
West	25.	Gujarat	5.00	2.35	0.27	0.00	7.35	0.27	2.49	-	9.84	0.27
	26.	Maharashtra	8.85	10.33	1.02	0.00	19.18	1.02	9.71	-	29.09	1.02
	27.	Goa	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	-				
	28.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	1.16	0.36	0.00	4.53	0.36	53.30	0.98	57.83	1.34
	29.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	3.33	0.01	0.00	8.45	0.01	15.41	-	23.86	0.01
		TOTAL	127.16	202.02	26.02	1.43	329.18	27.45	228.57	124.02	557.75	151.47
			329.18		27.45		356.63		352.59		709.22	

Statement-III

Storage Capacity with FCI and State Government Agencies as on 31.03.2016

(Figures in Lakh MT)

Zone	Sl. No.	State	Total Storage Capacity with FCI (Owned/Hired)						Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains		Grand Total	
			Covered		CAP		Total		State Agencies			
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP	Covered	CAP
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	2.59	1.00	0.00	6.25	1.00	7.85	-	14.10	1.00
	2.	Jharkhand	0.67	1.81	0.05	0.00	2.48	0.05	-	-	2.48	0.05
	3.	Odisha	3.12	2.35	0.00	0.00	5.47	-	6.16	-	11.63	-
	4.	West Bengal	8.50	1.22	0.51	0.00	9.72	0.51	6.49	-	16.21	0.51
N.E.	5.	Assam	3.00	1.02	0.00	0.00	4.02	-	2.27	-	6.29	-
	6.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.20	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.23	-	-	-	0.23	-
	7.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.23	-	-	-	0.23	-
	8.	Mizoram	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	-	0.42	-	0.67	-
	9.	Tripura	0.29	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.35	-	0.48	-	0.83	-
	10.	Manipur	0.28	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.32	-	-	-	0.32	-

	11.	Nagaland	0.21	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.34	-	0.11	-	0.45	-
North	12.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.31	0.00	3.36	0.31	-	-	3.36	0.31
	13.	Haryana	7.68	41.32	3.33	0.00	49.00	3.33	30.28	33.50	79.28	36.83
	14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.49	-	-	-	0.49	-
	15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	1.36	0.10	0.00	2.39	0.10	-	-	2.39	0.10
	16.	Punjab	22.24	80.13	7.31	0.02	102.37	7.33	42.42	100.44	144.79	107.77
	17.	Rajasthan	7.06	10.38	1.85	0.00	17.44	1.85	3.76	0.19	21.20	2.04
	18.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	30.17	5.19	0.00	45.12	5.19	14.12	-	59.24	5.19
	19.	Uttarakhand	0.66	1.01	0.21	0.00	1.67	0.21	1.92	-	3.59	0.21
South	20.	Andhra Pradesh	7.36	2.31	1.60	0.00	9.67	1.60	12.75	-	22.42	1.60
	21.	Telangana	5.37	2.16	1.02	0.00	7.53	1.02	12.33	-	19.86	1.02
	22.	Kerala	5.29	0.05	0.21	0.00	5.34	0.21	0.34	-	5.68	0.21
	23.	Karnataka	3.81	3.68	1.36	0.00	7.49	1.36	20.36	0.41	27.85	1.77
	24.	Tamil Nadu	6.24	4.73	0.31	0.00	10.97	0.31	5.71	-	16.68	0.31
West	25.	Gujarat	5.00	1.82	0.27	0.00	6.82	0.27	2.17	-	8.99	0.27
	26.	Maharashtra	8.85	10.50	1.02	0.00	19.35	1.02	11.18	-	30.73	1.02
	27.	Goa	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	-				
	28.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.05	0.36	0.00	3.42	0.36	111.60	14.28	115.02	14.64
	29.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	4.44	0.01	0.00	9.56	0.01	15.41	-	24.97	0.01
		TOTAL	128.05	203.80	26.02	0.02	331.85	26.04	308.13	148.82	639.98	174.86
			331.85		26.04		357.89		456.95		814.84	

Rotting of wheat in Punjab

†2217. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that lakhs of tonnes of wheat has rotten in Punjab due to lying in the open;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat which has rotten and the cost of the same; and

(c) the reasons owing to which the wheat could not be stored in the godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Storage of wheat is done in covered godowns/Cover and Plinth (CAP) based on availability of storage space in the procurement areas and then it is moved to consuming regions. No quantity of wheat was damaged in Food Corporation of India (FCI) Punjab Region in the CAP storage during the year 2011-12 to 2014-15 and 2016-17 upto 01.07.2016. However, a small quantity of 0.528 tonnes of wheat got damaged in FCI Punjab Region in CAP storage during 2015-16. The estimated value of this damaged wheat is ₹ 4594/-.

(c) Wheat procurement is done in the months of April to June every year during the Rabi Marketing Season. A large quantity of wheat is procured in a short period during procurement in Punjab. As a result wheat is also stored in CAP storage. The wheat stored in CAP is moved on priority basis.

Rise in price of sugar

†2218. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that owing to deregulation of sugar sector in the country, the prices of sugar are spiralling up by the day;

(b) if not, the details of retail prices of sugar during the financial years 2013-14 and 2015-16;

(c) whether Government has formulated any action plan to reduce the prices of sugar; and

(d) if not, how would Government Control the spiralling prices of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

retail price of sugar depends upon various factors like demand, supply, availability, market sentiments etc. After deregulation of sugar sector in April, 2013 the All India average retail prices of sugar have slightly decreased from ₹ 35.6 per kg in financial year 2013-14 to ₹ 32 per kg in financial year 2015-16.

(c) and (d) To keep a check on rise in price of sugar, the Central Government has imposed stock holding and turnover limits on sugar. Further, Government has imposed custom duty @ 20% on export of sugar to conserve stocks in the country and ensure its availability at reasonable prices.

Dues of subsidy amount of rice

†2219. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chhattisgarh has procured 63.08 lakh tonne paddy in 2015, which will produce 42.26 lakh tonne of rice;

(b) whether out of that, Civil Supply Corporation had to get 10 lakh tonne rice and FCI 32.26 lakh tonne, but Civil Supply Corporation had got only 4.71 lakh tonne and FCI 5.66 lakh tonne rice only;

(c) whether Centre has not issued the subsidy of 100.19 crore on rice distributed in 2004-05 under the National Food of Work Programme; and

(d) whether as per part C, subsidy amount on rice since 2002-03 under Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana has not been paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) A quantity of 51.07 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT) of paddy for Central Pool and 12.02 LMT paddy for State Pool was procured by Chhattisgarh Government during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15. Against 51.07 LMT paddy procured under Central Pool, 34.21 LMT Custom Milled Rice (CMR) was obtained, out of which a quantity of 23.487 LMT was received by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and 10.725 LMT was kept by the State Government for its requirement under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Scheme (OWS).

(c) and (d) An amount of ₹ 72.32 crore has been released to the Chhattisgarh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. (CSCSC Ltd.) as provisional subsidy for distribution of rice under National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) for the period 01.04.2004 to 31.03.2006, against claim ₹ 96 crore for KMS 2004-05 and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

KMS 2005-06. All bills presented to the Government of India (GoI) regarding food component of NFWP/ Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) were paid by the Ministry of Rural Development. As of now there are no bills in the GoI which remains to be paid.

Freight and labour charges at ICP, Attari

2220. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether labour charges and freight charges at Integrated Check Post (ICP), Attari are much higher than at any other land port in the region like Jalandhar, Ludhiana etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons to impose labour charges when no labour work is involved and all the process is automated; and

(c) whether trucks coming at ICP, Attari at 9.00 A.M. and at 7.00 P.M. are charged for full day, if so, the reasons for warehousing charges not being on clock cycle basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) There is no other land port in Punjab like Integrated Check Post (ICP), Attari. There are Inland Container Depots (ICDs) in Jalandhar and Ludhiana which also handle Cargo for export/import. However, the nature of work at ICP and at ICDs are different. The ICDs handle containerized cargo, which necessarily requires mechanisation. But, ICP, Attari deals with mainly loose cargo like gypsum and also cargo in bags, which involves manual labour. Therefore, the labour charges and freight charges at ICP, Attari cannot be compared with that of ICDs.

(b) Labour work is involved in most of the processes except in few cases which account for a very small volume of the total work involved. The labour charges for such activities have been worked out after a joint meeting between labour pradhans, trade representatives and all other stake holders in the presence of Customs, Border Security Force and local administrators.

(c) The storage charges are on full day basis since the insurance charges payable on the commodities are on full day basis. However, free period of two days is given for loose cargo like gypsum which is a major import commodity. The storage charges for the first two days are kept very nominal for other commodities, for example in case of cement it is only 20 paisa per bag per day.

Dues of sugarcane farmers

2221. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of reduction in sugarcane production in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether sugarcane farmers are not getting MSP, especially in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the total amount of farmers' dues towards mill owners in these States in 2013-14 and 2014-15; and

(d) the action Government is taking to resolve the issue of non payment of dues to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. There is slight reduction in sugarcane production in the States of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh during current sugar season 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15.

(b) In the State of Uttar Pradesh, farmers are paid State Advised Price (SAP) which is much higher than MSP now replaced as FRP .

(c) ₹ 235.3 crores of Farmers' dues for the sugar seasons 2013-14 and 2014-15 is pending against mill owners in these States *viz*. Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(d) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 stipulates payment of cane price within 14 days of supply, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days is payable. The powers for enforcing this provision are delegated and vested with the State Governments/UT Administrations who have necessary field formations. The Central Government has from time to time advised the State Governments/UTs to ensure timely payment of cane dues to the farmers and to take action against the defaulting sugar mills.

Payment of dues to sugarcane farmers

2222. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of arrears due to sugarcane farmers from sugar mills/factories since 2010, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of farmers affected by such overdue payments in each State, year-wise, since 2010;

(c) the number of companies/business owners who have received loans from Government to help pay these arrears; and

(d) the proportion of Government loan amount that has been paid to farmers as arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) State-wise details of cane price arrears for the current sugar season 2015-16, 2014-15 and 2013-14 and earlier seasons is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Payment of cane price to farmers is a continuous and ongoing process. Thus, the number of farmers affected by such overdue payments changes from time to time. Further, the Government does not maintain data relating to number of farmers affected by such overdue.

(c) Loans under Soft Loan Scheme have been received by 313 sugar mills/ companies to clear cane price arrear of the farmers.

(d) Loan amount of ₹ 4305 crores disbursed under Soft Loan Scheme has been paid to farmers against their cane dues except only in few cases where the mills had already cleared the cane dues of the farmers before the disbursement of loans.

Statement

Cane price arrears for the current sugar season 2015-16, 2014-15 and 2013-14 and earlier seasons (position as on 31.07.2016)

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Cane price arrears 2015-16	Cane price arrears 2014-15	Cane price arrears for 2013-14 and earlier	Total cane price arrears
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Punjab	226.00	0.00	0.00	226.00
2.	Haryana	126.00	11.00	0.00	137.00
3.	Uttar Pradesh	2877.00	57.00	112.00	3046.00
4.	Uttarakhand	209.00	0.00	25.00	. 234.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	6.00	0.00	13.00	19.00
6.	Chhatisgarh	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
7.	Gujarat	203.00	0.00	13.00	216.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Maharashtra	411.00	158.00	70.00	639.00
9.	Bihar	30.00	5.00	40.00	75.00
10.	Andhra Pradesh	81.00	37.00	0.00	118.00
11.	Karnataka	108.00	17.00	101.00	226.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	1030.00	286.00	273.00	1589.00
13.	Odisha	19.00	0.00	3.00	22.00
14.	West Bengal	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
15.	Puducherry	10.00	5 .bo	3.00	18.00
16.	Goa	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
17.	Telangana	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
	TOTAL	5368.00	577.00	653.00	6598.00

Completion of process of issuing Aadhaar cards

2223. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) in how many States, the work of issuing of Aadhaar cards has been completed and in how many States, the work is still in progress;

(b) the approximate number of people covered by Aadhaar cards in various States, State-wise;

(c) whether cases of duplicate, ineligible enrolment of Aadhaar cards have been reported;

(d) if so, the action taken to investigate and penalize delinquent operator or enrolment agency, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the task of issuing of Aadhaar cards to people living throughout the country, as on 1 January, 2016, would be completed, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) Enrolment for Aadhaar is an on-going process. As on 31.07.2016, Aadhaar have been issued to 103.80 crore residents of the country. The State/UT-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Aadhaar generation process includes a number of quality checks and biometric de-duplication to ensure rejection of duplicates and ineligible enrolments. Whenever any case of duplicate or ineligible Aadhaar is reported, action is taken to cancel Aadhaar in such cases.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of residents issued Aadhaar

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Population as per 2011 Census	Total Aadhaar	% Total Aadhaar
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Himachal Pradesh	6856509	7082555	103
2.	Punjab	27704236	28799970	104
3.	Chandigarh	1054686	1072173	102
4.	Uttarakhand	10116752	8955703	89
5.	Haryana	25353081	26613261	105
6.	Delhi	16753235	19854023	119
7.	Rajasthan	68621012	59747054	87
8.	Uttar Pradesh	199581477	158072824	79
9.	Bihar	103804637	71621942	69
10.	Sikkim	607688	583137	96
11.	Tripura	3671032	3588896	98
12.	Jharkhand	32966238	31035186	94
13.	Chhattisgarh	25540196	25660613	100
14.	Madhya Pradesh	72597565	67178462	93
15.	Gujarat	60383628	51452864	85
16.	Daman and Diu	242911	200780	83
17.	Maharashtra	112372972	107213995	95
18.	Andhra Pradesh	49378776	70974112	144
19.	Telangana	35220187	16858902	48
20.	Karnataka	61130704	56773849	93
21.	Goa	1457723	1439418	99
22.	Kerala	33387677	34085654	102
23.	Puducherry	1244464	1254140	101

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	379944	375962	99
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	12548926	8365932	67
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	1382611	893086	65
27.	Nagaland	1980602	1076704	54
28.	Manipur	2721756	1754985	64
29.	Mizoram	1091014	480658	44
30.	Meghalaya	2964007	153962	5
31.	Assam	31169272	1409327	5
32.	West Bengal	91347736	75197389	82
33.	Odisha	41947358	34090810	81
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	342853	309194	90
35.	Lakshadweep	64429	63632	99
36.	Tamil Nadu	72138958	63725952	88
	GRAND TOTAL	1210126852	1038017106	86

Digitalization of the country under Digital India programme

2224. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed and met in the digitalization of the country through Digital India so far;

(b) the details of funds allocated/released/utilised for the purpose;

(c) to what extent the Digital India programme has penetrated in the rural areas/villages of the country;

(d) whether infrastructure for 100 per cent digitalization of rural areas has been established/provided; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The details of targets fixed and met in the digitalization of the country through Digital India are as follows:

Pillar 1: Broadband Highways

- Under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, optical fibre has reached to 56,117 Gram Panchayats against the envisaged target of 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats.

Pillar 2: Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity

- Mobile connectivity to be provided to 55,669 uncovered villages.
- Tender has been floated for 11,621 North Eastern villages.

Pillar 3: Public Internet Access Programme

- 1.23 lakh Common Services Centres have been set up at Gram Panchayats level under CSC 2.0 scheme the envisaged target of 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats.
- 22,137 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

- Aadhaar seeding in PDS (55.7%), NREGA (61.9%), Scholarship (37%), Election Commission Database (38%), PAHAL (75.6%), NSAP (31.9%) completed.
- Number of user Departments for e-Office is 171.

Pillar 5: eKranti- Electronic delivery of services

- The Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) has been increased from 31 MMPs to 44 MMPs under e-Kranti. 29 MMPs have been implemented.
- The MMPs of e-Kranti have been delivering more than 62 crore e-Transactions per month.

Pillar 6: Information for All

- MyGov platform, a medium to seek ideas/suggestions from Citizen, has been implemented. 49 Groups, 489 Tasks, 589 Discussion Themes, 221 Blogs are operational on MyGov. 35.1 lakh registered users. 1.81 lakh contributions for 464 tasks. 33.9 lakh comments for 584 discussions. Weekly Newsletters are being sent to more than 18.5 lakh registered users.
- Open Government Data platform has been implemented which exposes Government data to citizens. Currently 27,337 datasets from 111 Departments are available and 29.2 lakhs downloaded.

Pillar 7: Electronics Manufacturing-Target NET ZERO Imports

- 199 Investment proposals under Modified Specific Incentive Programmes (MSIPs) having a proposed investment of ₹ 1.22 lakh crores have been so far received.
- 7 Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs) and 1 Common Facility Centre (CFC) in Brownfield have been approved.
- Electronic Development Fund has been launched and 11 Venture Funds involving ₹ 490.00 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. 300 seats at Guwahati, Shillong and Itanagar have been allotted.
- Around 72.92 lakh candidates have been trained and more than 33.15 lakh candidates have been certified so far under Digital Literacy Programme (Digital Saksharta Abhiyan)

Pillar 9: Early Harvest Programme

- Secure email within Government Project has been implemented for 10 lakh employees in Phase I.
- SMS based weather information and disaster alerts have been made operational.
- Over 20.26 lakh residents have created their accounts on Digital Locker. More than 24.77 lakh documents have been uploaded on it.
- More than 9.45 lakh Life Certificates have been processed through Jeevan Pramaan portal.
- Online Registration System (ORS) has been made operational in 43 hospitals and 28.60 lakh online appointments have been provided so far.
- Since 15th August, 2014, mailers have been sent on 239 campaigns through SAMPARK (IT platform for messages) to 1.1 crore emails and 14 crore Mobile nos.
- The Government e-Greetings have been sent to more than 20 lakh citizens directly from the portal. The portal has more over 642 cards.
- Biometric Attendance has been implemented in 638 Central Government offices covering 1.85 lakh employees and States/UTs involving 2 lakh employees.
- On the National Portal for Lost and Found Children (Khoya-Paya), 4362 users have registered, 3102 are being sighted and 752 missing children have been reported.

- The National Scholarships Portal, a one stop solution for end to end scholarship process, have been implemented. 77 scholarship schemes from 16 Ministries/Departments have been registered.

(b) Various projects/schemes are being implemented under Digital India programme by Central Ministries/Departments and State/UT Governments. Each project has its own budgetary requirement and is at specific stage of implementation. Accordingly, funds have been allocated/released/utilised for a project/scheme.

(c) The services under e-Governance are being made available to all the citizens in rural areas/villages through Common Services Centres (CSCs). Currently, 2.23 lakh CSCs are operational across the entire country, out of which 1.23 lakh CSCs have been set up at Gram Panchayat level.

MeitY is implementing National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM)/Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA) to provide Digital Literacy in rural areas/villages. Around 72.92 lakh candidates have been trained and more than 33.15 lakh candidates have been certified.

To provide connectivity, under National Optical Fibre Project of Digital India programme, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid to 56,117 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with a total length of 1,28,813 km.

(d) and (e) MeitY is implementing Common Service Centre (CSC) 2.0 scheme to make e-services available to citizens in 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats. Currently, 1.23 lakh CSCs have been set up at Gram Panchayat level.

To provide connectivity, under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) Project, renamed as BharatNet, the Government has planned to establish a network infrastructure by connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) and by using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power lines, radio and satellite media, for providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis. Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid to 56,117 Gram Panchayats (GPs) with a total length of 1,28,813 km.

State-wide area network project in Tamil Nadu

2225. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken State Wide Area Network (SWAN) project in the State of Tamil Nadu to connect State headquarters up to the Block level *via* District/Sub-Divisional Headquarters in a vertical hierarchical structure with a minimum bandwidth capacity of 2 Mbps per link; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this project in the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Wide Area Network (SWAN) in Tamil Nadu was approved by Government of India in March, 2005. The SWAN in Tamil Nadu has been operational since 1st December, 2007 connecting State Headquarter, 30 District Headquarters and 677 Block Headquarters with minimum bandwidth of 2 Mbps as vertical connectivity. The SWAN project in Tamil Nadu completed its 5 year of operation in December, 2012.

Setting up of Software Technology Parks of India

2226. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the physical as well as the financial targets fixed and achieved for setting up of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) centres in the country for the current financial year, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government has any proposal to develop new Information Technology (IT) cities in the country, especially in the newly formed State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) A total of 55 STPI centres are currently operational in the country. As per policy for setting up a new STPI centre, on receipt of a proposal from the State Government/Centre for Excellence/Higher Educational Institutes etc., STPI conducts a feasibility study jointly with the concerned department to evaluate the export potential and commercial viability of the proposal. Since the initiative for setting up a STPI centre lies with the concerned State Government/Centre for Excellence/Higher Educational Institutes etc., it is not feasible for STPI to set targets for setting up of new STPI centres.

(b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has been received a proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Visakhapatnam. The details of the proposal are as under:

Area	: 40.4 Sq. km
Estimated Investment	: ₹ 10,375 crore
Estimated Manpower generation	
Direct Employment	: 3.7 lakhs
Indirect Employment	: 14.7 lakhs

Attracting FDI and formulating special schemes for FPIs

†2227. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for the establishment of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any impact of this investment on the growth of FPIs, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has formulated any special scheme to encourage/boost FPIs in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Foreign Direct Investment in food processing sector has increased from USD 170.21 Million in 2011-12 to USD 505.88 Million in 2015-16.

(b) Foreign Direct Investment inflows into the food processing industries has been one of the reasons for 5.78% growth of gross value added in food processing industries in 2014-15 at 2011-12 prices. Further, as per the Annual Survey of Industries the number of food processing industries in the registered sector has also grown from 36880 in 2011-12 to 37450 in 2013-14.

(c) To promote food processing units in the country, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing Schemes of Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Setting up/Modernization of Abattoirs and Strengthening of Institutions. Under these schemes, grant-in-aid is given for setting up projects. In addition to permitting 100% foreign direct investment in food processing sector through automatic route, Government has also allowed 100% FDI in retail marketing of food products produced and manufactured in India through approval route. To encourage the development of food processing industries Government has reduced excise duty on food processing and packaging machinery from 10% to 6%, allowed food processing units 100% income tax exemption on profits for the first five years of operation and after that at the rate of 25% income tax exemption on the profits for the next five years, etc.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Subsidy on food products

2228. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the amount of subsidy being given by Government on food products, the details thereof for the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not provide subsidy on food products. However, for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, this Ministry has provided grants-in-aid of ₹ 579.73 crore during 2014-15 and ₹ 466.49 crore during 2015-16 under its various Central Sector Schemes. The details of these Central Sector Schemes are available on Ministry's website (*www.mofpi.nic.in*).

Schemes for promotion of FPIs

†2229. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's scheme to promote Food Processing Industries (FPIs);

(b) the facilities being provided to farmers for establishing food processing units under existing policy; and

(c) whether, keeping in view the fact that vegetables are grown on large scale in and around Buxar in Bihar, Government would formulate any scheme for establishing processing units, especially vegetable based, and implement it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a number of Central Sector Schemes, namely (1) Scheme for Mega Food Parks; (2) Scheme for Modern Abattoirs; (3) Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure; (4) Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation; (5) Scheme for Quality Assurance; and (6) Scheme for Human Resource and Institutions. Farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations, Individuals, Group of Entrepreneurs, Cooperatives Societies, Self Help Groups, NGO's, Central/State PSU etc. are eligible to avail financial assistance under these schemes for setting up food processing industries in the country. The willing farmers/entrepreneurs of Buxar in Bihar may also take advantage of these schemes for setting up food processing industries in the State of Bihar. The details of these schemes are available on the website of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (*www.mofpi.nic.in*).

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Steps to resolve delay in appointment of Judges

2230. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 20 per cent of posts of Judges were vacant in the year 2002, which increased to 22 per cent in 2016;

(b) whether delay in appointment of Judges in judiciary is due to disagreement between Government and judiciary with regard to selection system;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a situation; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) There are vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and in various High Courts. A Statement showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 01.08.2016 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

These vacancies mainly occurred due to increase of Judge Strength from 906 in 30.06.2014 to 1079, retirement, resignation, death, elevation of Judges, etc. Further in view of National Judicial Appointments Commission case from April, 2015 till the date of pronouncement of judgement *i.e.* 16.12.2015, 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 *vide* its Order dated 16.12.2015 on improvement in the 'Collegium System" have directed that the Government of India may finalize the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) by supplementing it in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium.

The Government of India after due deliberations proposed changes in the existing MoPs. The effort of the Government is to supplement the existing MoP by making the appointment process transparent, fair, and accountable and at the same time ensuring the independence of Judiciary.

At the initiative of the Government of India, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed. During 2016, 110 Additional Judges of High Courts have been made Permanent. 4 and 52 Judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court and the High Courts respectively.

Statement

Details of approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in various High Courts and Supreme Court of India as on 01.8.2016

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as on 01.08.2016
A.	Supreme Court of India	31	28	03
B.	High Court			
1.	Allahabad	160	78	82
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	61	24	37
3.	Bombay	94	64	30
4.	Calcutta	72	40	32
5.	Chhattisgarh	22	08	14
6.	Delhi	60	36	24
7.	Gauhati	24	13	11
8.	Gujarat	52	33	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13	11	02
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	17	09	08
11.	Jharkhand	25	14	11
12.	Karnataka	62	26	36
13.	Kerala	47	33	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	53	34	19
15.	Madras	75	38	37
16.	Manipur	05	04	01
17.	Meghalaya	04	03	01
18.	Orissa	27	19	08
19.	Patna	53	27	26
20.	Punjab and Haryana	85	44	41
21.	Rajasthan	50	31	19
22.	Sikkim	03	02	01
23.	Tripura	04	04	0
24.	Uttarakhand	11	06	05
	TOTAL	1079	601	478

Pending court cases

†2231. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civil and criminal cases pending as on date in District Courts, High Courts and the Supreme Court, the details thereof and at which level the highest number of such cases are pending; and

(b) the measures taken to speed up the judicial process and quick adjudication of cases relating to social issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per information made available by the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts, details of civil and criminal cases pending in various courts are as under:

Court	Pendency of Civil Cases	Pendency of Criminal Cases	As on
Supreme Court	51,179	11,478	30.06.2016
High Courts	28,37,378	10,32,995	31.12.2015
District and Subordinate Courts	84,05,647	1,86,14,308	31.12.2015

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.

In order to reduce the pendency of cases in courts, the legal services institutions under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 organize weekly/monthly and mega Lok Adalats. In addition, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been organising National Lok Adalats since 23.11.2013 on various subject matters which *inter alia* include family matters, land acquisition cases, motor accident compensation cases, insurance claims, electricity/water/telephone/public utility disputes and compoundable criminal matters.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Fast Track Courts to deal with cases of women's rights

†2232. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of cases related to women's rights are pending in courts, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to set up Fast Track Courts for disposing of matter related to rights of women, specially single women, if so, the number of persons getting benefit from it, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Information on the number of cases pending in the courts relating to women's rights is not maintained centrally.

(b) Setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) is the responsibility of the State Governments in consultation with High Courts from their own resources.

Steps to implement Uniform Civil Code

2233. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the details of steps taken, if any, by Government to implement the Uniform Civil Code in the country, apart from requesting the Law Commission to examine its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): Having regard to the direction given by Hon'ble Supreme Court and views expressed by it in various judgments, representations received in this regard and assurances given in this behalf, the matter was examined by the Government. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, it was felt that the subject matter required detailed, exhaustive and in-depth study of the various personal laws governing different communities in the country and that it also required wider consultation with all stake holders. Therefore, it was decided to refer the matter to the Law Commission of India for its examination in the first instance.

Change in procedure for appointment of Judges

2234. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to change the procedure for appointment of Judges in High Courts in view of large scale vacancies in High Courts throughout the country;

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of the proposal; and

(c) how much time will be taken to introduce the new procedure for appointment of Judges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength. After 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, at the initiative of the Government of India, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed. During 2016, 110 Additional Judges have been made Permanent, and 52 fresh appointments of Judges have been made in the High Courts.

Appointment of Judges and disposal of pending cases

2235. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) regarding appointment in judiciary, which was sent to the Ministry by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

(b) whether Government would go ahead and fill up the vacancies pending finalization of the MoP;

(c) the number of vacancies in the Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts at present; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ensure speedy disposal of crores of pending cases in the judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous process. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or

elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength. After 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). Meanwhile, at the initiative of the Government of India, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of Judges has been resumed. During 2016, 110 Additional Judges have been made Permanent, 4 Judges in the Supreme Court and 52 fresh appointments of Judges have been made in the High Courts.

(c) A Statement showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts and Supreme Court as on 01.08.2016 is given in the Statement-I [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 2230 (Part a to d)]. 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. A Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) 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 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.

Statement-II

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 and Telengana	1034	785	249
3.	Assam	424	319	105
4.	Bihar	1727	1067	660
5.	Chandigarh	30	30	0

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Chhattisgarh	385	341	44
7.	Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7	6	1
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

Policy to dispose of pending court cases

†2236. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a concrete policy is yet to be framed to dispose of crores of cases pending before the Courts, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) if not, the number of cases disposed of during the last three years, out of the cases pending before the lower courts upto the Supreme Court alongwith the number of cases remaining to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. 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 data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by Supreme Court and High Courts, details of cases disposed by various courts during last three years are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of Cases disposed of in the year		
		2013	2014	2015
1.	Supreme Court of India	40,177	45,076	47,535
2.	High Courts	17,72,917	17,34,542	15,80,911
3.	District and Subordinate Courts	1,87,83,546	1,90,19,658	1,78,97,555

As per information available 62,657 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 30.06.2016. As per information made available by High Courts 38.70 lakhs cases were pending in High Courts and 2.70 crore cases were pending in District/ Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015.

Fast Track Courts

†2237. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that separate Fast Track Courts have been set up in the country by Government to dispose of the cases which have been pending for several years, if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of old cases disposed of during the last two years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Fast Track Courts are set up by the State Governments in consultation with High Courts from their own resources to dispose of the following types of cases:

(i) Civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than 5 years.

(ii) Civil cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants afflicted with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments; and

(iii) Cases of heinous crimes.

(b) As per the information available, a statement indicating the number of cases disposed of in Fast Track Courts is given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of cases disposed of in Fast Track Courts for the last two years

Sl. No.	State	Cases disposed of during the year	
		2014	2015
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2639	2781
2.	Assam (including the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland)	4741	2811
3.	Chhattisgarh	6915	7666
4.	Delhi	1153	1218
5.	Goa	950	8884
6.	Haryana	1493	1527
7.	Jharkhand	834	664
8.	Karnataka	18496	5389*
9.	Maharashtra	86407	116363
10.	Manipur	183	82
11.	Punjab	10875	4072
12.	Sikkim	16	12

1	2	3	4
13.	Telangana	3789	3370
14.	Tripura	4179	493
15.	West Bengal	10256	11122

*Upto 31.3.2015

Note: As per the information available, no Fast Track Court is functioning in the States of Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

National Litigation Policy

2238. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a National Litigation Policy in order to reduce the backlog of cases in courts, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the proposed policy will include measures to avoid unnecessary litigation as well as inter-Ministerial litigation in Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has identified obsolete laws, Amendments Acts and Appropriation Acts for repeal, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Formulation of the National Litigation Policy is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) Review of all laws with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by the different nodal Ministries/Departments of the Central Government administering their respective laws and generally by the Law Commission of India. The Law Commission has submitted its 248th, 249th, 250th and the 251st Reports on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal", in which it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively, including some State laws. Further, a Two-member Committee was also constituted by the Prime Minister's Office on 1st September, 2014 for review of repeal of obsolete laws. The Two-Member Committee submitted its report and identified total 1741 Central Acts for repeal out of total 2781 Central Acts existing as on 15th October, 2014 on the Statutes Book.

Total Acts identified for repeal are 1827 and out of them 1175 Acts have been repealed so far through the Repealing and Amending Act, 2015 (17 of 2015)

repealing 35 Acts; the Repealing and Amending (Second) Act, 2015 (19 of 2015) repealing 90 Acts; the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Act, 2016 (22 of 2016) repealing 756 Appropriation Acts; and the Repealing and Amending Act, 2016 (23 of 2016) repealing 294 Acts.

Steps to clear backlog of pending cases

2239. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge backlog of cases pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total number of vacant seats of Judges in High Courts, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of seats in High Courts, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) As per information made available by the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts, 62,657 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 30.06.2016 and 38.70 lakh cases were pending in the High Courts as on 31.12.2015.

The details of approved and working strength and vacancies of Judges in various High Courts as on 01.08.2016 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Approved Strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts

(As on 01.08.2016)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
A.	Supreme Court of India	31			28			03		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	61	17	78	15	67	82
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	46	15	61	24	0	24	22	15	37
3.	Bombay	71	23	94	55	09	64	16	14	30
4.	Calcutta	54	18	72	31	09	40	23	09	32
5.	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	08	00	08	09	05	14
6.	Delhi	45	15	60	36	00	36	09	15	24
7.	Gauhati	18	06	24	06	07	13	12	-01	11
8.	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	06	33	12	07	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	09	02	11	01	01	02
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	13	04	17	09	00	09	04	04	08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Jharkhand	19	06	25	09	05	14	10	01	11
12.	Karnataka	47	15	62	22	04	26	25	11	36
13.	Kerala	35	12	47	26	07	33	09	05	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	22	12	34	18	01	19
15.	Madras	56	19	75	38	0	38	18	19	37
16.	Manipur	04	01	05	03	01	04	01	00	01
17.	Meghalaya	03	01	04	03	0	03	0	01	01
18.	Odisha	20	07	27	16	03	19	04	04	08
19.	Patna	40	13	53	27	0	27	13	13	26
20.	Punjab and Haryana	64	21	85	42	02	44	22	19	41
21.	Rajasthan	38	12	50	24	07	31	14	05	19
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	771	308	1079	510	91	601	261	217	478

Judge-Population ratio and clearance of backlog of pending cases

2240. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Justice of India had recently attributed over three crore pending cases to a huge gap in the Judge-Population ratio and had sought 70,000 more Judges to clear the backlog;

(b) the main reason for the huge gap in the Judge-Population ratio;

(c) the manner in which Government is going to meet the alarming situation; and

(d) the details thereof along with the target date to overcome the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India (CJI) during his inaugural address in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 24.04.2016, *inter alia,* made a mention of the recommendations made by the Law Commission of India in its 120th Report (1987) for increasing the ratio of judges per million of population to 50. However, the criteria of Judge-Population ratio for determining the adequacy of the Judge Strength in the country has been reviewed by the Law Commission in its 245th Report (2014) prepared on the direction of the Supreme Court in the case of Imtiyaz Ahmed *versus* State of Uttar Pradesh and others. In this case the Supreme Court 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.

In 245th report, the Law Commission has observed that filing of cases per capita varies substantially across geographic units as filings are associated with economic and social conditions of the population. As such the Law Commission did not consider the Judge Population ratio to be a scientific criterion for determining the adequacy of the judge strength in the country. The Law Commission found that in the absence of complete and scientific approach to data collection across various High Courts in the country, the "Rate of Disposal" method to calculate the number of additional judges required to clear the backlog of cases as well as to ensure that new backlog is not created, is more pragmatic and useful.

In May, 2014, the Supreme Court asked the State Government and the High Courts to file their response to the recommendations made by the Law Commission. In August 2014, the Supreme Court asked the National Court Management System Committee (NCMS) constituted by it in 2012 to examine the recommendations made by the Law Commission and to furnish their recommendations in this regard.

NCMS submitted its report to the Supreme Court in March, 2016. It has, *inter alia,* observed that in the long term, the judge strength of the Subordinate Courts will have to be assessed by a scientific method to determine the total number of "Judicial Hours" required for disposing of the case load of each court. In the interim, this Committee has proposed a "weighted" disposal approach – disposal weighted by the nature and complexity of cases in local conditions. The matter is *sub-judice* before the Supreme Court.

In the meanwhile, the sanctioned strength of High Court Judges has increased from 906 judges in June, 2014 to 1079 judges in June, 2016. The sanctioned strength of judicial officers/judges in Districts and Subordinate Courts is within the domain of State Governments and High Courts concerned. On account of the concerted efforts made by all stakeholders the sanctioned strength of the Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts has increased from 17,715 at the end of 2012 to 20,502 in December, 2015.

Family Courts

†2241. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present condition and role of Family Courts in dealing with increasing family/domestic violence in the country;

(b) the number of cases disposed of by these Courts during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the total number of Family Courts in the country, State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether there is any fixed time-limit to dispose of cases related to domestic/family violence in these Courts; and

(e) whether functioning of the said Courts is reviewed from time to time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The role and functions of Family Courts are governed by the Family Courts Act, 1984. Family Courts are set up by the State Governments in consultation with the High Courts from their own resources with a view to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of family disputes.

(b) and (c) The number of cases disposed of by these Courts during the last three years and the total number of Family Courts in the country, State/Union Territory-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) No time limit has been fixed for disposal of cases under the jurisdiction of the Family Courts. However, as per Section 12(5) of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, the Magistrate shall endeavour to dispose of every application made under sub Section (1), within a period of sixty days from the date of its hearing.

(e) In the Chief Justices Conference, 2015, directions had been issued to all High Courts to regularly monitor and take necessary steps for early disposal of such cases.

Statement

Number of cases disposed of in Family Courts for the last three years

Sl. No.	State	Cases disposed of during the Year			Number of court functional
		2013	2014	2015	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3741	5548	6611	14
2.	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram	2710	3058	4487	4
3.	Bihar	12717	13506	13756	39
4.	Chhattisgarh	7930	8548	8566	20
5.	Delhi	11968	20923	23148	15
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	-	-	-	19
8.	Haryana	8233	9130	9151	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	876	921	1000	1
11.	Jharkhand	4736	6282	8684	21
12.	Karnataka	-	-	-	27
13.	Kerala	43914	53564	51288	28
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	50
15.	Maharashtra	23022	22812	21906	25

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	5
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	0
18.	Odisha	5692	8926	10015	17
19.	Punjab	-	-	4418	5
20.	Puducherry	1907	637	371	1
21.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	28
22.	Sikkim	300	245	290	4
23.	Tamil Nadu	15142	11991	13754	20
24.	Telangana	6140	6599	7715	12
25.	Tripura	1484	1740	1775	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	33704	53946	119633	76
27.	Uttarakhand	5125	6145	6222	8
28.	West Bengal	387	283	410	2

Online voting by defence and paramilitary personnel

2242. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would consider online voting through PIN for eligible defence and para-military personnel who are on duty at remote areas during elections;

(b) if so, by when the Ministry would consider implementing such measures; and

(c) if not, how the Ministry proposes to resolve the issue in order to ensure that the defence and para-military personnel are also able to exercise their right of adult franchise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A proposal is under examination of the Government to introduce e-postal ballot system for Armed Forces Personnel and overseas electors which envisages transmission of blank postal ballot paper electronically and thereafter return of the same by the registered post. At present, a Committee of Ministers under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Finance Minister is examining this issue. Since the issue involves in-depth deliberation with various stake-holders, no time frame can be indicated.

Legal information management and briefing system

2243. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made so far for implementation of the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS);

(b) the funds earmarked and spent so far for the same;

(c) whether project coordinators for LIMBS have been appointed by every Ministry, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the System is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Department of Legal Affairs has launched Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS) so as to monitor conduct of cases on behalf of the Union of India and Organizations, Departments etc. under the administrative control of the Central Government through a web based application. LIMBS provides a common access portal to all its users having varying needs and cutting across administration pyramids *i.e.* Access is available right from the file dealing hand to the top management.

Following progress has been made so far for implementation of the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS):

1. 83491 cases have been uploaded in the application;
2. 47 Project Coordinators have been appointed;
3. 3947 users have been created;
4. More than 94 presentations have been conducted in different Ministries/ Departments;
5. Five Ministries namely Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs have completed uploading of their cases in the application and 42 Ministries/Departments are in the process of uploading their cases;
6. Data Porting from other softwares (managed by different Ministries) to LIMBS, with a view to avoid duplication, has been completed with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change;
7. Data Porting from Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Prasar Bharti) is under process;

8. Two Days' Workshop for Nodal Officers of LIMBS was held on 28th and 29th June, 2016, which was attended by 43 Ministries/Departments; and
9. Two more modules namely Advocate Module and Arbitration Module have been added in LIMBS.

LIMBS Advocate Module is an easy to use web based tool to help advocates to organise, update court cases they are dealing with at one single place. This module helps advocates to change their details, update court cases information, transfer cases which don't belong to them and also raise bills and view their progress. Through UDL (Unique Document Locker) facility, advocates can upload documents related to a case to bring more transparency in decision making.

LIMBS Arbitration Module is an easy to use web based tool for timely monitoring of entire life cycle of Arbitration cases. Its simple user interface, brings all the stakeholders *viz.,* claimant, respondent, arbitrator, user and Nodal Officer on a single platform to deal with arbitration cases in a time bound manner. It aims to boost efficiency of existing system by standardizing the litigation process, enabling real time tracking of arbitration cases in a transparent manner including generation of customized exceptions and statistical reports.

(b) From initial stage to current financial year, the funds allocated and spent till date for LIMBS are as under :-

Financial Year	Funds Allocated	Amount spent
2014-15	₹ 15 lakhs	₹ 11,22,564/-
2015-16	₹ 25 lakhs	₹ 18,96,995/-
2016-17	₹ 1 crore	₹ 7,25,030/-

(c) So far 47 Ministries/Departments have appointed Project Coordinators for LIMBS. Details of the same are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The system is in operational mode.

Statement

Details of Ministries/Departments who have appointed project coordinators for LIMBS

Sl. No.	Name of Ministry/Department	Project Coordinator Name S/Shri	
		Name and Designation	Contact No.
1	2	3	4
1.	D/o Agriculture and Cooperation, M/o Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	Rajesh Kumar Singh, JS	9868861954
2.	M/o AYUSH	K. Ravi, Joint Advisor (Siddha)	8527350316
3.	D/o Fertilizers, M/o Chemicals and Fertilizers	Rakesh Kumar, DS	9810835144
4.	M/o Civil Aviation	R. K. Maheshwari, Consultant	9810299828
5.	D/o Industrial Policy and Promotion, M/o Commerce and Industry	Atul Singh, Director	9971900493
6.	D/o Commerce, M/o Commerce and Industry	H. K. Roy, Director	9350086920
7.	D/o Posts, M/o Communications and Information Technology	Arun Malik, Director	9810726341
8.	D/o Consumer Affairs, M/o Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Prem Raj Kuar, DS	9818335147
9.	D/o Food and Public Distribution, M/o Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Suresh Sharma, DS	9868137600

1	2	3	4
10.	M/o Corporate Affairs	Rakesh Kumar Tiwari, Joint Director	9560505097
11.	M/o Culture	Pankaj Rag, JS	8800211162
12.	D/o Defence Production, M/o Defence	Vinod Pal, Director	9717274601
13.	M/o Development of North Eastern Region	V. L. Roui Kullai, Director	9910806953
14.	M/o Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation	Satyabrata Sahu, JS (Water and Administration)	9953355455
15.	M/o Earth Sciences	Vivek Mishra, Director	9818403911
16.	M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Ashok Kumar Pateshwary, Director (Policy and Law)	9868138777
17.	M/o External Affairs	Apoorva Srivastava, Director (ADP and RTI)	8130297045
18.	D/o Revenue, M/o Finance	Sanjiv Kumar, JS	9999114238
19.	M/o Food Processing Industries	G. D. Sharma, DS	9818117569
20.	M/o Health and Family Welfare	Ashish V. Gawai, DS	9818122971
21.	D/o Heavy Industries, M/o Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	Vijay Prasad Singh, Director	9871372434
22.	M/o Home Affairs	R. K. Mitra, JS (Coordination and Public Grievances Division)	9717847958
23.	M/o Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	M. P. Khadolia, Director	9958064033
24.	D/o Higher Education, M/o Human Resource Development	Davinder Pal Singh, DS	9416148417

25.	D/o School Education and Literacy, M/o Human Resource Development	N. K. Sahu, Economic Advisor	9818636282
26.	M/o Information and Broadcasting	Deepak Israni, DS (Information)	9818199228
27.	M/o Labour and Employment	Laxmi Narayan, DS	9818967221
28.	D/o Legal Affairs, M/o Law and Justice	Unni Krishnan T. Under Secretary	9868365594
29.	M/o Mines	Farida M. Naik, Director, Geological Survey of India	9958200604
30.	M/o Minority Affairs	A. Dhanalakshmi, Director	9493347799
31.	M/o Panchayati Raj	Dilip Kumar, Director	9810535445
32.	M/o Parliamentary Affairs	Satya Prakash, JS	9891207444
33.	M/o Railway	Vikas Sinha, DGM Law, Northern Railway	9717630015
34.	M/o Road Transport and Highways	V. Krishnaswamy, Director (O and M)	9911389683
35.	M/o Rural Development	Mam Chand, DS	9968596753
36.	D/o Science and Technology, M/o Science and Technology	P. K. Dutta, Under Secretary	9818103810
37.	D/o Scientific and Industrial Resarch, M/o Science and Technology	Vimal Kumar Varun, Scientist F	9968291747
38.	D/o Social Justice and Empowerment, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment	J. P. Datt, DS	9871523145
39.	D/o Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment	M. L. Meena, DS	9818549289

1	2	3	4
40.	D/o Space	S. Suresh, DS	7022266949
41.	M/o Steel	N. K. Wadhwa, DS	9810204984
42.	M/o Textiles	S. P. Katnauria, Director	9871716671
43.	M/o Tribal Affairs	Biswaranjan Sasmal, Director (Constitutional And Legal Matters)	8985970071
44.	M/o Urban Development	R. Prem Anand, DS (Coordination Division)	9868969054
45.	M/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	Surinder Kaur, DS (Establishment I)	9910982548
46.	M/o Women and Child Development	K. C. Behera, DS	8860054484
47.	D/o Youth Affairs, M/o Youth Affairs and Sports	Dayanand, DS (RTI)	9868140585

Kannur-Mysore railway line

2244. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Kannur-Mattannur-Mysore railway line is under consideration of Government, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Two surveys for Kannur-Mattannur (23 Km.) and Thalasserry-Mysore *via* Mattannur (300 Km.) new lines have been taken up which cover Kannur-Mattannur-Mysore alignment.

Routes of high-speed trains

†2245. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when and the routes on which high-speed trains are likely to be run as reports for trial of these trains are coming continuously;

(b) the speed, per-hour, of high-speed trains and the total expenditure to be incurred on their operation; and

(c) the time by when regular operation of these trains will start, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail corridor is the only sanctioned project for implementation at an estimated cost of ₹ 97,636 crore with technical and financial assistance from Government of Japan. This project is targeted for commissioning in 2023-24 with maximum design speed of 350 kmph. and operational speed of 320 kmph.

Facilities for poor people in general bogies of trains

†2246. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Railways to provide facilities to the poor people travelling in general bogies;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways is making special efforts to increase the speed of trains and provide more facilities; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that all these efforts are being made keeping in view the medium and high income group people, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Passenger amenities such as Cushioned seats, luggage space/racks,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

lights, fans, toilets and washbasins etc. are presently provided in General Second Class coaches for the passengers. Besides, mobile/laptop charging socket, dustbins and Braille signages are now being provided in all newly manufactured coaches and retrofitment on existing coaches is also being done in progressive manner. Further, in the Railway Budget 2016-17, introduction of Deen Dayalu coach and Antyodaya train services were announced catering specially to General Second Class passengers. Additional amenities *viz*. Water filters, Cushioned luggage racks, Toilet occupation indication display board, Hand holds in doorway area, Enhanced mobile charging facility etc. have been included in the design of Deen Dayalu coach as well as that of Antyodaya service coaches.

(b) Yes, Sir. For implementing 'Mission Raftaar' as announced in the Rail Budget 2016-17, a cross-functional directorate has been created in Railway Board. Gatiman Express at maximum speed of 160 kmph. has been introduced between Delhi-Agra. Studies are being undertaken on Delhi-Chandigarh and Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore sections for speed upgradation of existing routes with foreign Railway collaboration.

Humsafar, Tejas and Antyodaya train services and Deen Dayalu coaches, which were announced in the Rail Budget 2016-17, have been envisaged with additional facilities for the passengers.

(c) No, Sir. Indian Railways has made a large number of efforts to provide economical, comfortable and safe journey to all classes of passengers through various measures including Deen Dayalu General Class coaches to be attached to various long distance trains.

Executive lounges at railway stations

2247. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern Railway has set up executive lounges at New Delhi Railway Station for providing value added services to passengers, if so, the complete details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has any plans to set up similar lounges at railway stations in various cities of Gujarat and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has commissioned an Executive Lounge offering value added services at New Delhi railway station (Ajmeri Gate side). Further, it has been decided to set up one more Executive Lounge at New Delhi railway station (Paharganj side).

(b) It has been decided to set up through IRCTC, Executive Lounges at Ahmedabad and Vadodara railway stations in Gujarat.

Solar-powered locomotives

2248. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have initiated steps to run solar-powered locomotives on main-line routes to reduce dependence on fossil fuels;

(b) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government to utilize solar energy for traction needs of Railways; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Concession to domestic tourists in luxury trains

†2249. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering upon giving concession in fares to domestic tourists boarding luxury trains;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken by Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Concessions to domestic tourists on luxury tourist trains are offered by respective State Tourism Corporations/Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). Presently, only IRCTC offers concession on its train Maharajas' Express to domestic tourists by way of a discount of 50% to the second tourist sharing the cabin with a fully paid adult tourist, on select departures. Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, though offers no specific concession on Palace on Wheels and Royal Rajasthan on Wheels to domestic tourists, equivalent Indian National Rupee (INR) tariff for Indian Passport holders is fixed by taking the exchange rate as ₹ 60 per US$ irrespective of actual exchange rate, thereby insulating them from the fluctuation in exchange rate.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Alternative scheme for passengers of reserved class

†2250. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to extend alternative scheme for passengers of reserved class;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) With a view to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers of reserved class and, also to ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation, the Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme known as 'VIKALP' was introduced as a pilot project on Delhi-Lucknow and Delhi-Jammu sectors. Now this scheme has been further extended to Delhi-Howrah, Delhi-Mumbai, Delhi-Chennai, Delhi-Bangalore and Delhi-Secundrabad sectors also.

Railway works with regard to Ujjain Mahakumbh

†2251. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets set, works carried out and pending in respect of railway works with regard to Ujjain Mahakumbh, 2016; and

(b) the significance of converting Ujjain-Fatehabad metre-gauge line into broad-gauge line to cut-short the distance between Ujjain and Indore, and details of measures that would be adopted for this gauge conversion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The details of works completed/works taken up at Ujjain and adjoining stations *viz.* Vikramnagar, Pawasa, Mohanpura, Nagda, Indore, Naikheri, Pingleshwar etc. are as under:

1. Ujjain Railway Station–The following works have been completed:
   - Improvement to shelter at Platform No.2/3 and 6/7.
   - Raising of platform Nos.1, 2/3 and 4/5.
   - Improvement to circulating area.
   - Development of sitting space with shed at Nagda end on platform No.1.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- Additional Foot Over Bridge (FOB) at Bhopal end.
- Extension of existing FOB at Nagda end.
- Additional entry and development of circulating area at Neel Ganga Colony side.
- Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board.
- Augmentation of drinking water arrangements.
- Provision of out to out FOB.

2. Vikram Nagar Railway Station–The following works have been completed:
   - Augmentation of drinking water arrangements and toilet facilities.
   - Improvement to circulating area.
3. Works of development of rail level platform and provision of drinking water and toilet facilities have been completed at Pawasa and Mohanpura stations.
4. Nagda Railway Station–The following works have been completed:
   - Extension of covered shed on Platform No.4/5.
   - Raising of platform No.4/5 from medium level to high level.
   - Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board.

The following work has been taken up:

- Replacement of interconnecting FOB at Kota end.

5. Indore Railway Station–The following work has been completed:
   - Provision of Multiline train arrival/departure display board.

In addition, provision of additional facilities namely drinking water taps and toilets has been completed at Naikheri and Pingleshwar stations.

(b) Gauge conversion of Ujjain-Fatehabad metre gauge section will provide alternative route for diverted goods traffic from Ratlam-Ujjain section as Ratlam-Nagda is a congested section with 143.5% track capacity utilization. Conversion of this small stretch would lead to seamless movement of trains to Ujjain, which will become a uni-gauge with an extra inlet/outlet for all the trains from Ujjain. Survey for gauge conversion of Ujjain-Fatehabad section has been completed and as per survey report, the cost of conversion of 22.96 km. long line has been assessed as ₹ 109 crore with the rate of return of 7.65%. State Government of Madhya Pradesh has been requested for funding 50% of the final cost of construction along with bearing the operational and maintenance losses.

Railway stations under Adarsh station scheme in Rajasthan

†2252. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of stations in Rajasthan proposed to be developed under Adarsh Station Scheme;

(b) the amount allotted to the State of Rajasthan by Government under this scheme; and

(c) the details of work done on the railway stations selected under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) 40 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in the State of Rajasthan. Details of the stations are as under:

Abu Road, Alwar, Anupgarh, Balotra, Barmer, Chittorgarh Jn., Choti Khatu, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jodhpur, Khairthal, Kolayat, Ladnun, Lalgarh, Lunkaransar, Nohar, Nokha, Rajgarh, Raisingh Nagar, Ratangarh, Ringus, Sadulpur, Sardar Shahar, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Dungargarh, Sujangarh, Tehsil Bhadra. Gogameri, Sri Karanpur, Durgapura, Dakaniya Talav, Sri Vijaynagar, Mavli Jn., Beawar, Marwar Jn. and Neem Ka Thana.

(b) No separate funds are allocated for development of Adarsh Stations. The expenditure on development of stations under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' is generally funded under Plan Head of 'Passenger Amenities'. State-wise details of funds allocated are not maintained. Zone-wise (which cover the State of Rajasthan) details of funds allocated under Plan Head-'Passenger Amenities' during the current year are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Zonal Railway	Allocation
Northern Railway	75.06
North Central Railway	56.67
North Western Railway	43.48
Western Railway	53.29
West Central Railway	42.07

(c) 26 railway stations have been developed under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' in the State of Rajasthan. Various passenger amenities *e.g.* improvement to facade of stations building, resting facilities, toilets, signage etc. are provided at stations developed under 'Adarsh Stations Scheme' depending upon the category of the Station.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Trains from Rajasthan to Haridwar

†2253. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of routes and trains running to Haridwar from various places of Rajasthan;

(b) the extent of passenger burden on these trains from the State of Rajasthan to Haridwar; and

(c) whether the Central Government proposes to increase the frequency of trains or run new trains to Haridwar from the State of Rajasthan, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways do not run trains on State-wise basis as Railways network and train operations run across State boundaries. However, presently, following trains are running from various stations serving State of Rajasthan to Haridwar:

(i) 24887/24888 Barmer-Haridwar Link Express *via* Jodhpur, Bikaner, Hanumangarh.

(ii) 14711/14712 Shri Ganganagar-Rishikesh Express *via* Haridwar.

(iii) 19609/19610 Ajmer-Haridwar Express *via* Jaipur, Rewari, Delhi, Shamli.

(iv) 19031/19032 Ahmedabad-Haridwar Yoga Express *via* Ajmer, Jaipur, Rewari, Delhi.

(v) 19565/19566 Okha-Dehradun Express *via* Ajmer, Jaipur, Rewari, New Delhi, Haridwar.

(b) State-wise statistics are not maintained on Indian Railways. However, the demand pattern on Indian Railways is not uniform throughout the year and it varies during the peak and lean seasons. The demand for travel surges especially during the peak season like during summer holidays, festivals etc. The overall occupancy of all trains on Indian Railways during the Financial Year 2015-16 was more than 100%.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of existing trains or to introduce new trains to Haridwar from the State of Rajasthan. However, increase in the frequency of existing trains or introduction of new trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, availability of resources etc.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Exporting rail coaches and engines to other countries

2254. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are exporting rail coaches and engines to any country;

(b) if so, the number of engines and coaches exported country-wise during the last three years with amount in INR; and

(c) whether there is any plan to export rail coaches and engines to some other countries in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways is exporting rail coaches and engines through its PSU RITES.

(b)

Financial Year		Exports	Sale Value (₹ crores)
Passenger Coaches			
2013-14		Nil	–
2014-15		Nil	–
2015-16		Bangladesh-40 BG LHB type coaches	164.53
Locomotives			
2013-14	(i)	Bangladesh-16 BG Diesel Electric Locos	252.57
	(ii)	Sri Lanka-2300 HP Diesel Electric Locomotives-3 Nos.	40.41
2014-15		Bangladesh-08 BG Diesel Electric Locos	146.68
2015-16		Senegal-04 MG Diesel Electric Locos (in-service)	13.17

(c) Securing business for export of passenger coaches and locomotives from various countries is a continuous business development process.

Heavy expenditure on subsidies

†2255. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways incur heavy expenditure every year on subsidy, if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Railways have done away with different types of subsidies being given on tickets in order to reduce the burden of subsidy and propose to further end other subsidies, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways carries out certain transport activities which are uneconomic in nature but carried out in the larger interest of the society. The details of losses incurred on account of these activities during the last three years are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Details	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Loss on coaching services (suburban and non-suburban passenger traffic, parcel and luggage etc.)	32067	33491	34031
2.	Loss on essential commodities carried below cost of operation	53	69	76

(b) Revenue forgone due to concession being given to various categories of passengers in the passenger fare is 1602 crore for the year 2015-16. There is, however no proposal at present to make any change in the concession being provided.

Deficiencies in facilities at railway stations

†2256. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following recent visit by a Parliamentary Committee to a number of Divisions including Delhi, it was found that railway stations lack many facilities, the details thereof;

(b) whether this Committee found many deficiencies at Hazrat Nizamuddin, Old Delhi, New Delhi and Anand Vihar railway stations; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to remove these deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) The deficiencies, noticed if any, by Parliamentary Committee are noted for necessary remedial action. However, provision/upgradation of facilities/

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

amenities is a continuous process depending upon availability of funds, volume of traffic and *inter-se* priority of works. Public Accounts Committee visited New Delhi station and Delhi Junction station but no report about any lack of facilities has been received.

Pending railway projects in Chhattisgarh

†2257. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2366 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18 December, 2015 and state:

(a) whether any target has been set for doubling of Jagdalpur-Koraput railway line, construction of Jharsuguda-Bilaspur flyover/bypass and laying of third and fourth lines on Bilaspur-Anuppur, Jharsuguda-Bilaspur and Rajnandgaon-Nagpur rail routes and completion of construction of flyover/ bypasses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Jagdalpur-Koraput (110 Km.) doubling project and Jharsuguda-Bilaspur flyover/bypass (10 Km.) have been included in the Budget 2015-16 subject to requisite approvals from the Government. Both these projects have been approved and detailed estimates have been sanctioned. Part of Bilaspur-Anuppur (151 Km.) third line has been sanctioned as Pendra Road-Anuppur (50 Km.) third line and detailed estimate has also been sanctioned.

Jharsuguda-Bilaspur fourth line (206 Km.) and Rajnandgaon-Nagpur 3rd line (228 Km.) have been included in Budget 2015-16 subject to requisite clearance from the Government. Process for obtaining approval of NITI Aayog and Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for these projects has been initiated.

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, target dates for completion of these projects have not been fixed.

Requisitions of MPs for HOR quota

2258. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether touts have become active once again in Railways;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the number of touts arrested during current year till date, Zone-wise;

(c) whether tickets under HOR quota are being confirmed on requisitions of some MPs on mandatory basis daily, while requisitions of other MPs are denied citing demand and supply of berths under HOR quota, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons why demand and supply gap do not apply in case of some MPs who secure berths on mandatory basis in each and every train daily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Some cases of touting activities do come to notice during checks conducted by Railways, particularly during peak rush period/festival seasons.

(b) The number of persons prosecuted for touting under Section 143 of the Railways Act, 1989 during the year 2016 (upto June) over Indian Railways is as under:-

Railway	Number of persons prosecuted for touting under Section 143 of the Railways Act, 1989 during the year 2016 (upto June)
Central	462
Eastern	172
East Central	20
East Coast	24
Northern	204
North Central	37
North Eastern	0
Northeast Frontier	28
North Western	39
Southern	124
South Central	107
South Eastern	36
South East Central	16
South Western	49
Western	73
West Central	16
TOTAL	1407

(c) and (d) With a view to meet urgent travel requirement 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 from general public, who are on the waiting list, a limited number of berths/seats are earmarked under Emergency Quota (EQ). After meeting the demand for self travel of HOR holders and Members of Parliament the remaining Emergency Quota is used to meet the other demands received from VIPs and general public. While deciding the persons for whom the Emergency Quota is to be utilised, the competent authority controlling the quota takes into account all relevant factors like the status of the passenger travelling, nature of emergency like travelling on Government Duty, bereavement in the family, sickness, job interview, etc. Emergency quota is released by nominated officers by following prescribed guidelines and no preferential treatment is given to any specific Member of Parliament in this regard.

Roof-top travelling on trains

2259. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of roof-top travelling on trains in certain areas of the country;

(b) the details of accidents occurred due to this dangerous travelling and revenue loss to Railways due to this ticket-less travelling during the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways to stop both these menaces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of persons died and injured in the accidents due to dangerous travelling on roof-top of trains during the year 2014 and 2015 are as under:-

Year	Number of person died due to travelling on roof-top of trains	Number of person injured due to travelling on roof-top of trains
2014	43	45
2015	28	29

It is, however, not feasible to quantify the loss due to ticketless travellers travelling on roof-top as there is no mechanism to check the tickets on the roof-top.

(c) Following steps are being taken by Railways to prevent passengers travelling on roof-top of trains:-

1. Frequent announcements through public address system at station are made to educate passengers not to travel on roof, footboard of the trains.
2. Special awareness campaign are also organized by Railways to sensitize the passengers about the dangers of roof-top and foot-board travelling.
3. Warning boards cautioning people against climbing and touching Over Head Equipments are displayed at vantage points in station area.
4. Regular drives are conducted against the persons travelling on roof-top and foot-board on trains and the persons apprehended are prosecuted under the relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989.
5. To prevent climbing upon the rooftop of any train, ladder was removed from the end panel of all coaches.

Sonnagar-Dankuni section of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor

2260. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister is aware that despite the passage of several years, the Sonnagar-Dankuni section of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) has not been completed leading to the incompletion of EDFC and severely hampering growth prospects in West Bengal;

(b) the State-wise details of progress of EDFC, including the Sonnagar-Dankuni section along with issue faced and the expected period of its completion; and

(c) the details of funding pattern for EDFC project, including loan component received from the world Bank and expenditure incurred till date year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Implementation of the Sonnagar-Dankuni section of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) project has been delayed due to a number of factors including delay in land acquisition and alignment finalisation in Sonnagar-Gomoh section. However, it does not affect the commissioning or operation of section of EDFC from Sonnagar to Ludhiana.

(b) The project is not monitored State-wise, but Section-wise. The status is as under:

Sl. No.	Section	Status
1.	Ludhiana-Khurja (402 Km)	Target date of commissioning–December 2019.
2.	Khurja-Dadri (43 Km)	Target date of commissioning–June 2019.

Sl. No.	Section	Status
3.	Khurja-Sonnagar (469 Km)	Target dates of commissioning for different sections are:- (i) Khurja-Bhaupur–March, 2018 (ii) Bhaupur-Mughalsarai–December, 2018 (iii) Mughalsarai-Sonnagar–December, 2018
4.	Sonnagar-Dankuni (538 Km)	This section is identified for implementation through Public Private Partnership (PPP) route in two phases-Dankuni-Gomoh and Gomoh-Sonnagar. Invitation of bids for the works scheduled in December, 2016 is dependent on the progress achieved in land acquisition. The targeted period of completion is 5 (five) years from the date of appointment of concessionaire.

(c) EDFC is funded through a combination of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS), debt from World Bank and Public Private Partnership (PPP). The commitment of World Bank loan is for US $ 2725 Million (₹ 16812 crore). As on 30.06.2016, ₹ 1777 crore have been received as loan from World Bank. State-wise expenditure details are not maintained.

Year-wise expenditure on Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor project till 30.06.2016 is given as under:

Year	Amount (₹ in crore)	Year	Amount (₹ in crore)
2006-07	0.35	2012-13	1287.35
2007-08	3.49	2013-14	721.90
2008-09	82.40	2014-15	1103.47
2009-10	130.63	2015-16	2695.94
2010-11	237.27	2016-17 (up to 30.06.2016)	774.58
2011-12	1618.87		
		TOTAL	8656.25

Modernizing railway stations through PPP mode

2261. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to develop and modernize major railway stations under the PPP mode, if so the details thereof;

(b) how many railway stations at present are being modernized under the PPP mode;

(c) the details and the names of railway stations; and

(d) the status of these railway stations and how much time will be taken to modernize these railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Indian Railways has advertised its plan to redevelop 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting proposals from developers with their designs and business ideas. The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. The list of 'A-1' and 'A' category stations is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Further, eight stations *viz.*, Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, Chandigarh, Gandhinagar, Habibganj (Bhopal), Shivaji Nagar (Pune), SAS Nagar (Mohali) and Surat have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment under PPP mode. Bids for redevelopment of Habibganj station have been finalized and development agreement signed. Request for Qualification (RFQ) for Anand Vihar station has been finalized and RFQ for Bijwasan station has been opened.

Station redevelopment projects are complex in nature and require detailed techno-economic feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local bodies. Therefore, no time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

Statement

List of 'A-1' and 'A' category stations in Indian Railways

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
1.	CST Mumbai	Central	5.	Dadar	Central
2.	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	-Do-	6.	Kalyan	-Do-
3.	Pune	-Do-	7.	Solapur	-Do-
4.	Nagpur	-Do-	8.	Thane	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
9.	Akola	Central	41.	Jajpur-Keonjhar Rd.	East Coast
10.	Amravati	-Do-	42.	Khurda Road	-Do-
11.	Badnera	-Do-	43.	Palasa	-Do-
12.	Bhusawal	-Do-	44.	Rayagada	-Do-
13.	Burhanpur	-Do-	45.	Sambalpur	-Do-
14.	Chalisgaon	-Do-	46.	Srikakulam Road	-Do-
15.	Jalgaon	-Do-	47.	Vizianagaram	-Do-
16.	Khandwa	-Do-	48.	Darbanga Jn.	East Central
17.	Khurduwadi	-Do-	49.	Dhanbad	-Do-
18.	Latur	-Do-	50.	Gaya Jn.	-Do-
19.	Manmad	-Do-	51.	Mughalsarai Jn.	-Do-
20.	Miraj	-Do-	52.	Muzaffarpur Jn.	-Do-
21.	Nasik Road	-Do-	53.	Patna Jn.	-Do-
22.	Panvel	-Do-	54.	Anugraha Narain Rd.	-Do-
23.	Sainagar Shirdi	-Do-	55.	Ara Jn.	-Do-
24.	Shegaon	-Do-	56.	Bhaktiarpur Jn.	-Do-
25.	Ahmednagar	-Do-	57.	Barauni Jn.	-Do-
26.	Daund	-Do-	58.	Betiah	-Do-
27.	Gulbarga	-Do-	59.	Buxar	-Do-
28.	Kolhapur	-Do-	60.	Daltonganj	-Do-
29.	Kopergaon	-Do-	61.	Danapur	-Do-
30.	Lonavala	-Do-	62.	Dehri-on-Sone	-Do-
31.	Ballarshah	-Do-	63.	Gomoh Jn.	-Do-
32.	Betul	-Do-	64.	Hajipur Jn.	-Do-
33.	Chandrapur	-Do-	65.	Jamui	-Do-
34.	Wardha	-Do-	66	Jaynagar	-Do-
35.	Visakhapatnam	East Coast	67.	Khagaria Jn.	-Do-
36.	Bhubaneswar	-Do-	68.	Kiul Jn.	-Do-
37.	Puri	-Do-	69.	Koderma	-Do-
38.	Bhadrak	-Do-	70.	Madhubani	-Do-
39.	Brahmpur	-Do-	71.	Mokama	-Do-
40.	Cuttack	-Do-	72.	Bapudham Motihari	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
73.	Narkatiaganj Jn.	East Central	105.	Aligarh	North Central
74.	Parasnath	-Do-	106.	Banda	-Do-
75.	Patna Sahib Jn.	-Do-	107.	Chitrakut Dham	-Do-
76.	Rajendra Nagar (T)	-Do-	108.	Etawah	-Do-
77.	Raxaul Jn.	-Do-	109.	Fatehpur	-Do-
78.	Sagauli Jn.	-Do-	110.	Lalitpur	-Do-
79.	Saharsa Jn.	-Do-	111.	Mohoba	-Do-
80.	Samastipur Jn.	-Do-	112.	Morena	-Do-
81.	Sasaram Jn.	-Do-	113.	Orai	-Do-
82.	Singrauli	-Do-	114.	Phaphund	-Do-
83.	Howrah	Eastern	115.	Raja Ki Mandi	-Do-
84.	Bhagalpur	-Do-	116.	Tundla	-Do-
85.	Sealdah	-Do-	117.	Mirzapur	-Do-
86.	Asansol	-Do-	118.	Gorakhpur Jn.	North Eastern
87.	Bandel	-Do-	119.	Lucknow Jn.	-Do-
88.	Barddaman	-Do-	120.	Chhapra Jn.	-Do-
89.	Durgapur	Eastern	121.	Azamgarh	-Do-
90.	Jamalpur	-Do-	122.	Ballia	-Do-
91.	Jasidih	-Do-	123.	Basti	-Do-
92.	Kolkata (T)	-Do-	124.	Belthara Road	-Do-
93.	Madhupur	-Do	125.	Deorea Sadar	-Do-
94.	Malda Town	-Do-	126.	Gonda Jn.	-Do-
95.	Naihati Jn.	-Do-	127.	Kathgodam	-Do-
96.	New Farakka	-Do-	128.	Khalilabad	-Do-
97.	Rampurhat	-Do-	129.	Mau Jn.	-Do-
98.	Allahabad	North Central	130.	Rudrapur City	-Do-
99.	Kanpur Central	-Do-	131.	Siwan Jn.	-Do-
100.	Jhansi	-Do-	132.	Guwahati	Northeast Frontier
101.	Gwalior	-Do-			
102.	Agra Cantt.	-Do-	133.	New Jalpaiguri	-Do-
103.	Mathura Jn.	-Do-	134.	Alipurduar Jn.	-Do-
104.	Agra Fort	-Do-	135.	Barpeta Road	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
136.	Bongaigaon	Northeast Frontier	167.	Dehradun	Northern
			168.	Adarsh Nagar (Delhi)	-Do-
137.	Coochbehar	-Do-	169.	Akbarpur	-Do-
138.	Dibrugarh Town	-Do-	170.	Ayodhya	-Do-
139.	Jogbani	-Do-	171.	Ballabgarh	-Do-
140.	Jorhat Town	-Do-	172.	Barabanki	-Do-
141.	Kamakhya	-Do-	173.	Bhatinda Jn.	-Do-
142.	Katihar Jn.	-Do-	174.	Beas	-Do-
143.	Kishanganj	-Do-	175.	Bhadohi	-Do-
144.	Lumding	-Do-	176.	Chakkibank	-Do-
145.	New Alipurduar	-Do-	177.	Chandausi	-Do-
146.	New Coochbhar	-Do-	178.	Delhi Cantt.	-Do-
147.	Purnea Jn.	-Do-	179.	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	-Do-
148.	Raiganj	-Do-	180.	Delhi Shahdara	-Do-
149.	Rangiya Jn.	-Do-	181.	Faizabad	-Do-
150.	Siliguri Jn.	-Do-	182.	Faridabad	-Do-
151.	Tinsukia	-Do-	183.	Ferozepur Cantt.	-Do-
152.	Dimapur	-Do-	184.	Ghaziabad	-Do-
153.	Silchar	-Do-	185.	Gurgaon	-Do-
154.	Jammu Tawi	Northern	186.	Hapur	-Do-
155.	Lucknow	-Do-	187.	Hardoi	-Do-
156.	Varanasi	-Do-	188.	Jagadhri	-Do-
157.	Delhi Jn.	-Do-	189.	Jalandhar Cantt.	-Do-
158.	New Delhi	-Do-	190.	Jaladhar City	-Do-
159.	Amritsar	-Do-	191.	Janghai	-Do-
160.	Ludhiana	-Do-	192.	Jaunpur	-Do-
161.	Ambala Cantt.	-Do-	193.	Kalka	-Do-
162.	Haridwar	-Do-	194.	Karnal	-Do-
163.	Chandigarh	-Do-	195.	Meerut Cantt.	-Do-
164.	H. Nizamuddin	-Do-	196.	Meerut City	-Do-
165.	Anand Vihar (T)	-Do-	197.	Moradabad	-Do-
166.	Bareilly	-Do-	198.	Muzaffarnagar	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
199.	Panipat	Northern	231.	Lalgarh	North Western
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-	245.	Hyderabad	-Do-
214.	Sultanpur	-Do-	246.	Kachiguda	-Do-
215.	Udhampur	-Do-	247.	Anantpur	-Do-
216.	Unnao	-Do-	248.	Nanded	-Do-
217.	Jaipur	North Western	249.	Anakapalle	-Do-
218.	Jodhpur	-Do-	250.	Aurangabad	-Do-
219.	Ajmer	-Do-	251.	Bhimavaram	-Do-
220.	Abu Road	-Do-	252.	Chirala	-Do-
221.	Alwar	-Do-	253.	Cuddapah	-Do-
222.	Bandikui	-Do-	254.	Eluru	-Do-
223.	Barmer	-Do-	255.	Gudur Jn.	-Do-
224.	Bhilwara	-Do-	256.	Guntakal Jn.	-Do-
225.	Bhiwani	-Do-	257.	Guntur Jn.	-Do-
226.	Bikaner	-Do-	258.	Jalna	-Do-
227.	Falna	-Do-	259.	Kakinada Town	-Do-
228.	Gandhinagar (JP)	-Do-	260.	Kazipet Jn.	-Do-
229.	Hanumangarh Jn.	-Do-	261.	Khammam	-Do-
230.	Hissar	-Do-	262.	Kurnool Town	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
263.	Manchiryal	South Central	293.	Ranchi	South Eastern
264.	Nagarsol	-Do-	294.	Rourkela	-Do-
265.	Nellore	-Do-	295.	Shalimar	-Do-
266.	Nizamabad	-Do-	296.	Chennai Central	Southern
267.	Ongole	-Do-	297.	Chennai Egmore	-Do-
268.	Parbhani Jn.	-Do-	298.	Coimbatore Jn.	-Do-
269.	Raichur	-Do-	299.	Trivandrum Central	-Do-
270.	Rajahmundry	-Do-	300.	Ernakulam Jn.	-Do-
271.	Renigunta	-Do-	301.	Madurai Jn.	-Do-
272.	Samalkot Jn.	-Do-	302.	Trichur	-Do-
273.	Tadepalligudam	-Do-	303.	Kozhikode	-Do-
274.	Tenali Jn.	-Do-	304.	Alappuzha	-Do-
275.	Tuni	-Do-	305.	Aluva	-Do-
276.	Warangal	-Do-	306.	Arakkonam Jn.	-Do-
277.	Yadgir	-Do-	307.	Chengalpattu Jn.	-Do-
278.	Raipur	Southeast Central	308.	Chengannur	-Do-
279.	Bilaspur Jn.	-Do-	309.	Didigul Jn.	-Do-
280.	Bhilai Powerhouse	-Do-	310.	Ernakulam Town	-Do-
281.	Champa Jn.	-Do-	311.	Erode Jn.	-Do-
282.	Durg	-Do-	312.	Jolarpettai Jn.	-Do-
283.	Gondia	-Do-	313.	Kanhangad	-Do-
284.	Raigarh	-Do-	314.	Kanyakumari	-Do-
285.	Rajnandgaon	-Do-	315.	Kannur	-Do-
286.	Tatanagar	South Eastern	316.	Karur Jn.	-Do-
287.	Kharagpur	-Do-	317.	Kasargod	-Do-
288.	Balasore	-Do-	318.	Katpadi	-Do-
289.	Bokaro Steel City	-Do-	319.	Kayankulam	-Do-
290.	Digha	-Do-	320.	Kollam Jn.	-Do-
291.	Hatia	-Do-	321.	Kottayam	-Do-
292.	Jharsuguda	-Do-	322.	Kovilpatti	-Do-
			323.	Kumbakonam	-Do-
			324.	Mangalore Central	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
325.	Mangalore Jn.	Southern	357.	Kengeri	South Western
326.	Mayiladuthurai Jn.	-Do-	358.	Krishnarajapuram	-Do-
327.	Mettuppalayam	-Do-	359.	Mysore	-Do-
328.	Nagercoil Jn.	-Do-	360.	Shimoga Town	-Do-
329.	Palakkad Jn.	-Do-	361.	SSP Nilayam	-Do-
330.	Payyannur	-Do-	362.	Vasco-De-Gama	-Do-
331.	Rameshwaram	-Do-	363.	Bhopal	West Central
332.	Salem Jn.	-Do-	364.	Jabalpur	-Do-
333.	Shoranur Jn.	-Do-	365.	Bharatpur	-Do-
334.	Tambaram	-Do-	366.	Beena	-Do-
335.	Thalassery	-Do-	367.	Damoh	-Do-
336.	Thanjavur Jn.	-Do-	368.	Habibganj	-Do-
337.	Tiruchirappalli Jn.	-Do-	369.	Hoshangabad	-Do-
338.	Tirunelveli Jn.	-Do-	370.	Itarsi	-Do-
339.	Tiruppur	-Do-	371.	Katni	-Do-
340.	Tirur	-Do-	372.	Kota	-Do-
341.	Tiruvalla	-Do-	373.	Maihar	-Do-
342.	Tuticorin	-Do-	374.	Pipariya	-Do-
343.	Vadakara	-Do-	375.	Rewa	-Do-
344.	Villupuram Jn.	-Do-	376.	Satna	-Do-
345.	Virudunagar Jn.	-Do-	377.	Saugor	-Do-
346.	Bangalore City	South Western	378.	Sawai Madhopur	-Do-
347.	Yashwantpur	-Do-	379.	Vidhisha	-Do-
348.	Bangalore Cantt.	-Do-	380.	Ahmedabad	Western
349.	Bangarpet	-Do-	381.	Mumbai Central	-Do-
350.	Belgaum	-Do-	382.	Bandra Terminus	-Do-
351.	Bellary	-Do-	383.	Surat	-Do-
352.	Bijapur	-Do-	384.	Vadodara	-Do-
353.	Davangere	-Do-	385.	Anand	-Do-
354.	Dharwad	-Do-	386.	Ankleshwar	-Do-
355.	Hospet	-Do-	387.	Baruch	-Do-
356.	Hubli	-Do-	388.	Bhavnagar (T)	-Do-

Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone	Sl. No.	Name of Station	Zone
389.	Chittorgarh Jn.	Western	398.	Palanpur	Western
390.	Gandhidham	-Do-	399.	Ratlam	-Do-
391.	Indore	-Do-	400.	Surndranagar	-Do-
392.	Jamnagar	-Do-	401.	Udhana	-Do-
393.	Mehsana	-Do-	402.	Ujjain	-Do-
394.	Nadiad	-Do-	403.	Valsad	-Do-
395.	Nagda	-Do-	404.	Vapi	-Do-
396.	Navsari	-Do-	405.	Veraval	-Do-
397.	New Bhuj	-Do-	406.	Viramgam	-Do-

Vacancies in Railway Police Force

2262. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies to be filled-up in Railway Police Force, rank-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the reasons for not filling-up such vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Filling up of vacancies in Railway Protection Force is an ongoing process. As and when the vacancies arise due to retirement, promotion, death, voluntary retirement, resignation etc. the same are filled up through recruitment and promotion as per the existing Rules. Vacancies in RPF/RPSF, Rank/Zone-wise as on 01.07.2016 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Rank/Zone-wise vacancies in RPF/RPSF as on 01.7.2016

Zone	Inspector General	Deputy Inspector General	Senior Divisional Security Commissioner	Divisional Security Commissioner	Assistant Security Commissioner	Inspector	Sub-Inspector	Assistant Sub-Inspector	Head-Constable/ Constable	Ancillary Staff	Constable Band	Driver	Other	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Central Railway	0	0	0	1	1	19	34	104	189	32	9	5	0	394
Eastern Railway	0	0	1	0	3	41	156	306	109	108	11	28	0	763
East Central Railway	0	0	0	1	0	0	39	80	279	82	2	14	0	494
East Coast Railway	0	0	0	0	0	30	2	35	37	41	17	1	0	163
Northern Railway	0	0	0	3	1	14	118	141	956	52	0	9	0	1294
North Central Railway	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	43	79	22	1	1	0	151
North Eastern Railway	0	0	0	1	0	19	16	94	114	50	18	3	0	315
Northeast Frontier Railway	1	0	1	0	0	3	37	89	103	89	25	4	0	352

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
North Western Railway	0	0	0	0	0	22	10	24	88	12	3	9	1	169
Southern Railway	0	0	0	0	4	10	77	71	59	20	27	43	0	311
South Eastern Railway	0	0	0	0	1	25	34	226	828	71	33	6	0	1224
South Central Railway	0	0	0	0	1	2	42	77	437	9	18	3	0	589
South Western Railway	0	0	2	0	1	7	31	43	69	0	0	2	0	155
South East Central Railway	0	0	0	0	0	8	9	47	123	9	10	0	0	206
Western Railway	0	0	0	3	1	2	7	191	190	45	0	21	0	460
West Central Railway	0	0	0	0	0	7	18	31	73	3	12	5	0	149
Railway Protection Special Force	0	0	0	4	7	145	107	409	415	279	18	23	0	1407
Central Organization	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4

for Railway Electrification														
Intrigal Coach Factory	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	6	51	1	17	3	5	90
Konkan Railway Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	4	17	0	0	0	0	26
Jagjivan Ram RPF Academy	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	14	23	0	0	0	40
TOTAL	1	0	4	13	21	363	749	2022	4228	948	221	180	6	8756

Integrated security plan for railway stations

2263. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are preparing an integrated security plan for selected railway stations, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this project;

(c) the names of the railway stations selected for implementation of the said plan at the initial stage; and

(d) the other measures taken by Railways to provide foolproof security at vulnerable stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) An Integrated Security System (ISS) has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism at 202 railway stations over Indian Railways. ISS has been conceptualized as comprising of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) camera, access control, personal and baggage screening system and bomb detection and disposal System which together provide multiple checking of passengers and its baggage from the point of entry in the station premises till boarding of train.

(b) The anticipated cost of ISS project stands at ₹ 385.06 crore.

(c) Details of 202 stations identified as sensitive for the purpose of installation of Integrated Security System are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Prevention and detection of crime, registration of cases and maintenance of law and order over Railways is the statutory responsibility of States which is being discharged by them through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of States for better protection and security of railway property, passenger area, passengers and matters connected therewith. Round the clock surveillance is being kept through CCTV cameras at 344 stations over Indian Railways. In addition, access control, operationalisation of All India Security Helpline (182), prosecution of offenders under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, close coordination/liaison with GRPs of respective States are other important measures initiated to ensure security at vulnerable stations.

Statement

Details of 202 Stations identified as sansitive for the purpose of installation of Integrated Security System

Bhusawal, Nasik Road, Manmad, Chalisgaon, Jalgaon, Akola, Murtajapur, Badnera, Nagpur, Pune, Miraj, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal (Main Line and Suburban), Dadar, Kurla, Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Thane and Kalyan, Malda, Bardhaman, Asansol, Durgapur, Sealdah, Kolkata (T), Bidhannagar, Majherhat, Ballygunge, Dum Dum, Howrah, Dum Dum Jn, Belgachia, Shyambazar, Sovabazar, Girish Park, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Central, Chandni Chowk, Esplanade, Park Street, Maidan, Rabindra Sadan, Netaji Bhawan, Jatindas Park, Kalighat, Rabindra Sarobar, Tollygunge, Kudghat, Bansdram, Naktala, Garia Bazar, Birji (Previous Pranab Nagar) New Garia, Dhanbad, Mughalsarai, Patna Jn., Rajendra Nagar, Muzzafar Pur, Samastipur, Raxaul, Puri, Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar, Visakapatnam, Lucknow, Varanasi, Faizabad, Ayodhya, Srinagar, Badgam, Anantnag, Jammutawi, Udhampur, Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Ambala, Saharanpur, Kalka, Bathinda, Chandigarh, Patiala, Bareilly, Moradabad, Haridwar, Chakkibank, Brijbehra, Panjgam, Awantipura, Kakapore, Pampore, Rajwansher, New Delhi, Delhi Main, H. Nizamuddin, Shahdara, Tilak Bridge, Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Cantt, Shivazi Bridge, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Agra, Mathura, Jhansi, Kanpur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Chapra, Guwahati, Dimapur, New Jalpaiguri, Diphu, Lumding, Maibong, Katihar, Kishanganj, Siliguri, Kokrajhar, New Tinsukia, Simalguri, Jorhat Town, Mariani, Furkating, Dibrugarh, Jaipur, Ajmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Trivandrum, Ernakulam, Coimbatore, Madurai, Calicut, Tiruchirapalli, Mangalore, Chennai Central, Chennai Egmore, Beach, Mambalam, Tambaram, Basin Bridge, Tiruvallur, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Tirupati, Kharagpur, Ranchi, Tatanagar, Chakradharpur, Rourkela, Jharsuguda, Bokaro, Puruliya, Adra, Muri, Midnapur, Bilaspur, Raipur, Gondia, Bangalore, Yaswantpur, Mysore, Bhopal, Itarsi, Surat, Vadodara, Godhra, Ahmedabad, Ujjain, Church Gate, Marine Drive, Charni Road, Grant Road, Mumbai Central, Mahalaxmi, Lower Parel, Elphinston Road, Dadar, Matunga Road, Mahim, Bandra Local, Bandra Terminus, Khar Road, Santa Cruz, Vile Parle, Andheri, Jogeshwari, Goregaon, Malad, Kandivali, Borivali, Dahisar, Miraroad, Bhayander, Nayagaon, Basairoad, Nalasupara, Virar, Palghar, Boisar and Dahanuroad.

Development of Sabarmati railway station

†2264. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmedabad, being a metropolitan city and Kalupur station being centrally located in Ahmedabad, railway traffic is overburdened there;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether in view of the above, there is any proposal to develop Sabarmati railway station as an additional terminal station of Ahmedabad so as to reduce the burden of railway traffic on Ahmedabad and Kalupur railway stations to some extent;

(c) whether there is any proposal to develop any other railway stations in order to reduce the burden of railway traffic on Ahmedabad and Kalupur railway stations; and

(d) the steps taken so far to develop integrated rail network at Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) State Government has held discussions with Railways and other stakeholders, for setting up of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for development of railway network in the State including Regional Rail System in Ahmedabad.

Inconvenient new rail coaches

2265. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the newly-inducted rail coaches are inaccessible and despite their paying capacity, the differently-abled people find it inconvenient to travel in higher classes like 3AC or 2AC;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for making the new rail coaches user un-friendly to the differently-abled people;

(c) the details of trains which have been provided with new and modern coaches since last three years; and

(d) the details and names of trains which are likely to be inducted with new and modern rail coaches in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Newly inducted rail coaches including 3AC and 2AC are generally accessible for differently-abled persons with most of the categories of disabilities as enshrined in The Persons With Disabilities (PWD) (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 except wheelchair borne passengers. For wheelchair borne passengers having loco motor disability or otherwise, to enable barrier free movement inside the coaches, special compartment and a toilet is provided in a Second Class Cum Luggage Cum Guard Van and Disabled

friendly coach (SLRD) attached to ordinary Mail and Express trains and in an air-conditioned compartment of Power Car in Garib Rath trains. As per the present policy of the Ministry of Railways, it is endeavored to provide one SLRD coach having compartment for PWDs in each Mail and Express trains especially to facilitate the travel of wheelchair borne passengers. Hence, this facility is not provided in other classes of coaches.

Improving upon the accessibility in coaches is a continuous endeavour of Indian Railways and in this regard, newly manufactured Mainline coaches of all classes including Air conditioned class are now being provided with Braille signages for the aid of visually impaired passengers.

(c) and (d) New technology LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) have been inducted in about 100 pairs of trains and one train 22417/22418 Varanasi-New Delhi Mahamana Express has been introduced with refurbished modern coaches as on date. However, deployment of new coaches/refurbished coaches is generally done both for new trains as well as for existing trains depending on operational feasibility, maintenance practices, availability of such coaches and passenger demand obtaining at the time. It is an on-going exercise.

Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Udaipur railway line

2266. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work of gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Udaipur railway line has been taken up;

(b) if so, the time-frame for completion of the project;

(c) the present position of the same in Gujarat section; and

(d) whether the budget provision for 2016-17 is sufficient for the project implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur (299 km) along with Modasa-Shamlaji (23 km) new line has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 1215 crore and an expenditure of ₹ 233.69 crore has been incurred upto March, 2016. An outlay of ₹ 675.25 crore has been provided for the year 2016-17 which is sufficient for current fiscal year. The project has suffered in the past on account of insufficient funds allotment. Execution of this project has been taken up in phases as under:

(i) Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar section: Tenders for earthwork and ballast supply have been awarded and the work taken up.

(ii) Himmatnagar-Udaipur section: Earthwork and bridges works have been taken up. Subways replacing Level Crossings (LCs) have been completed.

(iii) Modasa-Shamlaji: Proceedings for land acquisition proposals for the new alignment as approved by Government of Gujarat by-passing the heavy built up area, have been taken up.

Completion of a railway project is dependent upon availability of funds for allotment, acquisition of land, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, cutting of trees, construction of road over bridges and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies etc. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, timeline for completion of this project has not been fixed.

Capacity creation by Railways

2267. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by Railways for speedy capacity creation;

(b) the important areas identified by Railways for investment; and

(c) the details of steps proposed to be taken by Railways to generate sufficient internal surplus to meet the investment requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways have planned an investment of ₹ 8.56 lakh crore over five years (2015-2019) with an emphasis on capacity creation. Under the investment plan, major areas of priority include: Network decongestion, network expansion, safety related works, rolling stock procurement, Station development works, modernization, speed raising, signalling, traffic facility works, information technology and customer service improvements.

(c) Efforts towards enhancing internal resource generation are a continuous process on the Railways which includes a mix of traffic augmentation, non-fare revenue maximization, pricing adjustments and expenditure control measures etc.

Solar power for purifying contaminated water at railway stations

2268. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware of the fact that lakhs of pasengers are consuming unsafe drinking water at various railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Railways to ensure that passengers get safe and pure water to drink free-of-cost;

(c) whether Railways are considering any proposal to use solar power for purifying and filtering contaminated water at railway stations to avoid water borne diseases; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) It is Railways' endeavour to provide potable drinking water at all stations. Instructions exist for periodical check on quality of water and corrective action to be taken, if any deficiency is found.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Non-conventional energy sources

2269. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any proposal for utilisation of non-conventional energy sources as an alternative to diesel and electric power, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the total funds likely to be allocated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways (IR) has started use of bio-diesel (5% blending with diesel) as an alternative to High Speed Diesel (HSD) for traction purposes since June, 2015 on trial basis. No special fund allotment for bio-diesel is contemplated since it is a part of fuel cost for which provision is already available in the budget. Further, in order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, IR proposes to harness 1000 Mega Watt (MW) solar power by putting up solar plants on Railway buildings/stations and through land based solar plants across the country with subsidy/viability gap funding support of Ministry of Non-Renewable Energy in the next few years.

It is planned that as part of this, solar plants will be put up on roof top of Railway buildings through developers with Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) by Railways and partly on land based systems. For rooftop plants, tenders for 50 MW Solar Photovoltaic units have been floated.

IR also proposes to harness about 150 MW wind energy, by itself or through Railway Energy Management Company Limited (REMCL).

A total of about 50 MW renewable energy capacity has been installed till date, including approximately 13 MW solar and 37 MW wind plants.

Release of berths under HQ quota

2270. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether VIP references for release of HQ quota to the Minister of Railways (Reservation Cell) are not being given priority in recent times;

(b) if so, whether complaints have been regularly received against officials of MR Cell (Return Reservation) for deliberate, biased and irregularities in treatment of VIP references;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(d) whether representations from Members of Parliament have been received against such officials;

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(f) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (f) 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. The quota is released by the staff in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long. At the time of allotment of berths/seats, emergency quota is first allotted for self travel of HOR holders/Members of Parliament, etc., strictly as per their *inter-se* seniority in warrant of precedence. Thereafter, other requisitions received from various quarters including that from Members of Parliament are considered and the remaining quota is released taking into account various factors like status of passengers travelling, nature of urgency like travelling on Government duty, bereavement in the family, sickness, job interview, etc. While the requests received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament for their self travel are complied with, in case of requests forwarded by them for other than self travel, at times, it is not feasible to accommodate all such requests when the demand exceeds the availability.

A complaint against an official of Minister for Railways' cell for his improper behaviour was received from an Hon'ble MP and countersigned by six other Hon'ble Members of Parliament. The complaint was examined and the official was advised to be courteous in his behaviour. Another complaint regarding non-confirmation of berth was received from another Hon'ble MP who has raised the question. The complaint has been examined and it has been found that the letter for confirmation of berth was received after the prescribed timings. Moreover, the person against whom the complaint has been made, had joined just two days before the said date and was not in a position to adjudge the authenticity of the representative of Hon'ble MP on phone.

Maintenance of Ghaziabad railway station

2271. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the platforms at Ghaziabad railway station under Northern Railway Zone are not being maintained and cleaned properly;

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

(c) whether entries to the railway station from city side and Vijay Nagar side are full of encroachment by Autowalas, Rehariwalas, Rickshawwalas, etc., if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Railways to maintain the Ghaziabad railway station and its entry sides properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) It is Railways' endeavour to maintain platforms at all stations, including the Ghaziabad Station, properly. Further, a work for improvement of surface at platform No. 3 and 4 at Ghaziabad Railway Station has also been taken up.

At Ghaziabad Railway Station, 34 departmental Safai Karamcharies are available to maintain cleanliness at station area.

Apart from this, sanitation contract has also been awarded at Ghaziabad Railway Station and 77 contractual labour maintain cleanliness of all platforms at Ghaziabad Railway Station in all shifts.

Regular inspections are carried out at the station to oversee the level of cleanliness.

Requisite action is taken by Railway Protection Force to remove any encroachment by Autowalas, Rehariwalas, Rickshawwalas etc. at the entries to the railway station.

Rate contracts for food articles in North Central Railway

2272. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rate contracts for various food articles under the departmental catering in North Central Railway, especially for Allahabad/Kanpur;

(b) whether the PAD items are not included for rate contracts under departmental catering, especially for Allahabad/Kanpur;

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

(d) whether any arrangements have been made for sale of such PAD items under departmental catering in the absence of rate contracts, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the rate contracts for PAD items under departmental catering in North Central Railway will be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) At present no rate contracts for supply of PAD (Proprietary Article Depot) items are available on North Central Railway (NCR) since the old contracts have expired. In departmental catering units, only a-la-carte items are being sold in the absence of rate contracts of PAD items. It is envisaged to finalize the rate contracts within three months for which the firms/companies for supplying of PAD products have already been shortlisted.

Survey report for new railway line projects in Karnataka

2273. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of action taken on the survey report for new railway line projects in Karnataka;

(b) the estimated cost of the projects;

(c) the time-frame set for completion of the said projects; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Railways to expedite the work on the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) During last five years (from 2011-12 to 2015-16), total 19 number of surveys have been completed for new railway line projects falling partly

or fully in Karnataka, out of which 02 new line projects have been included in Railway Budget and their details are as under:-

I. **Chickballapur-Gowribidanur New Line (44 Km)**

This Project was included in the Railway Budget 2013-14 subject to requisite approvals. Total estimated cost of this Project is ₹ 368 crore. However, this project could not be taken forward due to its unremunerative nature and huge throwforward of ongoing projects.

II. **Gadag-Wadi New Line (252 Km)**

This project was included in the Railway Budget 2013-14. This Project has been taken up on 50:50 cost sharing and land free of cost from Government of Karnataka. Total estimated cost of this Project is ₹ 1922 crore. An outlay of ₹ 30 crore has been provided for this project under Safety Fund and ₹ 30 crore is expected from the State Government under Extra Budgetary Resources (Partnership) during 2016-17.

Part detailed estimate amounting to ₹ 233.10 crore has been sanctioned for works on long lead items. Final location survey for this new line has been completed and land acquisition papers for 161 Km stretch submitted to the State Government. As no land for any stretch of the project is received by Railways, State Government has been requested to expedite handing over of required land to Railways.

No time-frame for completion of this project is fixed.

Expanding public services of IRCTC

2274. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the hurdles in expanding the public services of IRCTC;

(b) the details of private booking websites carrying the same role of IRCTC; and

(c) the details of such private agencies authorized so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is an extended arm of Ministry of Railways set up to upgrade, professionalise and manage public interface services like online ticketing, catering and tourism. Improvement and expansion of public services provided by IRCTC is an ongoing process and curative steps are taken regularly for increased passenger satisfaction in respect of these services based on the passenger feedback and availability of resources.

(b) and (c) Details of the authorized private booking websites of IRCTC offering the service of e-ticketing for reserved tickets of Railways is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the authorized private booking websites of IRCTC offering the service of e-ticketing for reserved tickets of Railways

(As on June, 2016)

Sl. No.	Name of Principle Agents	Scheme	Date of Registration	Date of Expiry	Websites
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Akbar Online Booking Co. Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	24-Feb-09	23-Feb-17	*http://betarail. akbartravelsonline. com/ MyAccount/Login*
2.	Bird Group Technologies P. Ltd.	Business to Business	25-Mar-09	24-Mar-17	*https://www.birdres.com/ booking/ login.aspx*
3.	Easy Bill	Business to Business	07-Apr-07	11-Feb-17	*https://www. easybillindia.net.in/*
4.	G I Technology Ltd.	Business to Business	16-Jan-08	15-Jan-17	*Application Based*
5.	ITIPL (ITZ Cash Card Ltd)	Business to Business	05-Dec-07	04-Dec-16	*https://rail.itzcashworld. com/RDS/*
6.	Oxigen Services (India) Pvt. Ltd,	Business to Business	25-Mar-08	24-Mar-17	*http://oxirail.com/Login. aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f*
7.	Pay Point India Network	Business to Business	25-Nov-13	24-Nov-16	*https://paypointindia. co.in/*
8.	Spring Travels	Business to Business	31-Mar-10	30-Mar-17	*www.b2b.looknbook.com*
9.	Sugal and Damani (Payworld)	Business to Business	29-Dec-07	28-Dec-16	*Application Based*
10.	Beam (Suvidha Starnet)	Business to Business	21-Dec-09	21-Dec-16	*www.b2b.beam.co.in*
11.	Suvidhaa Infoserve	Business to Business	30-Oct-07	29-Oct-16	*https://suvidhaa.in/*
12.	Flight Raja Travels Pvt Ltd.	Business to Business	10-Oct-08	10-Oct-16	*http://rail.viaworld.in/*
13.	Travel Boutique	Business to Business	20-Nov-08	19-Nov-16	*http://www. travelboutiqueonline.com/*

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Spice Digital Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	22-Feb-13	21-Feb-17	*https://b2b.spicesafar.com/*
15.	Simply Yatra Tour and Travels (P.) Ltd.	Business to Business	17-Jun-14	16-Jun-16	*https://agent.simplyyatra.com/*
16.	Neptune Travels India Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	06-Dec-07	30-Nov-16	*http://www.neptunenext.com/*
17.	Frequency Weekly Management Services Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	26-Mar-14	25-Mar-17	*http://www.frequencyweekly.com/*
18.	Jayaswal Enterprises	Business to Business	29-Apr-11	28-Apr-17	*www.aireo.in*
19.	TSI Yatra. Com	Business to Business	22-May-14	21-May-16	*www.yatra.com/agents*
20.	M/s My Mobile Payments Ltd. (Money on Mobile)	Business to Business	17-Jul-14	16-Jul-16	*http://www.momrail.com/*
21.	Shree Plan Your Jouney Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	13-Aug-15	12-Aug-16	*www.planyourjourney.com*
22.	RLTC Travel Private Limited	Business to Business	9-Oct-14	08-Oct-16	*https://www.riyatravels.com/*
23.	Sunalpha Green Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (tripborn)	Business to Business	05-Oct-15	04-Oct-16	*http://www.tripborn.com/en/*
24.	Just Click Travels Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Business	20-Jan-16	19-Jan-17	*http://www.justclicktravels.com/*
25.	Clear Trip Travel Services	Business to Customer	09-Sep-08	08-Sep-16	*https://www.cleartrip.com/trains*
26.	ICICI Bank Limited.	Business to Customer	07-Jan-15	06-Jan-17	Application Based
27.	Just Dial (P.) Ltd.	Business to Customer	15-Apr-15	14-Apr-17	*http://www.justdial.com/travel/Train-Booking*
28.	State Bank of India	Business to Customer	06-Jan-16	05-Jan-17	Application Based
29.	Make My Trip India	Business to Customer	30-Jul-08	29-Jul-16	*www.makemytrip.com*

1	2	3	4	5	6
30.	Yatra Online Pvt. Ltd.	Business to Customer	24-Nov-09	23-Nov-16	*http://www.yatra.com/*
31.	JiGrahak (Internet based mobile application)	Business to Customer	29-Jul-09	04-Dec-16	Application Based
32.	Anduril Technologies	Business to Customer	9-Oct-14	08-Oct-16	*www.bookmytrain.com*

Restructuring of Ministry of Railways/Railway Board

2275. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to restructure Ministry of Railways/Railway Board;

(b) if so, the arguments therefor;

(c) the Government's stand on that; and

(d) the NITI Ayog's take on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) The Ministry does not appear to have received any demand to restructure the Railway Board. However, this issue has been dealt with by several committees in the past. Further, while presenting Railway Budget for 2016-17, Minister of Railways in his speech had indicated the need to reorganize the Railway Board along business lines. Cross functional directorates for non-fare revenues and mobility enhancement have already been set up in this regard.

Train between Amritsar and Katra

2276. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the main factors leading to the cancellation of a fully-AC-tri-weekly train between Amritsar and Katra, which was inaugurated by Railways on 21 September, 2015; and

(b) whether it is possible to re-start this train on daily basis with two AC coaches and rest as general coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) 04993/04994 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Amritsar Special train has been cancelled *w.e.f.* 01.10.2015 ex-Katra and *w.e.f.* 02.10.2015 ex-Amritsar

due to poor patronization. At present, there is no commercial demand to re-start Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Amritsar Special train. Further, Special trains are run for clearance of extra passenger traffic during peak seasons, special events, festivals etc. keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. This is an ongoing process over Indian Railways.

Releasing of grants to Madhya Pradesh under development of fresh water aquaculture scheme

†2277. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a provision to provide grant to Fisheries Development Agencies under the Development of Freshwater Aquaculture scheme run by the Central Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the amount concerning the approved proposals of Government of Madhya Pradesh under this scheme is yet to be sanctioned and released, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT) (a) No, Sir. Under the newly restructured scheme 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, which is being implemented from 2016-17, there is no specific provision to provide grants to Fisheries Development Agencies.

(b) No, Sir. No proposal of Government of Madhya Pradesh under the above scheme has been approved during 2016-17.

Medical facilities for passengers in running trains

2278. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate medical facilities for passengers are not available in running trains, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to provide adequate medical facilities for passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. First Aid Boxes containing essential drugs and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

dressing materials are provided with the guards of all passenger carrying trains. In addition, Augmented First Aid Boxes with wide range of medicines, disposable medical material, etc. have been provided with the Train Superintendents/Guards of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and some nominated trains. Front line staffs deployed on trains are also trained in rendering First Aid. Trains can also make unscheduled halts, if necessary, at the stations en-route in emergencies. The Station Masters of all stations have details of doctors, clinics and hospitals, both Government and Private, in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed, in emergencies. Ambulance services of both Railway hospitals and State Governments are utilized as and when required.

Enhancing train fares to upgrade basic facilities

2279. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration to enhance train fares to upgrade basic facilities for railway passengers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Demolitions to clear railway land under encroachment

2280. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated area of railway land that is under encroachment, year-wise since 2010;

(b) the number of demolitions carried out to clear railway land, year-wise since 2010;

(c) the number of people affected by each demolition; and

(d) the steps taken to resettle people evicted from encroached railway land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) The position of approximate area of railway land under encroachment year-wise since, 2010, is as follows:

As on	Area of railway land under encroachments (in hectares)
31.3.2010	994.74
31.3.2011	982.67
31.3.2012	946.15
31.3.2013	942.00
31.3.2014	930.40
31.3.2015	914.80
31.3.2016	879.51

Removal of encroachments by launching demolition drive with the assistance of State Government and Police is a continuous process, as a result of which since 2010, about 115 hectare of encroached land has been retrieved. Railways only maintain the data related to land retrieved as a result of demolition.

Housing being State subject, resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) of persons living on Railway land is the responsibility of State Government. As such, Railways do not have any policy for resettlement and rehabilitation of these persons.

Approval of railway projects for doubling and tripling of railway lines

2281. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved railway projects for doubling and tripling of railway lines in various States of the country, if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the status of on-going projects on doubling and tripling of railway lines in different zonal railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (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 ongoing Doubling/Tripling/Quadrupling projects details including length, cost, expenditure and amount allocated as on 01.04.2016 is as tabulated below:-

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	No. of projects	Length (in Km.)	Cost	Expenditure upto 31.03.2016	Outlay 2016-17
				(in ₹ crores)		
1.	Central	16	1902.75	16052.85	1144.84	1398.83
2.	Eastern	31	1253.65	7979.95	2934.03	974.70
3.	East Central	22	1362.94	13879.99	110.08	1224.12
4.	East Coast	16	2683.91	22227.66	1900.35	2647.30
5.	Northern	28	1816.15	17797.00	5293.18	1884.77
6.	North Central	15	1411.18	17072.41	295.57	1237.18
7.	North Eastern	10	802.00	6320.97	184.94	710.10
8.	Northeast Frontier	8	611.43	6768.95	514.38	670.01
9.	North Western	11	567.72	3376.00	974.21	952.96
10.	Southern	21	1080.31	9927.93	2687.68	2011.45
11.	South Central	14	2195.49	20064.00	466.51	971.02
12.	South Eastern	16	891.05	8841.09	1249.94	931.05
13.	South East Central	12	1284.76	10456.41	1226.22	1718.65
14.	South Western	9	1243.26	9188.37	941.63	1457.42
15.	Western	10	1073.83	8056.20	2285.36	1946.04
16.	West Central	14	1156.90	9079.62	1073.50	1240.19

Development of Buxar railway station

†2282. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made for expansion and modernisation of Buxar railway station in Bihar;

(b) the efforts being made to preserve the station as per cultural and mythological traditions of Buxar; and

(c) the progress with regard to construction of Railway overbridge at eastern level crossing of Buxar station, keeping in view the heavy jam at this side and the time by which it would be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Upgradation of Passenger Amenities for development of stations is a continuous and ongoing process. At present, stations are developed under Adarsh Station Scheme and Buxar Station has been identified for development under this scheme. However, the station has also been identified for redevelopment through Swiss Challenge Method. Preservation of culture and mythological tradition of Buxar Station is the part of redevelopment of Buxar Station.

(c) Work for construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) *in lieu* of level crossing (LC) 70-A at Km. 660/25-27 at Buxar has been sanctioned on cost sharing basis. General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) has been approved.

Averting accidents at unmanned railway level crossings

2283. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any effective accident protection system for railway trains with a view to avert train collision, derailment and accidents on unmanned railway level crossings;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when such devices are likely to be installed in trains; and

(c) if the response to parts (a) and (b) above is in negative, whether Government proposes to import such equipments from foreign countries and if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Railway had developed Train Actuated Warning Device (TAWD) to

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

warn road users about approaching trains at unmanned level crossing gates. However the equipment is not vandal and theft proof. As such its availability 24x7 at unmanned gate location could not be ensured, defeating the very purpose of its requirement.

Further, following steps have been taken to develop vandal and theft proof warning system at unmanned level crossing gates:-

(i) RDSO in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur is developing prototype vandal and theft proof equipment.

(ii) ISRO has also taken up a project based on satellite communication system to warn road users at unmanned level crossing gates. This is currently under development.

(b) and (c) Equipments will be deployed in a phased manner at unmanned level crossing gates after a suitable tamper and theft proof equipment is developed.

Earnings of Railways

2284. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the earnings of Railways for the last two years; and

(b) whether the percentage rise in earnings for financial year 2015-16 is lower as compared to financial year 2014-15 and 2013-14, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The earnings of Railways for the last two years *i.e* for 2014-15 and 2015-16 (Provisional) are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Traffic Earnings	2014-15	2015-16 (Provisional)
Passenger	42189.61	44283.26
Other Coaching	3997.89	4371.48
Goods	105791.34	109207.66
Sundry Other Earnings	5092.74	5928.53
TOTAL	157071.58	163790.93

(b) Yes, Sir. Percentage growth in Total Traffic Earnings over previous year during 2015-16 is 4.3% which is lower than 12.9% during 2013-14 and 12.3% achieved during 2014-15. This is mainly due to lower growth in Passenger and Goods Earnings. The lower growth in Passenger Earnings during 2015-16 is because growth in Passenger Kilometre (PKM) has been negative since 2014-15. The fall is attributable

to various factors like diversion of passenger traffic to road due to improvement in road infrastructure, offering better and faster connectivity, development of metro rail projects in cities, cancellation of trains due to natural calamities, agitations etc. The Goods loading too has registered a negligible growth rate of 0.6% in 2015-16 as against 4.3% in 2013-14 and 4.1% in 2014-15. The average freight lead has also fallen sharply to 595 km in 2015-16 from 633 km in 2013-14 and 622 km in 2014-15 thereby depressing the traffic throughput in terms of NTKMs.

Categorisation of railway stations

2285. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms/criteria laid down for categorization of railway stations in the country;

(b) whether some of the railway stations have passenger amenities below their prescribed criteria/norms in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the other steps taken by Government to improve passenger amenities at small and medium railway stations in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Stations have been categorized in seven categories, namely 'A-1', 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' based on the annual earnings from passenger traffic at the stations. The present categorisation is based on the earnings of 2011-12. This categorization exercise is done after every five years. The criteria laid down for categorization of railway stations in Indian Railways is as under:-

Category	Criteria
A-1	Non-suburban stations with an annual passenger earnings of more than ₹ 60 crores.
A	Non-suburban stations with an annual passenger earnings of ₹ 8 crores and upto ₹ 60 crores.
B	I. Non-suburban stations with an annual passenger earnings of ₹ 4 crores and upto ₹ 8 crores. II. Stations of tourist importance or an important junction station (to be decided by General Manager).
C	All suburban stations.
D	Non-suburban stations with passenger earnings of ₹ 60 lakhs and upto ₹ 4 crores.
E	Non-suburban stations with earnings less than ₹ 60 lakhs.
F	Halts.

(b) Minimum essential amenities are provided at stations on Indian Railways as per norms. Augmentation/improvement/maintenance of amenities at railway stations on Indian Railways including stations in Himachal Pradesh is a continuous process and is undertaken as per requirement, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. However, shortfall in amenities occurs due to upward revision in scale of amenities at various categories of stations. Works are sanctioned under Plan Head-'Passenger Amenities' to recoup the shortfall in passenger amenities as per norms.

(c) Ministry of Railways has also issued guidelines for provision of passenger amenities at stations through utilization of funds under CSR, MPLAD etc. to supplement the efforts made by Railways to improve passenger amenities at railway stations.

Pending railway projects in Himachal Pradesh

2286. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of proposals for gauge conversion, new railway lines and doubling of railway lines, etc. in Himachal Pradesh are lying pending with Government, if so, the details thereof, proposal-wise;

(b) whether Railways have approved all these proposals and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the pending proposals, if any, are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Representations for railway project proposals, both formal as well as informal, from various organizations, users, elected representatives, etc. are received from time to time at various levels in Railways including Divisional Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and Railway Board. A centralized compendium of such representations is not maintained.

Surveys for 6 New Lines and one Gauge Conversion railway project falling partly/fully in the State of Himachal Pradesh have been taken up in the last three years. No survey for Doubling has been taken up in this period in the State.

Two projects against the aforesaid surveys have been shelved due to their highly negative Rate of Return and overall limited resources of Railways; and one survey has been completed.

Model railway stations

2287. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many model railway stations are there in the country and which are they;

(b) who is responsible for maintaining those railway stations;

(c) the hindrance in implementing the same model for all the important and major railway stations of the country; and

(d) the cost of maintaining such model railway stations and how is the expenditure met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The 'Model Station' Scheme was in vogue between June, 1999 and November, 2008. 594 stations were identified for development under 'Model Station Scheme'. The names of stations identified under the Model Station Scheme are as under:-

State	Name of stations
Assam (15)	Dibrugarh, Gosaigaon, Guwahati, Jorhat Town, Kamakhaya, Kokrajhar, Lumding, New Bongaigaon, New Tinsukia, Rangiya Jn., Silchar, Srirampur, Tezpur, Bongaigaon and Tinsukia.
Andhra Pradesh (44)	Dharmavaram Jn., Guntakal, Guntur, Kakinada Town, Nellore, Rajahmundry, Ti-rupati, Vijayawada, Palasa, Visakhapatnam, Warangal Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, Anakapalli, Anantapur, Bhimavaram Town, Cuddapah, Eluru, Godavari, Ongole, Samalkot, Tenali, Adoni, Chirala, Kurnool Town, Machilipatnam, Palakollu, Tadepalligudem, Tanuku, Tuni, Bhimavaram, Dhone, Gooty, Gudivada, Gudur, Nadikudi, Nidadavolu, Pakala, Renigunta, Annavaram, Bhadrachalam Road, Mantralayam Road, Srikhalahasti and Nandyal.
Bihar (55)	Akshayawat Rai Nagar, Ara, Araria Court, Barauni, Begu Sarai, Bettiah, Bhagalpur, Buxar, Chhapra, Dehri-on-Sone, Danapur, Darbhanga, Gaya, Hajipur Jn., Jamalpur Jn., Janakpur Road, Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Mokama, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nayagaon, Narkatiaganj Jn, Nawadah, Patna Jn., Purnea Jn., Sagauli Jn., Sasaram, Samastipur, Sheikhpura,

State	Name of stations
	Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonepur, Sultanganj, Patna Sahib, Bakhtiyarpur, Biharsharif, Jamui, Jhajha, Kiul, Lakheesarai, Rajendra Nagar (T), Rajgir, Anugrah Narayan Road, Raxaul, Saharsa, Madhubani, Barh, Bhabua Road, Dalsinghsarai, Phulwarisarif, Bariarpur and Mananpur.
Chandigarh (1)	Chandigarh.
Chhattisgarh (8)	Bilaspur, Durg, Raipur, Raigarh, Champa, Bhatapara, Tilda and Rajnandgaon.
Delhi (9)	Delhi, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, H. Nizamuddin, Nangloi, New Delhi, Delhi Shahdra, Sabzi Mandi and Shakurbasti.
Gujarat (29)	Ahmedabad, Anand Jn., Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dwarka, Gandhidham Jn., Gandhigram, Navsari, Okha, Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Valsad, Vapi, Ankleshwar, Nadiad, New Bhuj, Palanpur, Jamnagar, Billimora, Udhana, Maninagar, Mahesana, Dahod, Hapa, Surendranagar, Junagadh, Porbandar and Verawal.
Goa (2)	Madgaon and Vasco-de-gama.
Himachal Pradesh (1)	Shimla.
Haryana (18)	Ambala Cantt., Faridabad, Hissar, Kalka, Panipat Jn., Rewari, Rohtak, Ballabhgarh, Karnal, Sonipat, Jagadhari, Kurukshetra, Palwal, Chandi Mandir, Bhiwani, Sirsa, Bhodwal Majri and Kosli.
Jammu and Kashmir (2)	Jammu Tawi and Kathua.
Jharkhand (16)	Baidyanathdham, Bokaro Steel City, Chakradharpur, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Hatia, Jasidih, Koderma, Madhupur, Parasnath, Ranchi, Tatanagar, Sahibganj, Barharwa, Barkakana and Garhwa Road.
Karnataka (26)	Bangalore Cantt., Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hospet Jn., Hubli Jn., Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Toranagallu, Kankanadi, Bidar, Yadgir, Belgaum, Bellary Jn., Yesvanthpur Jn., #Alnavar, Bangalore City, Bangarpet Jn., Davangere, Dharwad, Gadag, Hassan, Krishnarajapuram, Londa Jn., and Tumkur.

State	Name of stations
Kerala (19)	Alwaye, Calicut, Cannanore, Chengannaur, Ernakulam Jn., Kayankulam, Kot-tayam, Palghat Jn., Quilon, Trichur, Trivandrum Central, Varkala, Shoranur, Tellicherry, Tiruvalla, Ernakulam Town, Badagara, Tirur and Alleppey.
Madhya Pradesh (34)	Bamnia, Bhopal, Babina, Damoh, Gwalior, Guna, Habibganj, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni Jn., Pipariya, Ratlam, Satna, Ujjain, Khandwa, Burhanpur, Betul, Singrauli, Morena, Shahdol, Mhow, Dewas, Mandsaur, Nagda, Nimach, Madanmahal, Sagour, Maihar, Rewa, Itarsi, Bina, Vidisha and Chhindwara.
Maharashtra (45)	Akola Jn., Bandra Terminus, Bhusaval, Chandrapur, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), Dadar (CR), Dadar (WR), Dharangaon, Jalgaon, Kalyan, Kurla (Lokmanya Tilak Terminus), Malkapur, Mumbai CST, Mumbai Central, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik Road, Pune, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Lonavala, Manmad, Amrawati, Miraj, Ahmednagar, Matheran, Badnera, Chalisgaon, Devlali, Shegaon, Ballarshah, Karad, Sangli, Satara, Daund, Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Mudkhed, Purna, Nagarsol, Parlivaijnath, Gondia and Nandurbar.
Nagaland (1)	Dimapur.
Odisha (23)	Badakhandita, Balasore, Brahampur, Bhadrak, Bhubaneswar, Byree, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Golanthra, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Jharsuguda, Kapilas Road, Khurda Road, Puri, Rahama, Rayagada, Rourkela, #Sambalpur, Surla Road, Titlagarh, Balugaon, Sambalpur Road and Kesinga.
Puduchery (1)	Puducherry.
Punjab (18)	Amritsar, Anandpur Sahib, Beas, Bhatinda, Dhuri Jn., Firozpur, Jullundur City, Ludhiana, Pathankot, Patiala, Chakki Bank, Jallandhar Cantt, Phagwara, Sirhand Jn., Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Rajpura and Abohar.
Rajasthan (27)	Abu Road, Ajmer, Bikaner, Chittaurgarh, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Nimbahera, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Ganga Nagar, Udaipur, Alwar, Falna, Rani, Marwar Jn., Beawar, Bhilwara, Pali Marwar, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, Makrana, Suratgarh, Hanumangarh, Bharatpur, Gangapur City, Rana Pratapnagar and Kishangarh.

State	Name of stations
Tamil Nadu (27)	Arakkonam Jn., Chengalpattu, Chennai Central, Chennai Beach, Chennai Egmore, Coimbatore, Erode Jn., Kanniyakumari, Katpadi, Madurai, Mambalam, Rameswa-ram, Salem Jn., Tiruchchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Tiruttani, Tuticorin, Jolarpettai, Dindigul, Tiruppur, Thanjavur, Nagercoil, Ambur, Kovilpatti, Virudhunagar, Villupuram Jn. and Hasur.
Telangana (13)	Hyderabad, Kacheguda, Secunderabad, Kazipet, Khammam, Manchiryal, Rama-gundam, Tandur, Dornakal, Vikarabad, Basar, Nalgonda and Nizamabad.
Tripura (1)	Dharmanagar.
Uttar Pradesh (82)	Agra Cantt., Agra Fort, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ayodhya, Badshah Nagar, Ballia, Bareilly, Basti, Baraut, Baghpat Road, Deoria Sadar, Etawah, Faizabad, Garhmukteshwar, Ghaziabad, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Izzatnagar Jn, Jhansi, Kanpur Central, Katra, Lucknow (NR), Lucknow (NER), Mau Jn., Mathura Jn., Meerut City, Manduadih, Mughalsarai, Moradabad, Pilibhit, Prayag, Rae Bareli Jn., Rawatpur, Saharanpur, Tundla, Varanasi, Renukot, Chopan, Meerut Cantt., Jaunpur, Pratap-garh, Sultanpur, Bhadohi, Akbarpur, Shahjahanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Barabanki, Shahganj, Unnao, Janghai, Najibabad, Rampur, Hardoi, Hapur, Chandausi, Mirza-pur, Banda, Raja Ki Mandi, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Naini, Chitrakut Dham Karvi, Lalitpur, Orai, Lucknow City, Allahabad City, Azamgarh, Bahraich, Barhani, Belthra Road, Bhatni Jn, Farrukhabad, Ghazipur City, Kasganj, Khalilabad, Lakhimpur, Salempur, Sitapur, Varanasi City, Deoband and Kaimganj.
Uttarakhand (7)	Dehradun, Haridwar, Kathgodam, Roorkee, Rishikesh, Kashipur and Lalkuan.
West Bengal (70)	Alipurduar Jn., Adra, Alubari Road, Andal Jn., Asansol, Bagnan, Bandel, Barddhaman, Barasat, Basirhat, Bishnupur, Bolpur, Budge Budge, Baruipur Jn., Bidhannagar Road, Bongaon, Canning, Contai Road, Cooch Behar, New Cooch Behar, Dalkolha, Dhakuria, Dum Dum, Dankuni, Durgapur, Garia, Garbeta, Ghutiari Sharif, Ghum, Harishchandrapur, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Jhargram, Kharagpur, Krishnagar Road,

State	Name of stations
	Kulti, Kolaghat, Labpur, *Maal Bazar, Madhyamgram, Malda Town, Mecheda, Midnapore, Murshidabad, New Alipurduar, New Jalpaiguri, New Farakka, Nabadwip Dham, New Mal Jn., Raniganj, Ranaghat Jn., Raiganj, Siliguri Town, Santragachi Jn., Sealdah, Sonarpur, Sainthia, Tamluk, Tollyganj, Tarakeswar, *Ultadanga Jn., Ulubaria, Barrackpur, Naihati, Rishra, Srirampur, Rampurhat, Sheoraphulli, Chandannagar and Purulia.

Dropped. * Closed.

(b) Maintenance of stations including those developed under 'Model' Station Scheme is a continuous process. Maintenance of these stations is undertaken by various departments of Indian Railways *viz*. Civil Engineering, Electrical, Signal and Telecom, Commercial etc. depending upon the type the passenger amenities at the sitation.

(c) 594 Stations including all major and important stations were identified and already developed under Model Station Schemes. This scheme was in vogue between June, 1999 and November, 2008. Subsequently, a new Scheme was launched in 2006 as Modern Station Scheme which covered facade of the station building, circulating area, improving illumination etc. in addition to the other desirable amenities prescribed in the Model Station Scheme. 637 stations were identified and already developed under this scheme. Further, the scheme of Adarsh Station was launched in year 2009. Under this scheme, 1252 Stations have so far been selected for development as Adarsh Station. These schemes have evolved over a period of time by including newer areas of focus into the earlier schemes. At present, stations are upgraded under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' which is a more comprehensive scheme and incorporates the basic features of Model/Modern schemes as well as provides special focus on the key areas like conforming to the ethnic ethos, quick entry and exists of passengers, smooth entry from the civil road to station premises, better signages, wide Foot over Bridges etc. in addition to the facilities prescribed under Model/Modern Stations. Selection of stations under this scheme is based on the needs and expectation of the travelling public and the availability of funds.

(d) Station-wise details of funds are not maintained. The expenditure on maintenance and cleanliness of stations including those developed under 'Model Station Scheme' is generally funded under 'Revenue'. ₹ 1649 crore has been allocated for the purpose during the current year.

Free wi-fi at railway stations

2288. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the status of free wi-fi services being rolled out at railway stations across the country in the months to come, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Railway plans to roll out wi-fi facility in all A1 category stations in the current financial year.

Revenue foregone on account of concessions

2289. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise data on revenue foregone due to concessions provided for passenger rail services to 53 categories;

(b) the year when these concessions were started, category-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans to reduce the burden of these concessions to the exchequer, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The category-wise data on revenue foregone due to concession being given in passenger fare to each categories of passengers is not maintained. However, as per data captured by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), the revenue foregone due to concession being given to some of the major categories of concessional passengers during the year 2015-16 is as under:-

Category	Revenue Foregone (Approximately) (₹ in crores)
Physically challenged persons	107.13
Patients	81.66
Senior citizens	1285.99
Izzat MST	9.47
Others	118.69
TOTAL	1602.94

(b) Concessions to some of the categories in Railway fare were given even before 1950. However, the details of some of the major categories are as under:-

Sl. No.	Category	Year from which concession is given
1.	Orthopaedically handicapped	1961
2.	Deaf and Dumb	1985
3.	Paraplegic Persons	1985
4.	Press correspondents	1986
5.	Heart Patients	1986
6.	Mentally Retarded	1987
7.	War Widows	1987
8.	Thalassemia Patient	1987
9.	Awardee Teachers	1988
10.	Prime Minister Shram Awardees	1988
11.	Ostomy Patient	1988
12.	Widows of IPKF	1988
13.	Senior Citizen	1989
14.	President Police Medal for Distinguished Service	1999
15.	Widows of Martyrs of Kargil War	2000
16.	Kidney Patients	2003
17.	Allopathic Doctors	2003
18.	Haemophilia	2004
19.	Widows of Defence Personnel killed in action against Terrorists and Extremists	2004
20.	AIDS Patient	2008
21.	Izzat MST	2009
22.	Film Technicians	2010
23.	Aplastic Anaemia	2012
24.	Sickle Cell Anaemia	2012

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

Bio-toilets in railway coaches

2290. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have embarked on the scheme to replace the existing toilets system in coaches with bio-toilets;

(b) if so, the progress made so far, zone-wise; and

(c) whether any target has been set for complete implementation of the programme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The existing system of discharging the human waste from coach toilets directly onto the railway tracks is being replaced with bio-toilet system. Till date, about 40,000 bio-toilets have been installed in coaches of Indian Railways, both by Production Units (in new coaches) and by Zonal Railways (in existing in-service old coaches).

The progress made by Zonal Railways in retro-fitment of bio-toilets in existing in-service old coaches is as under:

Zonal Railways	No. of Bio-toilets installed in existing in-service old coaches
Central Railway	706
East Coast Railway	655
East Central Railway	124
Eastern Railway	876
North Central Railway	268
North Eastern Railway	1539
Northeast Frontier Railway	146
Northern Railway	960
North Western Railway	753
South Central Railway	874
South East Central Railway	272
South Eastern Railway	133
Southern Railway	627
South Western Railway	780
West Central Railway	3512
Western Railway	745

(c) Yes, Sir. It is targeted to fit bio-toilets in the entire fleet of coaches by the year 2021-22.

Third line doubling of Barang-Rajatgarh project

2291. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Ministry would consider to complete and commission the Barang-Rajatgarh and Bhubaneshwar-Barang third line doubling projects early, in view of these projects being sanctioned in the year 1990-2000 and 2003-04, respectively, and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, a Railway Undertaking, executing the work very slowly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Rajatgarh-Barang Doubling was sanctioned in 2001-02. On this project, Rajatgarh-Radhakishorepur-Ghantikal (9.0 kms) has been commissioned. Further, on balance section *i.e* Ghantikal-Naraj-Barang (19.5 kms) track linking has already been completed and the commissioning of the section is in advanced stage.

Khurda Road-Barang-3rd line (35 kms) was sanctioned in 2003-04. On this project, Khurda Road-Retang-Bhubaneswar (19 kms) has been Commissioned. Further, track linking on Mancheswar-Barang (6.7 kms) has already been completed and the commissioning of the section is in advanced stage. On Bhubaneswar-Mancheswar section, work is progressing slowly due to delay in dismantling of a Road Over Bridge at Rasulgarh by National Highway Authority of India.

Bifurcation of East Coast Railway

2292. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate East Coast Railway and take Waltair Division away; and

(b) if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) At present, there is no proposal to bifurcate East Coast Railway.

(b) Does not arise.

Running trains on solar power

2293. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently, Railways have run a train with rooftop solar power, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the efforts being made to run more and more solar trains in the country; and

(c) approximately how much savings would be made if solar energy is used to run a train for 1000 kilometres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. Railways have not run a train with rooftop solar power. However, Railways have provided solar panels on roof top of coaches for train lighting system in 18 narrow gauge coaches and 2 broad gauge non air conditioned coaches on trial basis.

(b) No, Sir. However, Railways have taken decision to provide solar panel on roof top of General coaches of two number of day running intercity trains and 50% narrow gauge coaches plying on Pathankot-Joginder Nagar route in Kangra Valley section and Kalka-Shimla section for extended trials for one year in all weather conditions.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for handloom clusters in Chhattisgarh

†2294. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal, for allocation of ₹ 915.56 crore for the development of and provision of other facilities for the weavers of Champa area of Chhattisgarh, has been received by the Government for approval;

(b) whether the approval for setting up handloom clusters in Umreli, Korba, Kera-Janjgir, Seoni-Janjgir, Bhanwarpur-Mahasamund for the development of handloom industry, is yet to be accorded; and

(c) whether the second, third and last outstanding instalment for handloom cluster of some places will be released at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes Sir, a proposal under an outlay of ₹ 915.56 lakh for a pilot project on establishment of Handloom Park at Champa area of Chhattisgarh was received. The proposal was not considered for approval as it is not submitted as per the laid down procedure under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP). However, the office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms under the Ministry of Textiles had received a proposal under National Handloom Development Programme consisting

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Project cost of ₹ 828.8155 lakh for development of four block level clusters of Champa area of Chhattisgarh. Against this, ₹ 571.824 lakh was approved as Project cost consisting GoI share of ₹ 567.378 lakh and beneficiary share of ₹ 4.446 lakh, out of which ₹ 227.611 lakh were released as 1st installment of GoI share to the concerned implementing agencies.

(b) and (c) Approval for setting up of Bhanwarpur-Mahasamund handloom cluster has been accorded under Integrated Handloom Development Scheme during 2010-11. State Government of Chhattisgarh is the implementing agency. State Government had submitted the Utilisation Certificate of 1st installment in 2015. In the meantime, as per the Fourteenth Finance Commission recommendation, the Government of India had enhanced the State share of Central Taxes from 32% to 42% and consequently, National Handloom Development Programme was no more a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Hence the guidelines of National Handloom Development Programme had been revised. As per the revised norms of NHDP, the State Governments have been delinked from the support of Union Government Hence, there is no provision in the NHDP for further release of funds to the State Government. States are advised to complete the project and pose projects under new guidelines for gap filling.

The proposals for setting up of Umreli, Korba, Kera-Janjgir, Seoni-Janjgir were returned (in original) to State Government of Chhattisgarh with a request to resubmit the same as per the revised norms of National Handloom Development Programme. Reply is still awaited from State.

Allocation of funds for development of handloom weavers

2295. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for various schemes for handloom/handloom weavers' development during the last three fiscal years, the scheme-wise, year-wise details thereof; and

(b) the details of funds utilized and lapsed, scheme-wise and year-wise details for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has been implementing following schemes during the Twelfth Plan for development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers throughout the country:-

1. National Handloom Development Programme.
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

3. Yarn Supply Scheme.

4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme.

The total funds allocated for various schemes for handloom/handloom weavers' development during the last three fiscal years, the scheme-wise, year-wise and the details of funds utilized and lapsed, scheme-wise and year-wise for the last three years is given in the Statement (*See* below). The funds which were not utilized are due to non-receipt of viable proposals from the States/implementing agencies as per guidelines of the schemes.

Statement

Details of funds allocated, funds utilised and funds lapsed during the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	BE	RE	Funds Utilised	Funds Lapsed
Plan					
2013-14					
1.	Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme	95.00	95.00	66.00	29.00
2.	Mill Gate Price Scheme/ Yarn Supply Scheme	100.00	100.00	96.86	3.14
3.	Revival Reform and Restructuring Package for the Handloom Sector	175.00	271.00	269.79	1.21
4.	Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme	117.00	142.00	117.35	24.65
5.	National Handloom Development Programme				
6.	Trade Facilitation Center and Craft Museum				
7.	CHCDS-Handloom Mega Cluster				
	TOTAL (PLAN)	487.00	608.00	550.00	58.00
2014-15					
1.	Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme	85.00	57.50	42.25	15.25

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	BE	RE	Funds Utilised	Funds Lapsed
2.	Mill Gate Price Scheme/ Yarn Supply Scheme	130	130	127.81	2.19
3.	Revival Reform and Restructuring Package for the Handloom Sector	Merged with NHDP			
4.	Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme				
5.	National Handloom Development Programme	362.00	285.20	220.59	64.61
6.	Trade Facilitation Center and Craft Museum		6.80	6.80	0.00
7.	CHCDS-Handloom Mega Cluster	20.00	18.00	14.45	3.55
	TOTAL (PLAN)	597.00	497.50	411.90	85.60
2015-16					
1.	Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme	20.00	18.91	18.61	0.30
2.	Mill Gate Price Scheme/ Yarn Supply Scheme	150.00	321.96	321.96	0.00
3.	Revival Reform and Restructuring Package for the Handloom Sector				0.00
4.	Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme				0.00
5.	National Handloom Development Programme	150.00	135.83	133.96	1.87
6.	Trade Facilitation Center and Craft Museum	80.00	80.90	79.96	0.94
7.	CHCDS-Handloom Mega Cluster	94.77	37.31	37.26	0.05
	TOTAL (PLAN)	494.77	594.91	591.75	3.16

BE: Budget Estimates.
RE: Revised Estimates.

Functional/non-functional/new textile mills

†2296. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of textile mills have been lying inoperative in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of textile mills which are operational in the country;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated to set up new textile mills in the country; and

(d) the details of operational and non-operational textile mills in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) The details of the inoperative and operational textile mills in the country is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). Relevant details for the National Textile Corporation Limited (NTC), a Central Public Sector Undertaking are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Government has no such scheme. As regards NTC, it has been implementing Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) approved revival scheme MS-08 where in it has no mandate to revive the mills closed under Industrial Dispute Act.

(d) National Textile Corporation Limited (NTC) has no operational textile mills in Bihar. However, the two non-operational/closed mills under Industrial Dispute Act, are namely 1. Bihar Co-operative Weavers Spg. Mills, Gaya, 2. Gaya Cotton and Jute Mills, Gaya.

Statement-I

The number of operational and inoperative textile mills in the country

Sl. No.	State	No. of Mills operational	No. of inoperative mills (sick/closed)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	145	22
2.	Assam	-	7
3.	Bihar	-	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	-	1
5.	Daman and Diu	-	1

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11	-
7.	Goa	1	-
8.	Gujarat	47	42
9.	Haryana	31	40
10.	Himachal Pradesh	14	2
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	1
12.	Jharkhand	1	-
13.	Karnataka	20	20
14.	Kerala	17	17
15.	Madhya Pradesh	40	19
16.	Maharashtra	132	64
17.	Manipur	-	1
18.	Odisha	3	13
19.	Puducherry	8	2
20.	Punjab	95	18
21.	Rajasthan	42	20
22.	Tamil Nadu	757	212
23.	Uttar Pradesh	15	52
24.	Uttarakhand	5	4
25.	West Bengal	14	16
	TOTAL	1399	578

Statement-II

List of 23 modernized/operative mills of NTC

Sl. No.	Name of the mills	Location
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Tirupathi Cotton Mills	Renigunta
Gujarat		
2.	Rajnagar Mills	Ahmedabad
Karnataka		
3.	New Minerva Mils	Hassan

Sl. No.	Name of the mills	Location
Kerala		
4.	Algappa Textile Mills	Alagappanagar
5.	Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Cannanore
6.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	Trichur
7.	Vijayamohini Mills	Trivandrum
Madhya Pradesh		
8.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	Burhanpur
9.	New Bhopal Textile Mills	Bhopal
Maharashtra		
10.	Podar Mills	Mumbai
11.	Tata Mills	Mumbai
12.	India United Mill No. 5	Mumbai
13.	Barshi Textile Mills	Barshi
14.	Finlay Mills	Achalpur
Mahe		
15.	Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Mahe
Tamil Nadu		
16.	Pioneer Spinners Mills	Kamudakudi
17.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit	Kalayarkoil
18.	Cambodia Mills	Coimbatore
19.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	Coimbatore
20.	Pankaja Mills	Coimbatore
21	Sri Rangavilas Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Coimbatore
22.	Coimbatore Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Coimbatore
West Bengal		
23.	Arati Cotton Mills	Dass Nagar

List of 5 Mills Modernized through JV route

Maharashtra		
1.	India United Mills No.1	Mumbai
2.	Apollo Textile Mills	Mumbai
3.	Goldmohur Mills	Mumbai

Sl. No.	Name of the mills	Location
4.	New City of Bombay Mfg. Mills	Mumbai
5.	Aurangabad Textile Mills	Aurangabad
	List of 78 mills closed under Industrial Dispute Act	
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Azam Jahi Mills	Warangal
2.	Natraj Spinning Mills	Adilabad
3.	Adoni Cotton Mills	Adoni
4.	Netha Spinning Mills	Secunderabad
5.	Ananthapur Cotton Mills	Ananthapur
Assam		
6.	Associated Industries	Chandrapur
Bihar		
7.	Gaya Cotton and Jute Mills	Gaya
8.	Bihar Co-Operative Mills	Mokameh
Gujarat		
9.	Ahmedabad Jupiter Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
10.	Jehangir Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
11.	Mahalaxmi Tex. Mills	Bhavnagar
12.	New Manekchowk Textile Mill	Ahmedabad
13.	Petlad Textile Mills	Petlad
14	Rajkot Textile Mills	Rajkot
15.	Viramgam Textile Mills	Viramgam
16.	Rajnagar II	Ahmedabad
17.	Himadari Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
18.	Ahmedabad New Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
Karnataka		
19.	M.S.K. Mills	Gulbarga
20.	Mysore Spg. and Mfg. Mills	Bangalore
21.	Shree Yallama Cotton Mills	Davangere
22.	Minerva Mills	Bangalore

Sl. No.	Name of the mills	Location
Madhya Pradesh		
23.	Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills	Rajnandgaon
24.	Hira Mills	Ujjain
25.	Indore Malwa United Mills	Indore
26.	Kalyan Mal Mills	Indore
27.	Swadeshi Textile Mills	Indore
Maharashtra		
28.	India United Mills No.2	Mumbai
29.	India United Mills No.3	Mumbai
30.	India United Mills No.4	Mumbai
31.	Kohinoor Mills No.2	Mumbai
32.	Kohinoor Mills No.3	Mumbai
33.	Jam Mfg. Mills	Mumbai
34.	Model Mills	Nagpur
35.	R.S.R.G. Mills	Akola
36.	Shri Sitaram Mills	Mumbai
37.	Vidharbha Mills	Achalpur
38.	Bharat Textile Mills	Mumbai
39.	Digvijay Textile Mills	Mumbai
40.	Elphinstone SPG and WVG Mills	Mumbai
41.	Jupiter Textile Mills	Mumbai
42.	Mumbai Textile Mills	Mumbai
43.	New Hind Textile Mills	Mumbai
44.	Podar Processors	Mumbai
45.	Shree Madhusudan Mills	Mumbai
46.	India United Mills No.6 (Dye Works)	Mumbai
47.	Kohinoor Mills No.1	Mumbai
48.	Finlay Mills	Mumbai
Punjab		
49.	Dayalbagh Spg and Wvg Mills	Amritsar
50.	Panipat Woollen Mills	Kharar

Sl. No.	Name of the mills	Location
51.	Kharar Textile Mills	Kharar
52.	Suraj Textile Mills	Malout
Rajasthan		
53.	Edward Mills	Beawar
54.	Shree Bijay Cotton Mills	Bijianagar
Uttar Pradesh		
55.	Atherton Mills	Kanpur
56.	Bijli Cotton Mills	Hathras
57.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills	Kanpur
58.	Lord Krishna Tex. Mills	Saharanpur
59.	Muir Mills	Kanpur
60.	New Victoria Mills	Kanpur
61.	Rae Bareli Tex. Mills	Raebareli
62.	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills	Lucknow
63.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Kanpur
64.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Naini
West Bengal		
65.	Bangasri Cotton Mills	Sonepore
66.	Bengal Fine S. and W. Mills No. II	Kataganj
67.	Manindra B.T. Mills	Cossim Bazar
68.	Jyoti Wvg. Factory	Patipukur
69.	Central Cotton Mills	Belur
70.	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton	Palta
71.	Bengal Fine S. and W. Mills No. I	Konnagar
72.	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills	Serampore
73.	Rampooria Cotton Mills	Rishra
Tamil Nadu		
74.	Balaramavarma Textile Mills	Shencottah
75.	Kishnaveni Textile Mills	Coimbatore
76.	Om Parasakthi Mills	Coimbatore
77.	Somasundaram Mills	Coimbatore
78.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit	Coimbatore

Protecting domestic textile sector

2297. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the Indian Textile Industry so far as production, export and employment generation is concerned;

(b) the details of measures taken by Government to modernize the textile industry;

(c) whether this sector is facing stiff competition from Chinese imports; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to protect this domestic industry from Chinese imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) The Indian textile industry contributes 10% of Industrial production, 14% of the country's export earnings and it is the 2nd largest employer after agriculture employing about 45 million people.

In order to achieve sustainable growth, modernization, value addition, increase in exports and for overall development of the textile industry in the country, the Government has been implementing various policy initiatives and schemes like Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Schemes for the development of the Power-loom Sector, Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Integrated Textile Processing Development (IPDS), etc. Further, the Government has also recently launched a ₹ 6000 crore package to incentivize production and employment generation in the garmenting Sector. These schemes and initiatives are aimed at setting up new units as well as expansion of the existing units which have potential for generating large employment opportunities.

(c) and (d) The analysis of imports from China indicates that the value of import of textile items from China has reduced from US$ 2623.99 MN in 2014-15 to US$ 2518.34 MN during 2015-16.

With a view to protect domestic industry, the Government takes appropriate trade protection measures. The Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) has also initiated anti-dumping investigations involving China (as on 29.6.2016) and anti-dumping duty has been imposed in the product group of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, as well as Fibre and Yarns.

Iranian market for Indian textiles

2298. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iran, having just opened up, offers good scope for marketing of Indian textiles;

(b) whether, presently, Indian textiles/apparels have no significant share in Iranian market due to an extremely high import tax by the Iranian Government;

(c) whether Iran offers immense opportunities for Indian produce, with a combination of western and traditional taste; and

(d) whether a recent trade delegation from India was assured by Iran that the import taxes for textiles and apparels would be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, Indian textiles/apparels have no significant share in Iranian market due to high import tax imposed by the Iranian Government on Indian products.

(c) and (d) Yes, there are immense opportunities for the Indian products with traditional taste in Iran. India and Iran are currently discussing the modalities of signing a bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement but there was no discussion on textiles/apparels during last trade delegation visit from 16-17 May, 2016.

Assistance to handloom weavers

2299. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government gives financial, marketing, technical and other kind of assistance to handloom weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the State-wise and scheme-wise details of assistance provided over the last two years; and

(c) whether such assistance has helped the handloom industry and the weavers to withstand competition from modern looms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is implementing following schemes/programmes for development of handloom sector and welfare of handloom weavers throughout the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme
2. Yarn Supply Scheme
3. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

1. **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):** National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) implemented during the Twelfth Plan period provides for comprehensive interventions for cluster development, marketing assistance, concessional credit etc. The guidelines of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)/Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) was amended in June/August, 2015 to include Block level cluster approach, which provides more flexibility with higher funding by Government of India, discontinuation of the State financial contribution, direct release of funds to implementing agency, direct transfer of funds in the block with a maximum assistance of upto ₹ 2.00 crore for various interventions such as setting up of Common Facility Centre (CFC) including Common Service Centre (CSC), engagement of textile designer-cum-marketing executive, construction of workshed, appointment of Cluster Development Executive (CDE), technological up-gradation, lighting units, skill upgradation, better looms and accessories, etc. Besides, financial assistance of upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is available for setting up of dye house at district level. The funds released during last two years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

2. **Yarn Supply Scheme/Mill Gate Price Scheme (YSS/MGPS):** Yarn Supply Scheme is implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price to the eligible handloom weavers so as to facilitate regular supply of basic raw materials to the handloom sector and help utilize the full employment potential of the sector. Under the scheme the freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. At present 932 such yarn depots are functioning throughout the country. The funds released during last two years (2014-15 and 2015-16) are as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	Amount released (₹ in crore)
1.	2014-15	127.81
2.	2015-16	321.96

3. **Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS):** In order to enable handloom weavers to avail social security benefits, the Government of India has been implementing Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) with two components; namely Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) and Health Insurance Scheme (HIS). The MGBBY aims to provide insurance cover to handloom weavers in the case of natural or accidental death and in case of total or partial disability. The HIS aims

at enabling the weaver community to access healthcare facilities. Under Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) funds are not released State-wise, instead, they are released to the implementing agency as a whole country. The funds released during last two years (2014-15 and 2015-16) are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	HIS (Fund released)	MGBBY (Fund released)
1.	2014-15	25.87	16.39
2.	2015-16	01.94	16.67

4. **Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)–Handloom Mega Cluster:** The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) was introduced in 2008-09 for development of Mega Handloom Clusters. Under the scheme, there was provision for each cluster to cover atleast 25,000 handlooms with upper GoI share of ₹ 70.00 crore in a period of 5 years. The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is under implementation during the Twelfth Plan for development of Mega Handloom Clusters. As per the scheme, Mega Handloom Cluster should have atleast 15,000 handlooms and funding upto ₹ 40.00 crore as GoI share is eligible per cluster. The guidelines of Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) was amended in August, 2015 to include Block level cluster in the line of NHDP Scheme. Eight Mega Handloom Clusters have been taken up. The funds released during last two years (2014-15 and 2015-16) are as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)	776.53	841.91
2.	Sivasagar (Assam)	54.51	12.61
3.	Murshidabad (West Bengal)	515.09	318.92
4.	Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)	-	-
5.	Prakasam and Guntur Districts (Andhra Pardesh)	3.81	1429.18
6.	Godda and Neighbouring Districts (Jharkhand)	251.85	317.45
7.	Bhagalpur (Bihar)	5.62	-
8.	Trichy (Tamil Nadu)	231.65	745.22

(c) The main aim of these programmes and schemes is to reduce drudgery of handloom weavers, improve productivity and quality of handloom products by providing technologically upgraded looms and accessories and also provide marketing infrastructure support which helped the handloom sector and the weavers to with stand competition from modern looms.

Statement

The State-wise details of funds released under National Handloom Development Programme during the last two years (2014-15 and 2015-16)

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.47	2.23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.35	0.98
3.	Assam	4.42	6.41
4.	Bihar	0.19	1.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.51	3.86
6.	Delhi	0.04	0.04
7.	Goa	0	0
8.	Gujarat	0.53	0.04
9.	Haryana	0.31	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.18	1.31
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.53	1.29
12.	Jharkhand	0	0
13.	Karnataka	1.66	1.1
14.	Kerala	0.19	2.62
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.83	1.86
16.	Maharashtra	1.68	0.72
17.	Manipur	2.41	2.42
18.	Meghalaya	0.37	1.81
19.	Mizoram	0.28	4.59
20.	Nagaland	2.65	3.71
21.	Odisha	0.66	7.52
22.	Puducherry	0	0

Sl. No.	Name of State	2014-15	2015-16
23.	Punjab	0	0
24.	Rajasthan	0.57	0
25.	Sikkim	0.6	0.63
26.	Tamil Nadu	7.86	47.36
27.	Telangana	0.84	0.39
28.	Tripura	3.47	1.86
29.	Uttar Pradesh	20.4	1.79
30.	Uttarakhand	0.71	0.67
31.	West Bengal	0.27	0.51

Purchase of cotton by CCI

2300. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the lessons Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), has learnt from last season's irregularities in purchase of cotton, more particularly from States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) whether it is a fact that cotton season has started from 1st October;

(c) how much cotton CCI is expecting to reach the market and the price Government has fixed for various grades, grade-wise;

(d) the efforts made by CCI to make payments online; and

(e) the plan of action CCI has to purchase cotton from farmers in the market yard itself to stop the role of middlemen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) During cotton season 2014-15, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) had to undertake massive procurement under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation and procured 86.97 lakh bales, out of which, about 63% (*i.e.* 54.47 lakh bales) were procured in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Based on the MSP operations 2015-16, CCI has taken the following initiatives:-

(i) Display of MSP rate and quality parameters in each and every market yards for farmers' knowledge.

(ii) Adherence of use of moisture meter in case of rejection of kapas having excessive moisture over 12%.

(iii) All payment to farmers through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) only.

(iv) Developed an online Grievance Redressal Mechanism inbuilt in its website. Farmers may lodge their grievance and get redressal if any on instant basis.

(v) Appointment of Nodal Officer of Chief General Manager/General Manager level at each of three regions *i.e.* North, Central and South. Contact Numbers of these officers are given on Corporation's website.

(vi) Continuous monitoring of MSP procurement through Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System.

(vii) Created a separate page on CCI website having all related details in connection with MSP procurement.

(viii) Ensured updation of MSP data on its website on day to day basis.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) meeting held on 13th July, 2016, the expected cotton production in the Country during 2015-16 is 338 lakh bales, out of which, almost 99% *i.e.* 335.88 lakh bales has already been marketed in various Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) yards upto 1st August, 2016. For the cotton season 2015-16, Ministry of Agriculture had fixed MSP for medium staple length cotton at ₹ 3800/- per quintal and for long staple at ₹ 4100/- per quintal. Based on the Support Price of these two basic varieties of Seed Cotton (Kapas) and taking into account the quality differential, normal price differential and other relevant factors, the MSP for other classes of Seed Cotton (Kapas) of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) has been fixed by Textile Commissioner. The details of the same are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) CCI requested State Government to provide all Banking details in Takpattis issued by market committees and ensure the genuineness of cotton farmers so that benefit of MSP may go directly to bona-fide cotton farmers.

(e) As a matter of policy, CCI always buys cotton directly from the farmers through APMCs without involving any trader/middlemen. As farmers Identity is a State subject, all the State Governments have been requested to issue bar coded identity card to the farmers which contain the details *viz.* name of the farmer, his father's name, Survey No., extent of cultivation, crop details and expected yield, Aadhar Card No., Bank name, Bank Account No., Branch Code No., IFSC Code No., Mobile No. etc.

Statement

Details of classes of cotton, fibre quality parameters, MSP for 2015-16 and names of the indicative varieties used by the trade

(₹/Quintal)

Sl. No.	Classes of Cotton	Fibre Quality Parameters		Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 2015-16	Names of the Indicative Varieties used by the Trade
		Basic Staple Length (2.5% Span Length) in MM	Micronaire Value		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Short Staple (20 mm and below)					
1.		-	7.0 - 8.0	3300	Assam Comilla
2.		-	6.8 - 7.2	3300	Bengal Deshi
Medium Staple (20.5 mm–24.5 mm)					
3.		21.5 - 22.5	4.8 - 5.8	3550	Jayadhar
4.		21.5 - 23.5	4.2 - 6.0	3600	V-797/G.Cot.13/G. Cot.21
5.		23.5 - 24.5	3.4 - 5.5	3650	AK/Y-1(Mah&M.P.)/ MCU-7(TN)/ SVPR-2(TN)/PCO-2 (AP&Kar)/K-11(TN)
Medium Long Staples (25.0 mm-27.0 mm)					
6.		24.5 - 25.5	4.3 - 5.1	3800	J-34(Raj)
7.		26.0 - 26.5	3.4 - 4.9	3900	LRA-5166/KC-2(TN)
8.		26.5 - 27.0	3.8 - 4.8	3950	F-414/H-777/J-34 Hybrid
Long Staple (27.5 mm-32.0 mm)					
9.		27.5 - 28.5	4.0 - 4.8	4000	F-414/H-777/J-34 Hybrid
10.		27.5 - 28.5	3.5 - 4.7	4000	H-4/H-6/MECH/RCH-2
11.		27.5 - 29.0	3.6 - 4.8	4050	Shankar-6/10
12.		29.5 - 30.5	3.5 - 4.3	4100	Bunny/Brahma

1	2	3	4	5	6
Extra Long Staple (32.5 mm and above)					
13.		32.5 - 33.5	3.2 - 4.3	4300	MCU-5/Surabhi
14.		34.0 - 36.0	3.0 - 3.5	4500	DCH-32
15.		37.0 - 39.0	3.2 - 3.6	5300	Suvin

Block level handloom clusters of Tamil Nadu

2301. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether all the ten block level clusters sanctioned for Tamil Nadu under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) have become functional, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): Ten Block Level Clusters sanctioned in 2015-16 for Tamil Nadu under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) are functional. The cluster-wise details consisting total project cost, Government of India's (GoI) share, amount released as 1st installment by GoI and expenditure incurred so far as per progress furnished by State Government of Tamil Nadu is as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of Block/District	Total Project cost	GoI share	Amount released as 1st Inst.	Expenditure incurred so far
1.	West Arni, Thiruvannamalai	147.08	142.39	63.355	43.387
2.	Palladam, Tirupur	181.50	175.20	66.850	18.980
3.	Kancheepuram, Kancheepuram	162.33	158.39	54.745	38.591
4.	Karamadai–I, Mettupalayam	181.40	174.40	66.450	40.620
5.	Ayothiyappatinam, Salem	171.24	166.55	62.525	25.500
6.	Chennimalai, Erode	170.74	166.05	62.275	64.945
7.	Tirrupur, Tirupur	181.50	175.20	66.850	20.800
8.	Paramakudi, Ramanathapuram	123.25	116.25	58.125	52.810
9.	Kurunthancode, Kanyakumari	78.70	74.36	37.180	12.900
10.	Pollachi North, Coimbatore	181.40	174.40	66.450	23.730
	TOTAL	1579.14	1523.19	604.805	342.263

1.00 P.M.

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2016

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

> "In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2016, as passed by Lok Sabha in its sitting held on the 4th August, 2016.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

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

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

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

The House reassembled at thirty minutes past two of the clock,
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of the Eighth Schedule)

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Insertion of new article 338B)

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Right to Privacy of Personal Data Bill, 2016

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the right to privacy of personal data to all individuals in the country,

establishing the liability of the organizations as well as the appropriate Government in case of misuse of such personal data of individuals, for creation of a National Do-Not-Disturb Registry to ensure that individuals are not harassed by organizations and creating awareness among individuals for protection of their personal data and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Special Financial Assistance to the State of West Bengal Bill, 2016

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special assistance to the State of West Bengal for providing an impetus to the financial and economic capabilities of the State administration to carry out developmental activities in the State by making effective utilization of its resources thereby ensuring that the fruits of development reaches each and every citizen of the State and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Jute Growers (Remunerative Price and Welfare) Bill, 2016

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of remunerative price for raw jute to the jute growers, insurance of jute crop free of cost and for overall welfare of jute growers and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Medical Treatment of Terminally Ill Patients (Protection of Patients and Medical Practitioners) Bill, 2016

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of patients and medical practitioners from liability in the context of withholding or withdrawing medical treatment including life support systems from patients who are terminally-ill and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Insertion of new article 25A)

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Bill, 2016

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and clarify the law relating to dissolution of marriage by men and women married according to Muslim law.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of article 324)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2016

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2016

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Solid Waste Management Bill, 2016

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the segregation and re-cycling of municipal solid

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]
waste, use of re-cyclable waste in waste-energy plants for generation of energy and transportation of non-recyclable waste into landfills and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Education Loan Bill, 2016

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for education loan to students and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Rajkumar Dhoot; Not present. There are two more Bills in his name. The hon. Member is not present. Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Substitution of new article for article 361B and Amendment of Tenth Schedule)

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

†The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2015 — *Contd.*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, let me start now.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, Dr. Manmohan Singh would like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One minute. Now, it is further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao. "That the Bill further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorgnisation Act, 2014, be taken into consideration".

We were discussing that Bill and I thought the discussion was almost over. There is only the voting part or whatever to be done. In this connection, Dr. Manmohan Singh wants to say something. Yes, please.

† Further consideration of the motion moved on 11th March 2016.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH (Assam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on 20th February, 2014, here, in the Rajya Sabha, while passing the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill, I, as the then Prime Minister, made six promises on the floor of this august House. The then Leader of the Opposition, and now the Leader of the House, Shri Arun Jaitley, satisfied with these promises withdrew all the amendments he had proposed, as these agreed to what the Government had proposed. On 1st March, 2014, the Union Government, presided over by me, considered and passed all promises made by me in this House. The Cabinet sent a draft Ordinance to the hon. President but, as the election process intervened, the Ordinance could not be issued. Sir, in the light of these promises, I urge the Union Government to implement them and, thereby, protect the honour of this august House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, what remains is only the reply by Shri K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao. So, Dr. Rao, you have the opportunity to reply now.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, thank you for your kind permission and for giving me this opportunity to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I have to ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, you have given me the chance to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, I would only mention that the hon. Member may kindly bear in mind my objection that the Bill under Article 110, read with Article 117, is outside the competence of this House. And after he has spoken, I would like to sustain this simple objection. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... After his. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: The Rashtrapati had. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen. After the reply of the hon. Leader of the House, I will give you the opportunity.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: And, Sir, I have to respond to what he says. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... How do you presume that I will not allow you? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he has the habit of misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. How do you presume that I will not allow you? Mr. Jairam Ramesh has preconceived notions.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, let me thank the respected Deputy Chairman for giving me this opportunity and my right to reply.

At the outset, let me thank my Party and its President, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, who had made assurances on the same floor on 20th February, 2014, on the very basis of my Bill. Let me also thank our Party Vice-President, Shri Rahul Gandhi, my Parliamentary Party Members and our Leader, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. More importantly, let me thank all the eleven Parties, each one of them, their Party Leaders and all their Members, for their wholehearted support to the just cause of the five crore people of Andhra Pradesh, who are in grave distress due to no fault of theirs with regard to the formation of a new State. They have done this wholeheartedly, keeping in view the misery of the people of the new State, in spite of the problems in their own areas and their own States, without any reservations. My thanks as well as my Party's heartfelt thanks go out to them. The people of Andhra Pradesh would be ever grateful to them.

Sir, talking about the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act (Amendment) Bill, 2015, I would like to say that a Private Member's Bill is the right of every Member. I can introduce it only in Rajya Sabha as I cannot go and introduce it in the Lok Sabha! Where is the bar in introducing Money Bills as Private Members' Bills?

Sir, Special Category Status does not require any legislation. It can be done with an Executive Order, as was done earlier. Since the present Government is dilly-dallying on the issue for the last two years, I have proposed amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.

Sir, no legislation is required for granting the Special Category Status. If the Government had agreed to grant the Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh, then the question of amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act would not have arisen. The BJP-led NDA Government is unnecessarily complicating the issue of granting Special Category Status. This is as per Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha on Private Members' Bills. A private Member may also move a legislative proposal or a Bill which he deems fit to be there in the Statute Book. He may give notice on this Bill along with a text

of the Bill to be drafted by him as the Secretariat may render only technical advice, if so desired. In drafting a Bill by a private Member, there are certain procedural requirements on all legislative proposals, whether Government or private, since in respect of Private Members' Bills, Members may not have access to expert advice and there are certain procedures regulating the consideration of Private Members' Bills. Sir, in a Private Member's Bill, in the contents of the Bill, the main requirements are: (a) The foremost requirement in case of a Bill is that it should be within the legislative competence of Parliament. In other words, the subject of the Bill should relate to the subjects included in the Union or Concurrent List contained in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. (b) Notices of Bills are required to be accompanied by copies of the text of the Bill together with a Statement of Objects and Reasons, duly signed by the Member giving notice. Sir, (c) is the most important. (c) In addition to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, a Bill involving expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India must also be accompanied by a financial memorandum inviting particular attention to the clauses involving expenditure and also giving an estimate of recurring and non-recurring expenditures likely to be involved in case the Bill is passed into a law. (d) A Bill involving proposals for the delegation of legislative power to any executive authority should be accompanied by a memorandum explaining such proposals and drawing attention to their scope and stating also whether they are of a normal or exceptional character. (e) A Bill seeking to amend original sections of a principal Act should be accompanied, in the form of an Annexure by an extract of all those sections of the principal Act of which the amendment is sought. (f) If the Bill is one which, under the Constitution, cannot be introduced, that is Articles 3 and 274 of the Constitution, without the previous sanction or recommendation of the President, the Member-in- charge of the Bill should annex to the notice a copy of such sanction or recommendation as the notice is not valid until this requirement is complied with. Sir, (g) is also most important. (g) A Bill which, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India, cannot be taken into consideration or referred to a Select/Joint Committee unless the Member-in-charge obtains the requisite recommendation of the President for consideration of the Bill under Article 117(3) of the Constitution. In case of such Bills, Members-in-charge should obtain the recommendation of the President before hand in order to enable them to proceed further with the Bill. For this purpose, a Member sends his request to the Secretariat for obtaining recommendation of the President. The request of the Member is forwarded to the Ministry concerned. The Ministry recommending or withholding consideration of the Bill then obtains the orders of the President and communicates the same to the Secretariat. On receiving intimation regarding President's order through the Ministry, it is communicated to the Member and published in the Bulletin by the Secretariat.

[Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao]

Sir, a Private Member's Bill cannot become a Money Bill until it is passed in Rajya Sabha and adopted by the Government. Article 117 of the Constitution does not apply to a Private Member's Bill; it is applicable only to official Bills. The present Amendment Bill proposed by me has crossed all the preliminary requirements of the scrutiny by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, got the approval of the President, introduced in the House and discussed. Even the reply was given by the hon. Minister, but the House adjourned at the time of voting due to lack of quorum. Hence, the right to reply by the Member and the voting on the Bill is only pending in the House at this stage. Sir, denying the right of the Member is the basic violation of the privilege of the Member. Sir, two Private Members' Bills, passed earlier by Rajya Sabha, namely, the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Bill, 1954, passed on 15th December, 1956, and also the Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Bill, 1960, passed on 9th April, 1960, had financial requirements. These Bills also, in one way or the other, required Government's financial assistance.

Sir, in this regard, I would like to state that my Bill was submitted for President's sanction with the required memoranda, the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and the Financial Memorandum. Sir, in the Financial Memorandum, Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the Special Category Status for the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Bill, if enacted, will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is not possible to quantify the expenditure at this juncture. However, it is estimated that a sum of ₹ 50,000 crores may be involved as a recurring expenditure per annum. Sir, in this, a non-recurring expenditure to the tune of ₹ 1,00,000 crores may also be involved for creating assets.

Sir, there is no secret in this Bill. This was sent to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat more than a year back and it also got the President's assent more than a year back. It was repeatedly discussed in this House with your kind permission. The notice for introduction of this Bill was submitted on 31st July, 2015. Sir, it was listed in the 236th Session of Rajya Sabha under S.No. 20. Again, it was discussed on 13th March, 2016, in the 238th Session. In the 239th Session also, it was discussed on 29th April, 2016, but due to lack of quorum, it was postponed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, because of the foreclosure of the Session in May, it could not be taken up for voting. I have only one more submission. I am concluding, and I thank you for giving me a patient hearing.

Sir, this is the statement of Mr. Abhijit Sen, who is a Member of the Planning

Commission and was also a Member of the former Planning Commission. He said, "The Fourteenth Finance Commission did not recommend abolition of Special Category Status. It merely decided to discontinue the practice of distinguishing between SC and non-SC States for computation of Finance Commission's recommendations on devolution and grants. The Centre was free to decide about Plan and non-statutory non-Pan grants." Sir, this was authenticated. *(Time bell rings)* This was spoken on camera by Mr. Abhijit Sen, and it was given in writing.

Sir, I urge upon you to protect my right. It is not a question of my personal interest or my personal whims and fancies. It is the right of a Member. You are the custodian of the House. It is the right of a Member to ask for voting on his Private Members' Bill. You have been gracious enough to give me all this time. I urge upon you to have voting and take the opinion of the House on this Bill. I ask for a Division. Thank you.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am extremely grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. Last week, we had an opportunity to discuss this subject at length, and let me reiterate that the Government stands fully committed to fulfilling all legal obligations that we have towards the State of Andhra Pradesh in a peculiar situation arising out of the bifurcation of the State itself.

In my reply last week, I have said that there are a large number of commitments under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, which the Government is committed to. Then there was the Statement made by the former Prime Minister, as Prime Minister of the country, which he has reiterated today and explained. Then there were observations very clearly made subsequently in the Report of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, and I have read the full paragraph. Now, on one of the issues, there seems to be apparently a divergence between what the Finance Commission says and one of the commitments made in the statement of the hon. Prime Minister at that time. We are trying to reconcile as to how we can make good to the State of Andhra Pradesh any loss that they may suffer rather than getting into the legal arguments of which prevails, and so on.

The Government is at a very advanced stage in this consideration. Even today, the hon. Chief Minister and Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh had a meeting with the hon. Prime Minister, and I am sure that the issue would be resolved to the satisfaction of everybody.

Now, I come to the second question, which is my objection. Sir, at the very outset, let me say that I myself am a Member of the Upper House, and, therefore, when I am speaking in terms of the powers and jurisdiction of the Upper House, I may be disappointing some of my colleagues, including myself but we must be clear

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

3.00 P.M.

about where we stand as regards the jurisdiction of the Upper House is concerned. Under the Rules of Procedure, and the commentaries amplify this, there is no distinction between a Bill moved by the Government and a Bill moved by a private Member. The same set of constitutional guidelines as also the Rules of Procedure apply to both of them. In most of the matters, the two Houses have jurisdiction which is independent and equal. The framers of the Constitution, however, kept certain matters away from the Upper House and vested them only in the Lower House, and, probably, the reason why they have done this is that the Lok Sabha is a directly-elected House, it is elected on a manifesto, and the Rajya Sabha is an indirectly-elected House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, in your manifesto, you have said this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen to him. Mr. Ramachandra Rao, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: That is why you got votes from my State. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: You said in the manifesto that ten years period. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen first. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Let me point out the points of difference within the jurisdiction of the two Houses. Article 75(3) very clearly says that the Council of Ministers is responsible to the House of the People. Therefore, a Government cannot survive a minority in the Lower House; it can survive a minority in the Upper House. A Vote of Confidence lies only in that House. It does not lie in this House. A Vote of No-confidence does not lie in this House. It lies only in the Lower House. That is the first point of difference. The second question is in relation to Money Bills.

And, there are four specific rights that the Lower House has which the Constitutional framers did not give to the Upper House. Article 117 is very clear that a Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha. It is clearly stated in so many words in the Constitution. The second is, a Money Bill can only be voted in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha. The third is, if a dispute arises as to whether a particular Bill is a Money Bill or

not — and a dispute has arisen, and I am sure what the dispute is — it is only the Presiding Officer of the Lok Sabha who can decide this issue, and not of the Rajya Sabha. This is the third right that the Lok Sabha has. And the fourth right that the Lok Sabha has is, if the Money Bill fails, the Lok Sabha has a right to see to it that the Government goes. Now, this whole argument that these are special rights which only the Lok Sabha was given under the Constitution in regard to the Money Bills, these are four special rights which stem out of clear provisions of the Constitution itself. And Rule 186 (7) clearly says that the procedure of this House is, when a dispute arises as to whether it is a Money Bill or not, the Presiding Officer of the Upper House will refer it to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, whose decision is final. A certificate issued by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is final in this regard. Now, what is a Money Bill? It is clearly stated in Article 110. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the House is ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We are all being given a class on what we ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We just want to him to say yes or no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, they gave an assurance in their manifesto ...*(Interruptions)*... They promised the people of Andhra that they will have a Special Category Status for a period of ten years. ...*(Interruptions)*... Is it 'yes' or 'no'? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now listen, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, in their manifesto, they clearly said ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ramachandra Rao, please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We all know that it will go to the Lok Sabha and it will be called a Money Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... Every rupee that is spent ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... Renukaji, I am not allowing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, we want an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Finance Minister is speaking. He has already ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We all appreciate that.

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

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: This is the manifesto which ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; you have spoken. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Anyhow, you have to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, in the manifesto ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I am sending a copy ....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already said it. Sit down.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, he has a very valid point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you don't listen, what do I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... रेणुका जी, बैठिए। It is not proper. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: There is no need to tell all this. ...*(Interruptions)*... They have to say yes or no. ...*(Interruptions)*... In their manifesto ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I have to listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the State of Andhra Pradesh get ten years of Special Category Status or not? This was an assurance given by them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen to me. That is not the issue here. Sit down.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: That is the issue, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen. The issue is different. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. The issue is that the hon. Finance Minister has said that he has certain objections regarding this Bill and ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a very serious matter. Listen properly, I am telling you. The hon. Finance Minister has said that he has certain objection regarding this Bill. And the objection, which he is going to raise could be that this is a Money Bill, and if he raises that objection, it is for me to listen very carefully to his argument so that ...*(Interruptions)*... I will

have to take a decision as to whether the objection is valid or not. Therefore, if Renjukaji does not want to listen, or some of you do not want to listen, I have to listen to this because I have to take a decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Nothing will go on record.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Renukaji, this is unfair.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश): डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, प्रॉब्लम यह है कि ...(**व्यवधान**)...

†**جناب محمد علی خان :** ڈپٹی چیئرمین صاحب، پرابلم یہ ہے کہ ---(مداخلت)---

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I have to listen to that. You sit down.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: ये लोग जब अपोजिशन में थे, तो इन्हीं के दिमाग में ...(**व्यवधान**)...

†**جناب محمد علی خان:** یہ لوگ جب اپوزیشن میں تھے، تو انہیں کے دماغ میں ---(مداخلت)---

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

श्री मोहमद अली खान: यह कहाँ का इंसाफ है? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

†**جناب محمد علی خان:** یہ کہاں کا انصاف ہے؟ ---(مداخلت)---

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In any case, ...*(Interruptions)*... You understand. ...*(Interruptions)*... Under Articles 110 and 117 of the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Viploveji, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You do not understand the seriousness of the issue and you want to say anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is very unfortunate. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Finance Minister is raising an objection on the basis of Articles 110 and 117 of the Constitution, and also Rule 186, about which he is going to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is for the Chair to listen to it and understand that if I have to come out with a correct decision and ruling. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, I have to listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): You have to listen to us also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

*Not recorded.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Even you can also do so, if you want. I will allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I never said I will not allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... But I have to listen to him because the Finance Minister is raising an objection. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I am not allowing. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can allow after that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me listen to Finance Minister and understand his objection. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, hon. Finance Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will allow you after that. ....*(Interruptions)*... Not in between. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस की आपत्ति इस बात पर है कि क्या इसका jurisdiction है या नहीं है, हमारी competence के अंदर है या नहीं है? इसी बात पर उनकी आपत्ति है। **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is raising the issue on the basis of the Articles of the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: उपसभापति जी, हमारी आपत्ति इस बात पर है कि सरकार की नीयत है या नहीं? **...(व्यवधान)...** अगर सरकार की नीयत होती, तो ढाई साल हो गए, इतने में ये लोक सभा में इसको पास करा लेते। **...(व्यवधान)...** अभी तक इन्होंने इसको लोक सभा में रखा ही नहीं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सर, सरकार ढाई साल तक क्या कर रही थी? **...(व्यवधान)...**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Chaturvediji, we are all governed by the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is our Holy Bible, that is our sacred book. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is quoting from that. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not above the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to listen to that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: What is a Money Bill? Article 110 is very clear. "For the purpose of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill, if it contains only provisions relating to any or all of the following matters..."

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Only!

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Now, the word 'only' has already been interpreted by a ruling of the then hon. Presiding Officer, Mr. Mavalankar's ruling has held the view, why the word 'only' has to be liberally construed? And, that is a part of the parliamentary procedure. I further read, "(a) Any imposition of taxes; (b) regulation or borrowing of money; (c) the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of moneys

from the Consolidated Fund or the Contingency Fund of India; (d) the appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund of India; (e) declaring any expenditure etc. from the Consolidated Fund of India; (f) any receipt from the Consolidated Fund of India; and (g) any matters incidental to..." So, the Government expenditure, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, which has to be appropriated, can only be appropriated by a Money Bill. Imposition of taxation can only be done by a Money Bill. There is a procedure under Article 117 governing that.

Now, Mr. Rao's Bill, amongst various factors, states, first, about special status, which translated in a simple language would mean that instead of 60 per cent, the Central Government must give 90 per cent; that is the only effect. Second, revenue deficit, even though we are giving it, it involves money. Then, special package for health, economic package, Central package for districts, Central assistance for development of the Capital, allocation of money for Polavaram Project, Rivers Resolution and Assets Division, and so on. Most of the aspects, that he has mentioned in the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... are expenditures coming out of the Consolidated Fund, which will have to be appropriated. Now, can that appropriation be done by the Upper House? Can that Bill be introduced in the Upper House? That is the principal question and that is the dispute. That is the dispute and, therefore, it is very clear, under Rule 186, sub-Rule (7) of Rules of Procedure, – this relates to a Money Bill – on a Bill being introduced in the Council or, at a subsequent stage, if an objection is taken that a Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 110 and should not be proceeded within the Council, the Chairman shall, if he holds the objection valid, direct that further proceedings in connection with the Bill be terminated. If the Chairman has any doubt in regard to the validity of the objection, he shall refer the matter to the Speaker, whose decision on the question shall be final in accordance with Article 110(3). The proposals are very clear. I have said that I am disappointing myself and my colleagues, when I take this argument because I, myself, am a Member of this House. But we have to accept the reality that the framers of the Constitution gave a certain jurisdiction to the Lok Sabha; the jurisdiction under Article 75(3), of the Council of Ministers being responsible to them, of the Vote of No Confidence, of the Money Bill being introduced only there, of the Money Bill being voted there, of whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not being decided there and of a Government having to resign. Sir, kindly look at it from the converse; assuming the Government of a day loses majority, a Money Bill is being voted out in the Lok Sabha and the Government has to resign. Can the Government stand up and say, "Now, please treat it as a non-Money Bill"? That option is not available because Article 110 says, "A Bill shall be deemed to be..." The word is 'shall'. This is not optional and, therefore, even by consent between me and Mr. Jairam Ramesh, we cannot confer jurisdiction on this House which this House, otherwise, does not have. Therefore,

[Shri Arun Jaitley]
this is a genuine doubt. The whole issue has to be referred. As far as the question of rights of the State of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, we are seized of that issue. We will make sure that full justice is done to the State.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir,. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, let me say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; Shri Jairam Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will call you after Shri Jairam Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Jairam Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. Not everybody. ...*(Interruptions)*...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सर, यह जो लड़ाई लड़ी जा रही है, यह मनी बिल और नॉन-मनी बिल की लड़ाई तो एक टेक्नीकल चीज है। लेकिन ऑनली चीज जो है, यहां भूतपूर्व माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बताया कि उन्होंने केबिनेट में क्या निर्णय लिया था, सदन में क्या निर्णय लिए थे और जो आश्वासन उन्होंने दिया था, तो आपने as Leader of Opposition, उस वक्त अपना अमेंडमेंट वापस लिया। उसका मतलब है कि सहमति हुई थी। सिर्फ सरकार की तरफ से नहीं, बल्कि उस वक्त के विपक्ष की तरफ से भी, और बाद में जब इलेक्शन हुआ तो इलेक्शन में आपने भी उसको अपनी पार्टी मैनिफेस्टो में रखा। लेकिन सवा दो साल हुए अभी सरकार की तरफ से कोई भी पहल उन तमाम वायदों को पूरा करने के लिए नहीं हुई, जो उस समय की सरकार ने की थी और एक तरीके से amendments withdraw की थीं, तो उसमें बराबर अपोजिशन की सहमति, यानी आज की रूलिंग पार्टी की सहमति थी। तो उसका मतलब है कि दोनों की सहमति थी और आज वे वायदे पूरे नहीं हो रहे। माननीय लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस ही अगर कहेंगे कि जितने भी वायदे यहां डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने पढ़ दिए, वे हम पूरे कर देंगे तो बात खत्म हो जाती है। लड़ाई तो इसी पर है। अगर आप यह कह दें कि आप विद्ड्रॉ कर लो और हम सब वायदे जो डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने यहां पढ़े, हम उनको लागू कर देंगे, पूरा कर देंगे तो फिर झगड़ा किस चीज का? झगड़ा तो यह है कि पूरा नहीं हो रहा है। इसीलिए तो हम यह बिल ला रहे है। बिल में क्या रखा है, हम चाहे बिल पास भी कर लें, जब तक आप इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं करगे.... आप यहां कह दीजिए कि हम इसको पूरा कर देंगे तो बात खत्म हो गई। Am I right? ...*(Interruptions)*...

†**قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد)** : سر، یہ جو لڑائی لڑی جا رہی ہے، یہ منی بل اور نون-منی بل کی لڑائی تو ایک ٹیکنیکل چیز ہے۔ لیکن آنلی چیز جو ہے، یہاں سابق مانانیے پردھان منتری جی نے بتایا کہ انہوں نے کیبنیٹ میں کیا فیصلہ لیا تھا، سدن میں کیا فیصلے لئے تھے اور جو آشواس انہوں نے دیا تھا، تو آپ نے، اس لیڈر آف دی اپوزیشن، اس وقت اپنا امینڈمینٹ واپس لیا۔ اس کا مطلب ہے کہ سہمتی ہوئی تھی۔ صرف سرکار کی طرف سے نہیں، بلکہ اس وقت کے وپکش کی طرف سے بھی، اور بعد میں جب الیکشن ہوا تو الیکشن میں آپ نے بھی اس کو اپنی پارٹی منی فیسٹو میں رکھا۔ لیکن

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

سوا دو سال ہونے اپنی سرکار کی طرف سے کوئی بھی نہیں ان تمام وعدوں کو پورا کرنے کے لئے نہیں ہوئی، جو اس وقت کی سرکار نے کی تھی اور ایک طریقے سے اپوزیشن ودڈرا کی نہیں، تو اس میں برابر اپوزیشن کی سہمتی، یعنی آج کی رولنگ پارٹی کی سہمتی تھی۔ تو اس کا مطلب ہے کہ دونوں کی سہمتی تھی اور آج وہ وعدے پورے نہیں ہو رہے۔ مانانیے لیڈر آف دی ہاؤس ہی اگر کہیں گے کہ جتنے بھی وعدے ہیں ڈاکٹر منموہن سنگھ جی نے پڑھ دئے، وہ ہم پورے کر دیں گے تو بات ختم ہو جاتی ہے۔ لڑائی تو اسی پر ہے۔ اگر آپ یہ کہہ دیں کہ آپ ودڈرا کر لو اور ہم سب وعدے جو ڈاکٹر منموہن سنگھ جی نے یہاں پڑھے، ہم ان کو لاگو کریں گے، پورا کر دیں گے تو پھر جھگڑا کس چیز کا؟ جھگڑا تو یہ ہے کہ پورا نہیں ہو رہا ہے۔ اسی لئے تو ہم یہ بل لا رہے ہیں۔ بل میں کیا رکھا ہے، ہم چاہے بل پاس بھی کر لیں، جب تک آپ اسلی منشا نہیں کریں گے آپ نہیں کہہ دیجئے کہ ہم اس کو پورا کر دیں گے تو بات ختم ہو گئی۔

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I have a procedural point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will call you. ...*(Interruptions)*... After Shri Sitaram Yechury. ...*(Interruptions)*... You listen to him also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: सर, इस मुद्दे पर हम तीन घंटे डिस्कशन कर चुके हैं, मुझे लगता है कि नए सिरे से चर्चा करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sitaram Yechury ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I have one procedural point. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is being discussed according to the motion ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to listen. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, what is there in the List of Business? What is listed? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to take a decision. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to get the opinion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't worry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, what is being considered is a Bill, which is titled, 'further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act be taken into

[Shri Sitaram Yechury]

consideration'. It is not a question of defining whether it is a Money Bill or is not a Money Bill. I don't want to have my opinion on it. That is a different matter. I had said that yesterday also in the House. The issue is whether the assurances given at the time of bifurcation of the Andhra Pradesh State, will be honoured or not. That is all. The simple issue is that, I am not saying that you discuss the Money Bill and Appropriation Bill in this House. I am aware of the rules. Please discuss in the other House and take all your decisions there. All that is being asked is: Will you give an assurance that you will implement what you have assured in this House? It is as simple as that. That is the point. Therefore, you stick to that. That is all.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jairam Ramesh, you highlight on what he has said.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, please give me some time. There are two issues that have come up this afternoon. The first issue is the fulfilment of the former Prime Minister's assurances on the floor of the House on 28th February, 2014, a statement which he read out, which had been seen, which had been approved by the then Leader of the Opposition and Mr. M. Venkaiah Naidu...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You enlighten me on the objections.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Please bear with me. It is a complicated question, bear with me. Let me explain. So, that is the first issue.

The second issue is whether the Private Member's Bill moved by Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao is a Money Bill or not even though he had introduced this Bill with the Presidential assent on the 7th August, 2015. The Money Bill issue was also raised at the time of the Aadhaar Bill discussion. That has been challenged in the Supreme Court. My distinguished colleague, Mr. Kapil Sibal, will address the legal issue, which had been raised by the Leader of the House, after me. Let me address the first issue which is the real issue, which is the only issue, and that is the 'Special Category' issue. Sir, on 28h July...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jairam Ramesh, you address the point raised by ...*(Interruptions)*... All other discussions are over. ...*(Interruptions)*... All such discussions are over. Already, this Bill had been discussed for four hours. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am on my legs. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Jairam Ramesh, please listen to me. The question of Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh had been discussed here thoroughly in the form of Short Duration Discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, we have been misled by the Leader of the House. I want to point out.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I am not going to sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to me. If you can't listen to me, I don't agree to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, please keep quiet. ...*(Interruptions)*... The discussion on this Bill is complete. It has already been announced. There can't be a discussion again on this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I am not discussing the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not give you a chance to speak if you argue like that. You listen to me. Let me complete. I have to make it clear. Number one, the discussion on this Bill is complete. Number two, the discussion on Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh is also over. We had discussed it for four hours. The only question before me is the objection raised by the Leader of the House, whether it is a Money Bill or not. If you want to give your advice, you do it. On that issue, if you can enlighten me, you do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Please listen to me. Please bear with me.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वीः इस पर तीन घंटे discussion हुआ है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, on the Money Bill issue, Mr. Kapil Sibal will speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot say that. I have to decide it. Who are you to say Mr. Kapil Sibal will speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, because the Leader of the House has misled the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then you say that. Why can't you say that? Why did you stand up then? ...*(Interruptions)*... If you cannot say that, then why did you stand up? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this is unfair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, a statement is made by the Leader of the House that the 'Special Category' status cannot be given to Andhra Pradesh because of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission, and I want to prove...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not the issue here. What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... That is not the issue. What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, if I don't do it now, when will you give me the opportunity?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. I am not giving you the opportunity for this. Then, I will have to give the opportunity to everybody. ...*(Interruptions)*... If I am to give you the opportunity for discussing that issue, I will have to allow everybody, every Party. The only issue here is whether it is a Money Bill or not. You will enlighten me only on this issue. I will allow nothing else. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only on that issue. If you cannot do that, I will ask Mr. Kapil Sibal to do it. You can speak only on that issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Then, I will have to allow everybody. Why only you? Ram Gopalji is asking, Mr. Ramesh is asking, Mr. Mukhtar is asking. Why only you? That is why I am saying that you only raised an objection to what he said. ...*(Interruptions)*... You speak only on this issue.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the Leader of the House has made certain statements in the House which are not true. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have conclusive evidence to show that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, you move a Privilege Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Move a Privilege Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Move a Privilege Motion.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I will sit down, Sir, because you are.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Move a Privilege Motion.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: You are denying me an opportunity of setting the record straight. You are denying me an opportunity of proving that the Leader of the House misled the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: He is making an allegation against the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot do that now. Move a Privilege Motion.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, his allegation is against the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramesh, I will give you the opportunity. You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramesh, you don't understand the seriousness. What are you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Jairam Ramesh, if the hon. Leader of the House has misled the House, you can give a Privilege Motion. That is number one. Number two, I will give you the opportunity to raise it, but not now. When I am on a particular issue, I want

opinion only on this particular issue. An objection has been raised now, that is, after the Bill has been introduced and after the Bill is being discussed, and at the time when the Bill is about to be put to vote. That is the time, you know! Do you understand it? Many of you do not understand this. It was thoroughly discussed. The time now is of voting. I am to call for voting. It is at that time that this objection came. At this point of time, there is no scope of discussing the Bill on its merit or demerit. ...(*Interruptions*)... Enlighten me whether it is a Money Bill or not. You can give your opinion.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL (Uttar Pradesh): Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Chairperson, Sir. We are gathered here not necessarily to find out at what stage an objection can be raised and we concede the fact that an objection can be raised at any time whether a particular Bill which is introduced is a Money Bill or not. There have been some comments about the intention behind the objection, but I leave that for a moment. We are also delighted and have often been given great lessons in Constitutional law by the Leader of this House and we thank the Leader of this House for that. But I, with humility entirely disagree with the Leader of this House on the interpretation of Article 110 of the Constitution.

Mr. Deputy Chairperson, Sir, if I may have your attention. ...*(Interruptions)*... if I may have your attention. ...*(Interruptions)*... Every legislation in this country introduced in the Lok Sabha has some impact on the Consolidated Fund of India, whether it is a legislation dealing with urban development, judiciary, transportation or anything else. Every legislation has an impact on the Consolidated Fund of India because ultimately monies have to be appropriated. Monies required for that particular legislation are appropriated from the Consolidated Fund of India. If my learned friend, the Leader of the House is right, then every Bill can be termed as a Money Bill in this country. If he is right in his objection – because at some stage or the other, money will have to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund of India, – it will be termed as a Money Bill. However, the definition of a 'Money Bill' is quite different, and I will read out for your consideration, Sir, and for the consideration of the distinguished Members of this House. It says, "For the purposes of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains – and mark the word 'only' – it contains the word 'only' provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters." In other words, if a Bill that is introduced, contains only provisions relating to appropriation, then it is a Money Bill. But if the Bill deals with a subject matter the consequence of which is ultimately appropriation from the Consolidated Fund of India, then it is not a Money Bill. Now, let us look at this Bill. What does this Bill say? It says;

[Shri Kapil Sibal]

"100A- Notwithstanding anything contained contrary to this Act, the following shall be the special provisions for the State of Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh-Telangana Council shall be set up by the Central Government ...*(Interruptions)*... Special Status can be granted by the Central Government for the State of Andhra Pradesh for 10 years. Special Category Status has nothing to do with appropriation, nothing to do with money. When that Special Status..." ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let me listen to him.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Revenue deficit of Andhra Pradesh shall be borne by the Central Government till the State becomes financially viable. Now, at the time when the actual revenue deficit is borne through the introduction of the legislation, then, it will be a Money Bill. But this is not a Money Bill.

Special Package will be given by the Central Government to achieve a turnaround in the financial health of the State. When that Special Package is given and it is a part of the Finance Bill, then it will be a Money Bill.

Central Assistance Package shall be provided for developing all backward areas of Andhra Pradesh, particularly, in the four districts of Rayalseema, and the three districts of northern coastal Andhra Pradesh at par with Bundelkhand, Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi Package. Now, that exercise is yet to be done, and that exercise will be done which is an administrative exercise, when that takes place, it will be a Money Bill.

"Central Assistance shall be provided for the development of the Capital of Andhra Pradesh." When the Central assistance will be provided in a legislation, it will be a Money Bill. Supposing you want to set up a new Capital, and that legislation. Will not be a Money Bill. It is when you appropriate monies towards setting up the Capital, it will become a Money Bill.

The allocation to Polavaram project shall be increased by the Central Government for its completion in the stipulated time-frame. What is that increase? We don't know at this point in time what that increase is going to be. As and when that increase is decided by the Government and a Bill is introduced in the Lok Sabha, that will be a Money Bill.

Then, the Apex Council ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sibal, you need not read out all the clauses. I got your point.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Since I was the counsel in the Aadhaar matter, and I am disclosing that fact, the learned Leader of the House also said that Aadhaar is a Money Bill. If tomorrow, you want to set up special courts in the country, he will say that that is also a Money Bill because in order to set up the special courts since you need money and that money will come from the Consolidated Fund of India. So, this House will become a cypher. This is what the Leader of the House wants ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: They did not want to honour the commitment made towards a special package. They don't want to honour those commitments. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ram Gopalji, on this issue, you want to say something? ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, it is over.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, one second ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, Ram Gopalji, please wait. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not over.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, one other point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, conclude.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I wish to make one other point. It is true, Sir, that quietly and ultimately we are here to uphold the Constitution and the laws. We are not spin doctors to spin the provisons of the Constitution for our political purposes. We are not sitting here as spin doctors. The fact of the matter is, if you give this interpretation to any Bill introduced in any House, it will be a Money Bill according to the Leader of the House. This House must actually move a resolution to decide what the power of the Leader of the House here is without setting the ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: You are challenging the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are, no doubt, a legal expert, but you are challenging the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: One second ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: You are challenging the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have one humble submission to make. The rules require you to decide whether or not it is a Money Bill or whether or not you have some doubts about the issue.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: The rule is as per the Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will come to that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Then, it will automatically go to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Yes.

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: It is as per the Constitution.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: And, the point is, unless you hear Members of this House as to what the *maryada* of this House is,....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is why I heard you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: And, as to what kind of Bill is a Money Bill, you should not give a ruling.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is why I heard you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: You please allow every Member to speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; I heard you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: And let's get a sense of the House as to what we feel is a Money Bill and not subvert the Constitution of India. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shri Ram Gopalji.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : सर, मैंने बहुत विद्वान लोगों की बातें सुनीं हैं और मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि यह बहुत सामान्य बात है तथा इसको असामान्य बनाया जा रहा है। ये सब जानते हैं कि मनी बिल यहां introduce नहीं हो सकता। यह बिल यहां introduce हुआ, चर्चा हुई और वोटिंग के वक्त इस पर एतराज़ हुआ। अगर introduce हुआ, तो यह मनी बिल नहीं हो सकता है। जब इस तरह का मामला आता है, तो मुझे अपने law के प्रोफेसर की पहले दिन की एक बात याद आती है। उन्होंने अपने students से कहा था कि जब आपको लगे कि कोई दिक्कत है, तो आप अपनी common sense का प्रयोग कीजिए। because law is never away from common sense. So, Sir, जब यह introduce हो गया है और इस पर चर्चा हो चुकी है, तो उसके बाद इसको मनी बिल कहना जायज़ नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Rameshji, what do you want? You say something on this point only.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Telangana): On this issue only, Sir. Sir, right from the beginning of the discussion, I am here, and, as you know, we are the victims. Firstly, Sir, the discussion is over. All of us, including me, had spoken on this Bill. Then, at the time of voting, one of the Members from this side raised the issue of quorum and then I also... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; that is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You say about this.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Everybody is here today and this has to be heard by everybody. At that time, I raised a point that they should introduce a Bill which will be good for Andhra Pradesh. If they were serious, Sir, only three Congress Members were there,... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; this is not the point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not the issue here. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why are you creating problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you want to create problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; Rameshji, if you have a suggestion regarding this Bill as Money Bill or no Money Bill, you can say that and nothing else will be permitted.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Who are present and who are not present is not my concern. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: *

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he took my name. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not interested in hearing. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not interested. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, that will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*Not recorded.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

I am not interested in hearing any of those things now. ...*(Interruptions)*... See, I am only on one point. Have you an opinion about this as a Money Bill or not as a Money Bill? You say that only. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he took my name. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You don't know. You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, you decide whether it is a Money Bill or not. We are ready to support this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will decide. You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is okay. Hon. Members,... ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no; let me say...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he has taken my name.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have expunged it. Sit down. It is already expunged.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member keeps on repeating that I was not present in this House on 29th.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have expunged it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I had explained to him, and inspite of that he persists.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have expunged it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I had to go to Chennai to attend the ceremony of my late father-in-law. That is why I was not here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I remember that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: And he insists on repeating this. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is atrocious statement on his part. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have expunged it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, I want to say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tell me what you want to say.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, you hear me. Give me two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am also speaking.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am hearing, you tell me what you want to say.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Sibal...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only on this issue; nothing else.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Only on this issue. Sir, hon. Member, Shri Sibal very eloquently has argued that almost everything can be termed a Money Bill. Before that, the Leader of the Opposition very...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; you give your opinion on this. Why do you go to that? Why do you create problem? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, if you don't...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you create problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no; I am on a specific issue.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, you are not going to hear me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, I want to hear only what you say about this Bill. Nothing more is allowed.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, you give me a chance.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to give a ruling. See, I want assistance for giving a ruling. If you have anything,...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: You will get, if you hear me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, you say that. Nothing else. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Then, the Leader of the Opposition also very passionately said...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you say about the Leader of the Opposition? You give your opinion.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, I am giving my opinion. It is in reference to the context. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; this is not a speech.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: We were delighted to hear the former Prime Minister also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why are you saying this? This is not a speech.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, please hear me; this is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a speech; but let me finish my argument. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nareshji, you understand that we are not speaking... ...*(Interruptions)*... I will allow you. But understand that we are not speaking on this subject at all. It is a technical question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. I have to give a ruling. I thought you will advise me on that ruling. That only I want.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, the floor was given to me. So, I have said that we were delighted to hear the former Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... He said that as Prime Minister certain assurances were given.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; that is not going on record.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: *

RULING BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not going on record. I am not allowing that. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to give my ruling. Now, I want to give the ruling; sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... What the former Prime Minister said is relevant or not, your certificate is not now needed. It is on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... See, you are wasting the time. I want to give the ruling. Now, listen please.

Hon. Members, I was trying my best to elicit opinion and get suggestions from the hon. Members. That is why I tried to hear legal luminaries and others also. But, yes, I was strict in the sense that I want only opinion on this, at this point. I am sorry, if I have been very strict on that. Listen. The reason is this. I will first explain that. Number one, this Bill is at the voting stage. The discussion was over on this Bill. So, there is no point in discussing it again. Number two, Andhra issue was discussed for four hours. So, this is not the time to discuss the merit or demerit or pros and cons of that decision or this decision. The only issue before me is, I was about to put the Bill to vote. Hon. Leader of the House raised an objection. So, naturally, I want to take a correct decision on that. For that, I thought you will advise me. I thank Kapil Sibalji, Jairamji, Ghulam Nabiji, Ram Gopal Yadavji, Shri C.M. Ramesh and Nareshji also for whatever you have said. Where you deviated from the basic point, I questioned that also, and for that, don't misunderstand me

*Not recorded.

because I have to take a decision. Number one, see, I will first explain this. Ram Gopalji said that the Bill is already introduced; it was permitted by the President also; so at this stage, you proceed with this because it is already here for voting. But it is very clear in Rule 186(7) which was pointed out here, It says, "On a Bill being introduced in the Council of States or at subsequent stage, if an objection is taken..." That means, at any stage, an objection can be taken. That is the rule. At this stage also, objection can be taken.

Secondly, if the Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 110 and should not be proceeded within the Council, the Chairman shall, if he holds the objection valid, direct that further proceedings in connection with the Bill be terminated. Here, "if the objection is valid" means, if the Chairman considers it a Money Bill, then, it has to be terminated then and there. If not, there is the next step. "If the Chairman has any doubt in regard to the validity of the objection...", what should he do? "...he shall refer the matter to the Speaker whose decision on the question shall be final." The point is, in the Constitution if no power is given to the Chairman, then under the rules also, it can't be given. The Constitution does not give power to the Chairman to decide it to be a Money Bill or not. The rules also are framed accordingly. That is the point. If there is a doubt, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, it is said, 'if the Chairman has any doubt'. It means, in case the Chairman does not have any doubt, then he is the decision-maker; he need not.. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the crucial point. If the Chairman has a doubt... ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. I have heard you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen to me, please.

If the Chairman has a doubt, then, he cannot decide. He has no authority to decide. In a way, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha is vested with zero power in deciding whether it is a Money Bill or not. There is no scope for even a rethinking by the Chairman. Therefore, I am giving the ruling.

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2015 was introduced by Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao in the Rajya Sabha in the month of August, 2015. The Bill was taken up for consideration on 11th March and 29th April, 2016. A point has been raised that the Bill is a Money Bill under Article 110 of the Constitution. Rule 186(7) states, "On a Bill being introduced in the Council, or at a subsequent stage, if an objection is taken that a Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 110 and should not be proceeded within the Council, the Chairman shall, if

he holds the objection valid, direct that further proceedings in connection with the Bill be terminated". But under Rule 186(8), if the Chairman has any doubt in regard to the validity of the objection, he shall refer the matter to the Speaker, whose decision on the question shall be final in accordance with clause (3) of Article 110 of the Constitution.

Since the matter is not free from doubt, I, therefore, under Rule 186(8) refer the matter to the hon. Speaker for a decision. Till then, further proceedings in connection with the Bill stand deferred. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Bill deferred

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS — (*Contd...*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will now take up the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016. (insertion of new article 21B) Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, it is Shri Tiruchi Siva's Bill, not my Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sorry, we will now take up the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (amendment of article 324). Shri Tiruchi Siva to move the Bill for consideration.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015
(Amendment of Article 324)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration.

Sir, in the interest of student and teacher community and in the interest of a better tomorrow, I am introducing this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, a country with a stable economy, stronger armed force, an advanced technology or a developed medicine will not enter into a better tomorrow. It is only the youth force today in this country, which will ensure the nation for a better future ...*(Interruptions)*... and the youth could be triumphed ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I would like to say that till the age of 14, a child spends most of his time at home and at school. At the age of 14, the child ...*(Interruptions)*... Before that, Sir, we shape him, we develop him and give him necessary knowledge. It depends on what kind of parents and school teachers ... ...*(Interruptions)*... Most of the time, the children are at school and to

shape them for a better future, it is the utmost responsibility of the teachers. Sir, we have enacted a law, Right to Education. Sir, while education must be provided to all children from the age of five to fourteen whereas the education which they are getting whether it equips them to take... ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (Odisha): Sir, I don't understand why the House is being disturbed like this by some Members. If they have any objection, let them directly come to the Government whenever they want, according to rules. ...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, why is the Private Member's Bill being disturbed? ...*(Interruptions)*... This is an injustice done with all the Private Members' Bills, and this is our right, Sir. As Members of the Parliament, this is our right. ...*(Interruptions)*... As Members of this House, this is our right. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have the right to introduce our Bills here, discuss our Bills here ...*(Interruptions)*... This is really undone ...*(Interruptions)*...Either the Government must do something or the Opposition must take some steps ...(*Interruptions*)... They should not disrupt the House like this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, for the first time, I have got an opportunity on a Private Member’s Bill today in the House, which is relating to a very, very serious issue ...*(Interruptions)*... It is about equal participation of women in governance, which is a very important issue ...*(Interruptions)*... I don’t know why the House is in this condition ...*(Interruptions)*... Please help. I seek your protection as a Member ...*(Interruptions)*... We need a strong protection from you, Sir ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a request, as a Member, to you, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... We also have Special Mentions ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The importance of teachers is no secret. Schools and communities have always sought out best teachers they could get in the belief that the success of students depends on it. ...*(Interruptions)*... A teacher not only imparts education, but also inspires and motivates students to become good citizens of the future. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it has been rightly said that a true democracy is one where education is universal ...*(Interruptions)*... However, almost 70 years of Independence has not brought about the desired results of imparting compulsory education to all the children in our country ...*(Interruptions)*... The Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act was passed in the year 2009 ...*(Interruptions)*... It has made it a Constitutional right to provide free and compulsory education to all the children between the age of six and fourteen years under Article 21A of the Constitution ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 8th August, 2016.

The House then adjourned at fifty-two minutes past three of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 8th August, 2016.

The Solid Waste Management Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (pages 327-328)

The Education Loan Bill, 2016 — *Introduced* (page 328)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Substitution of new article for article 361B and Amendment of Tenth Schedule) — *Introduced* (page 328)

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2015-Deferred — *Introduced* (pages 328-352)

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 — *Under consideration* (pages 354-356)

Ruling by the Chair (pages 352-354)

Published under Rule 260 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and Printed by DRV Grafix Print
41, Institutional Area, D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058