

Vol. 240

No. 20



सत्यमेव जयते

Friday

12 August, 2016

21 Sravana, 1938 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

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Website	:	http://rajyasabha.nic.in http://parliamentofindia.nic.in
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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 12th August, 2016/21st Sravana, 1938 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Statement of Medium-Term Expenditure framework (As on August, 2016)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 3 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Medium-term Expenditure Framework Statement (as on August, 2016).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5170/16/16]

Report and Accounts (2013-14 and 2014-15) of NCCF, New Delhi and related papers.

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I (a) Forty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation.
(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4873/16/16]

- 2 (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF), New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation.
(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4874/16/16]

Report and Accounts (2014-15) of IMPCL and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF AYURVEDA, YOGA, AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, (IMPCL), Almora, Uttarakhand, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5172/16/16]

Notification of the Ministry of Communications

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications):—

- (1) No. 26-01/2015-B&CS, dated the 16th March, 2016, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Digital Addressable Cable Television Systems) (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2016.
- (2) F. No. 16-02/2015-F&EA, dated the 10th June, 2016, publishing the Reporting System on Accounting Separation Regulations, 2016.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5106/16/16]

Copy of the Forty Sixth Valuation Report of LIC of India, as on 31st March, 2016

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Forty-sixth Valuation Report of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), as on 31st March, 2016.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5182/16/16]

Report (2015-16) on MGNREGA, New Delhi

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, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Ram Kripai Vadav, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), New Delhi, for the year 2015-16.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5149/16/16]

Notification of the Ministry of Railways

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Railways Notification No. S.O. 1426 (E), dated the 13th April, 2016, publishing the Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents (Amendment) Rules. 2016, along with delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5143/16/16]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

II. Report and Accounts of Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Shimla and related papers

III. MoU (2016-17) between GoI and National Seeds Corporation Ltd.

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा पंचायती राज मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री परषोत्तम रुपाला): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications A of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare), under sub-section (2) of Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914:-

- (1) S.O. 1873 (E), dated the 25th May, 2016, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Third Amendment) Order, 2016.
- (2) S.O. 2192 (E), dated the 23rd June' 2016' Publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Fourth Amendment) Order, 2016.
- (3) S.O. 2248 (E), dated the 30th June, 2016, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Fifth Amendment) Order, 2016.
- (4) S.O. 2453(E), dated the 19th July, 2016, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Sixth Amendment) Order, 2016.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (4) See No. L.T. 4994/16/16]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5098/16/16]

- III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) and the National Seeds Corporation (NSC) Limited for the year 2016-17.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5097/16/16]

- I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**
- II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of Central Agricultural University, Imphal and related papers**
- III. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi and related papers**

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुदर्शन भगत): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) Notification F.No.12-5/2015-VCI, dated the 12th July, 2016, publishing the Veterinary Council of India Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education — (Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry — Degree Course) Regulations, 2016, under sub-section (3) of Section 66 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5106/16/16]
- II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (3) of Section 29 and sub-section (4) of Section 30 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2013-14.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Central Agricultural University, imphal, Manipur, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.
- (d) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above University.
- (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. 5209/16/16]

- III. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 62 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Council of 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 Council.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5105/16/16]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles

II. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of NJMC, Kolkata and related papers

III. Report and Accounts (2014-15) of BJEL, Kolkata and related papers

वस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय टमटा): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987:—

- (1) S.O. 255 (E), dated the 27th January, 2016, regarding constitution of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) for a period of three years from the date of publication of this resolution.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5307/16/16]

- (2) S.O. 2224 (E), dated the 28th June, 2016, amending Notification No. S.O. 126 (E), dated the 14th January, 2016, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5163/16/16]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (i) (a) Thirty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Kolkata, (NJMC), for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 4721/16/16]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited (BJEL), Kolkata, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (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. 4720/16/16]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

II. Notification of the Ministry of Shipping

III. Accounts (2012-13, 2013-14) of NIPER, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh and related papers

IV. MoU (2016-17) between GoI and BCPL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers) Notification No. S.O. 1594 (E), dated the 2nd May, 2016, regarding quantities and supplies of urea to be made by domestic manufacturers of urea to certain States and Union Territories during Kharif Season 2016 commencing from the 1st April to the 30th day of September,

2016, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5231/16/16]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Shipping Notification No. IMU/HQ/ADM/Notification/2016, dated the 20th July, 2016, regarding Ordinances Governing Administrative and Academic matters of the Indian Maritime University (IMU), Chennai, under sub-section (2) of Section 47 of the Indian Maritime University Act, 2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5153/16/16]

- III.(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), Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2012-13, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. For (a) and (b) See No. L.T. 5107/16/16]

- IV. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers) and the Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL), for the year 2016-17.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5230/16/16]

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

II. MoU (2016-17) between RWC and 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. EP-1(1)/2015, dated the 10th May, 2016, publishing the Food Corporation

of India (Staff) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2016, under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5308/16/16]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Railside Warehouse Company Limited (CRWC) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) for the year 2016-17.

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

Notifications of the Ministry of Defence

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Defence:—

- (1) S.R.O. 18, dated May 1 - May 7, 2016, (Weekly Gazette), publishing the National Cadet Corps (Amendment) Rules, 2016.
- (2) S.R.O. 19, dated May 1 - May 7, 2016, (Weekly Gazette), publishing the National Cadet Corps (Girls Division) (Amendment) Rules, 2016.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) *See* No. L.T. 5238/16/16]

Various Reports (2016) of C&AG (Amendment) Rules, 2016

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

- (i) Report No. 22 of 2016 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2016 on Voluntary Compliance Encouragement Scheme, 2013 - Union Government, Department of Revenue, Indirect Taxes - Service Tax;
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5215/16/16]
- (ii) Report No. 23 of 2016 (Performance Audit) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - Union Government (Civil), Ministry of Rural Development;
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5216/16/16]
- (iii) Report No. 24 of 2016 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2015 - Union Government (Civil), Union Territories without Legislatures, Compliance Audit Observations;
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5217/16/16]
- (iv) Report No. 25 of 2016 (Compliance Audit) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Implementation of PAHAL (DBTL) Scheme (Pratyaksh

Hanstantrit Labh Yojana) for the year ended 31 March, 2016- Union Government (Commercial), Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5218/16/16]

- (v) Report No. 26 of 2016 (Compliance Audit) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Administrative Functioning of Autonomous Bodies under Department of Science and Technology - Union Government (Department of Science and Technology);

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5219/16/16]

- (vi) Report No. 27 of 2016 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Compliance of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003 for the year 2014-15 - Union Government (Civil), Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance). [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5220/16/16]

**REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF RAJYA SABHA ON
PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT), BILL, 2013**

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भ्रष्टाचार निवारण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2013 सम्बन्धी राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति का प्रतिवेदन (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) प्रस्तुत करता हूँ।

**EVIDENCE TENDERED BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF RAJYA
SABHA ON PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2013**

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भ्रष्टाचार निवारण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2013 सम्बन्धी राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति के समक्ष दिए गए साक्ष्य की एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS**

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I present the One Hundred and Ninety Eighth Report (in English and Hindi) of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Disaster in Chennai Caused by Torrential Rainfall and Consequent Flooding.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twelfth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development (2015-2016) on the subject 'Modernisation

of the Directorate of Printing, Government of India Stationery Office and Department of Publication' pertaining to the Ministry of Urban Development.

**STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

महंत शम्भुप्रसादजी तुंदिया (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं विभाग सम्बन्धित सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी सम्बन्धी संसदीय स्थायी समित (2015-16) के निम्न विवरणों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-1 and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Thirteenth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Fifty-third Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Norms for setting up of telecom towers, its harmful effects and setting up of security standards in expansion of telecom facilities' pertaining to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications);
- (ii) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-1 and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Fifteenth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Third Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications);
- (iii) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Fourteenth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in First Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts);
- (iv) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Twentieth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Fifth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts);

- (v) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Twelfth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Forty-seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Issues related to Paid News' pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;
- (vi) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Sixteenth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and
- (vii) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Nineteenth Action Taken Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in Eighth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री रामविलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों (2016-17) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधी खाद्य, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के आठवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Eighty-fourth and
Ninety-first Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Health and Family Welfare**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Eighty-fourth and Ninety-first Reports of the

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) (Demand No.6) pertaining to the Ministry of AYUSH.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Seventeenth Report and One Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce and Industry

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I make the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Seventeenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce and Industry on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Commerce.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce and Industry on the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Seventeenth Report on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Department of Commerce.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Report on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Tourism.

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND

HIGHWAYS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): Sir, I make the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on "Functioning of National institutes of Pharmaceuticals Education & Research".
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report on 'Jan Aushadhi Scheme'.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Sixth,
Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Reports of Department-Related Parliamentary
Standing Committee on Defence**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): Sir, I make the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) on Civil expenditure and Capital Outlay on Defence Services (Demand No. 21,22 and 28).
 - (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) on Army (Demand No. 23).
 - (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) on Navy and Air Force (Demand No. 24 and 25).
 - (iv) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on 'Ordnance Factories and Defence Research and Development Organisation' (Demand No. 26 and 27).
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**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव उपस्थित करता हूँ:-

यह सभा राजभाषा अधिनियम, 1963 (1963 का सं. 19) की धारा 4 की उपधारा (2) के अनुसरण में सभा के सदस्यों में से पांच सदस्यों को राजभाषा समिति का सदस्य होने के लिए एकल संक्रमणीय मत द्वारा आनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व प्रणाली के अनुसार निर्वाचित करने की कार्यवाही करे।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

**MOTION FOR REFERENCE OF THE CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2016 TO JOINT COMMITTEE**

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव उपस्थित करता हूँ:-

यह सभा लोक सभा की इस सिफारिश से सहमति प्रकट करती है कि लोक सभा द्वारा 11 अगस्त, 2016 को हुई इसकी बैठक में नागरिकता अधिनियम, 1955 का और संशोधन करने के लिए स्वीकृत प्रस्ताव कि यह सभा नागरिकता (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2016 संबंधी दोनों सभाओं की संयुक्त समिति में शामिल हो और राज्य सभा द्वारा संयुक्त समिति के लिए इस प्रकार नियुक्त किए गए सदस्यों के नाम लोक सभा को सूचित करे और संकल्प करती है कि राज्य सभा के निम्नलिखित सदस्यों को उक्त संयुक्त समिति में कार्य करने के लिए नाम निर्देशित किया जाए:

1. डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे
2. श्री दिलीपभाई पंडया
3. श्री पि. भट्टाचार्य
4. श्री भुवनेश्वर कालिता
5. श्री जावेद अली खान
6. श्री देरेक ओब्राईन
7. श्री हरिवंश
8. श्री प्रसन्न आचार्य
9. श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा
10. श्री स्वप्न दासगुप्ता।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Constitution of All India Judicial Service**

†*286. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts was held in April, 2015 wherein the issue of constitution of an All India Judicial Service was also included, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the points on which consensus was reached among Chief Ministers and Chief Justices and the points on which consensus could not be reached in the said conference, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan formulated by Government for setting up an All India Judicial Service, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and among High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service. While some State Governments and High Courts were not in favour of creation of All India Judicial Service in some other cases the State Governments and High Courts wanted changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government.

The proposal for constitution of All India Judicial Service with views from the High Courts and State Governments received thereon was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 05th April, 2015. However, no progress was made on the subject. The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges / judicial officers at all level was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

During the Conference of the Chief Justices of the High Courts, it was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously.

In May, 2015, a communication was addressed by the Government to the Chief Justices of High Courts requesting them to apprise the action being taken to make the recruitment process more broad based to fill up the existing vacancies of judicial officers / judges at all levels in the District and Subordinate Courts to enable the Government to take a view on the need for formation of All India Judicial Service. Most of the High Courts have indicated that the recruitment process for vacancies in subordinate judiciary at all levels has been expedited in terms of the resolution passed in the Conference of Chief Justices held in New Delhi in April 2015.

Keeping in view the divergence of opinion among the stakeholders on constitution of All India Judicial Service, the Government has undertaken the consultative process to arrive at a common ground.

Wheat storage capacity of FCI

*287. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total wheat storage capacity of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in silos in the country; and

(b) how much silo capacity would be added in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The total capacity of Food Corporation of India (FCI) for storage of wheat in steel silos in the country is 5.5 lakh MT. In addition, State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Punjab have silo capacity of 5 Lakh MT. Details of available capacity are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) In order to modernize storage of foodgrains, Government of India has approved a road map for construction of 100 lakh MT Silos in next 4 years, under which capacity addition in the next 2 years *i.e.* 2016-17 and 2017-18 is pegged at 20 lakh MT.

Statement*Details of total silos capacity of FCI***Silos with FCI**

State	Depot		Storage Capacity (in tonnes)
Circuit-I			
Punjab	Base	Moga	200000
Tamil Nadu	Field	Chennai	25000
Tamil Nadu	Field	Coimbatore	25000
Karnataka	Field	Bangalore	25000
TOTAL			275000
Circuit-II			
Haryana	Base	Kaithal	200000
Maharashtra	Field	Navi Mumbai	50000
West Bengal	Field	Hoogly	25000 (presently not in service)
TOTAL			275000
GRAND TOTAL			550000

Silos with State Governments

Sl. No.	State	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Harda	50,000
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Hoshangabad	50,000
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Dewas	50,000
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Satna	50,000

Sl. No.	State	Centre	Capacity in MTs
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Sehore	50,000
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain	50,000
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha	50,000
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	50,000
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	50,000
	TOTAL		4,50,000
1.	Punjab	Bhagtanwala, Amritsar	50,000
	GRAND TOTAL		5,00,000

Pending railway projects in West Bengal

*288. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of railway projects in the State of West Bengal have been either stalled or are progressing slowly due to inadequate budgetary allocation, if so the details thereof;

(b) the details of all the railway projects pending in the State for the last three years; and

(c) the details of all the projects sanctioned for West Bengal in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) No, Sir. No railway projects lying fully/partly in West Bengal have been stalled or progressing slowly due to inadequate budgetary allocations. Budgetary allocations for execution of these railway projects have been increasing consistently in keeping with the need of the project. At present, 19 New Line projects having length of 1660 km. with latest anticipated cost of ₹19880 crore and an outlay of ₹ 963 crores provided in 2016-17 are being executed in West Bengal. So far, New Line projects of length of 645 km. have been completed and commissioned. Remaining 1015 km. new line projects of West Bengal are stalled due to non availability of land.

In addition, 04 Gauge Conversion projects having length of 1153 km. with latest anticipated cost of ₹7172 crore and an outlay of ₹187 crores provided in 2016-17 and

41 doubling projects having length of 1743 km. with latest anticipated cost of ₹ 14880 crore with outlay of ₹ 1626 crore are being executed in West Bengal.

Further, 7 metropolitan transport projects having length of 117 km. with latest anticipated cost of ₹ 22084 crore and an outlay of ₹ 1068 crores provided in 2016-17 are under execution in West Bengal. East-West Metro Corridor Project, Kolkata was stalled since 2012 on account of land acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement issues. The work has now resumed since 2015 after finalization of a revised alignment to address all the issues.

Budgetary allocation is not done State-wise. However, major ongoing projects comprising new line, gauge conversion and doubling run across one or more States and allocation to these projects is made project-wise. Budget allocation in respect of these projects which, *inter-alia*, covers the State of West Bengal for last three years since 2013-14 are as under:-

(₹ in crore)				
Plan Head	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
New Lines	288	525	726	963
Gauge Conversion	84	17	85	187
Doubling	368	738	1089	1626
Metropolitan Transport Projects	469	1364	908	1068
TOTAL	1209	2644	2808	3844

Outlays for railway projects lying in West Bengal have been continuously increasing in recent past. During the period from April, 2009 to March, 2014, 489 km. (comprising 256 km. Doublings, 116 km. Gauge Conversions and 117 km. New Line) have been completed and commissioned. During the period from April, 2014 to March, 2016, 375 km. (comprising 194 km. Doublings, 102 km. Gauge Conversions and 79 km. New Line) have been completed and commissioned.

(b) and (c) Details of ongoing railway projects in West Bengal including sanctioned during last three years are as under:

Status of ongoing projects in West Bengal (as on 1.4.2016)

Sl. No.	Project	Length (in km.)	Latest cost (₹ in cr.)	Exp. as on 31.3.2016 (₹ in cr.)
1	2	3	4	5
New Lines				
1.	Howrah-Amta, Bargachia-Champadanga-Tarakeshwar, Amta-Bagnan & new MM for Janghipara-Furfura Sharif (12.3 km.)	120	895	181.85
2.	Eklakhi-Balurghat (87.11 km.), Gazole-Itahar (28 km.) & new MM for Raiganj-Itahar (21.8 km.) & Itahar-Buniadpur (39 km.)	175.91	1337	260.15
3.	Tamluk-Digha, Deshpuran-Nandigram with new MM for Kanthi-Egra (26.2 km.); Nandakumar-Bolaipanda (27 km.) NL & Nandigram-Kandhimari (Nayachar) (7 km.) NL	167.6	1428	482.21
4.	Laxmikantapur-Namkhana-Chandra Nagar (61.5km.) with new MM for Kakadwip-Budakhali (5 km.) & Chandranagar-Bakhali (17.2 km.)	83.7	546.78	142.67
5.	Rampurhat-Mandarhill via Dumka (130 km.) with new MM for Rampurhat-Murarai (29.48 km.)- 3rd line	159.48	920.2	985.13
6.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur with ext. up to Dhaniakhali, Arambagh-Irphala & new MM for Irphala-Ghatal (11.2 km.) & Arambagh-Champadanga (23.3 km.)	154.27	1522.5	767.87
7.	New Moynaguri-Jogighopa NL with GC of New Mal-Moynaguri Road and New Changrabanda-Changrabanda (3 km.)	288.88	2531	2225.72
8.	Azimganj-Murshidabad (Jiyaganj) incl. Rly. Bridge over river Bhagirathi	5	129	106.37
9.	Araria-Galgalia (Thakurganj)	100	828	164.91
10.	Jalalgarh-Kishanganj	50.077	565	5.13

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Sivok-Rangpo	44.39	4190	280.79
12.	Tarakeshwar-Magra (51.95 km.) incl. MM for Tarakeshwar-Furfura Sharif (21.75 km.)	73.7	1025	3.95
13.	Hasnabad-Hinalganj	14	450	7.27
14.	Balurghat-Hilli	29.6	680	45.63
15.	Kaliyaganj-Buniadpur	33.13	563	30.57
16.	Bowaichandi-Arambagh	31	434	40.04
17.	Digha-Jaleswar (41 km.) with new MM for Digha-Egra (31 km.)	72	1009	7.62
18.	Bhadutola-Jhargram <i>via</i> Lalgarrh	54	760	0.13
19.	Haldibari-International Border	3	67	
	TOTAL	1660	19880	5738

Note: 645 km. out of 1660 new lines have been commissioned.

Gauge conversion

1.	Bankura-Damodar valley with Bowaichandi Khana (22), Rainagar-Chinchai (20.9), Bankura-Mukutmonipur (57) & MM Mukutmonipur-Uparsol (26.70), Bankura (Kalabadi)-Purulia <i>via</i> Hura (65) & Mukutmonipur-Jhilmili (24)	281.85	2178	524.37
2.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon along with Branch lines & new MM for Chalsa-Naxalbari (16 km.) NL & Rajabhatkhowa-Jainti (15.13 km.) NL	433	1566	1073.5
3.	Katihar-Jogbani with ext. upto Radhikapur, Katihar-Tejnarayanpur & new MM for Raiganj-Dalkhola (43.43 km.) NL	277.43	1426	756.37
4.	Burdwan-Katwa (51.52 km) with new MM for Katwa-Bazarsau (30.59 km.) -			

1	2	3	4	5
	DL, Katwa(Dainhat)-Mateswar (34.4 km.), Negun-Mangalkot (8.60 km.) & Mateswar- Memari (35.6 km.) NL	160.62	2002	400.57
	TOTAL	1153	7172	2755

Note: 770 km. out of 1153 km. Gauge conversions have been commissioned.

Doubling

1.	New Alipur-Akra & Budge Budge-Pujali with new MM for Pujali-Uluberia (Birshivpur) (10.25 km.) & Pujali- Bahrahat (9.75 km.) NL	40.76	914	33.19
2.	Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar with Krishnanagar-Shantipur-Nawadwipghat- GC & Krishnanagar-Chartala & new MM for Krishnanagar-Chhapra NL, Naihati- Ranaghat-3rd line & Nabadwipghat- Nabadwipdham with ext. to BB	115.06	945.29	328.37
3.	Sonarpur-Canning (Ph.I) (14.96 km.) with new MM for Kalikapur-Minakhan via Gatakpur (38 km.) NL	52.96	576	52.73
4.	Habra-Bongaon Phase-I (Habra-Chandpara) & Machlandapur-Swarup Nagar	37.25	145.13	77.84
5.	Chandpara-Bongaon with ext. to Chandabazar and new MM for Bongaon- Poramaheshtala (20 km.) & Chandabazar- Bagdah (13.86 km.) NL	55.13	186.89	78.89
6.	Pandabeswar-Chinpai (21.41 km.) and Ikra-Churulia-Gurundi with new MM bet. Barbani-Churulia (9 km.) NL	51.91	293.74	151.17
7.	Chinpai-Sainthia & Prantik-Siuri NL (33.98km.) MM Chaurigacha-Sainthia <i>via</i> Kandi (56.50 Km.)	122.09	590.91	112.16
8.	Panskura-Kharagpur 3rd line (44.7 km.) with new MM for Panskura-Ghatal (32.8 km.) NL	77.5	797	340.88

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Dakshin Barasat-Lakshmikantapur (19.68 km.), New Line from Joynagar-Raidighi (20 km.) & New MM for Joynagar-Durgapur (32 km.)	71.68	259.51	132.84
10.	Liluah-Dankuni 3rd line (10.13 km.) with ext. to Furfura Sharif	30.13	257.42	91.39
11.	Ghutuari Sharif-Canning with ext. upto Bangankhali & new MM for Bangankhali-Basanti (14.3 km.) & Basanti-Jharkhali (23 km.) NL	56.19	189.97	167.04
12.	Magrahat-Diamond Harbour (19.67 km.) with new MM for Sangrampur-Krishanchandpur (25 km.), Diamond Harbour (Gurudas Nagar)-Bahrahat (21 km.)-NL & Diamond Harbour (Gurudas Nagar)-Kulpi (17.25km.) NL	65.67	172.47	158.53
13.	Katwa-Patuli (17.7 km.) with new MM for Ahmedpur-Katwa (51.92 km.) GC	69.62	579.03	467.35
14.	Dankuni-Chandanpur-4th line (25.41 km.) as 1st phase of Dankuni-Saktigarh 4th line with new MM for Barui para-Furfura (12.3 km.) NL	37.71	274	28.22
15.	Tala-Princep Ghat-DL of Circular Rly.(9.7 km.)	9.7	149.95	1
16.	Sondalia-Champapukur (23.64 km.) with new MM for Bira-Chakla (11.5 km.)	35.14	195	102.93
17.	Azimganj-Manigram	20.49	124.05	114.24
18.	Kalinarayanpur-Shantipur (15.85 km.) with new MM for Ranaghat(Aranghata)-Duttapulia (8.17 km.) NL	24.02	105	81.37
19.	Sealdah Div.- 2nd passenger line bet. Mile 5 B and New Alipore (1.67 km.)	1.67	65.09	4.57
20.	Prinsep ghat to Majherhat doubling of Circular Railway (4.98 km.)	4.98	336	0.12
21.	Bandel-Boinchi - 3rd line	30.53	361	54.04

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Plassey-Jiaganj	54.29	312	150.79
23.	Sainthia-Tarapith 3rd line	22	212	157.07
24.	Boinchi-Shaktigarh 3rd line	25.83	221	21.27
25.	Dankuni-Bhattanagar(3.70 km.) <i>via</i> CC line-DL with one addl. Loop at Bhattanagar.	3.7	77	15.18
26.	Tarapith-Rampurhat-provision of 3rd line (6.52 km.)	6.52	80	11.97
27.	Ambari Falakata-New Maynaguri (36.52 km.)	36.52	453	228.83
28.	New Coochbehar-Samuktala Road (29.02 km.)	29.02	441	238.31
29.	Bazar Sau-Azimganj Jn.	42.15	272	10.5
30.	Monigram-Nimtita	34.3	274	15.76
31.	Sagardigi-Azimganj Cabin	16.3	98	40.55
32.	New Coochbehar-Gumanihat (29.32 km.)	29.32	289	45.44
33.	Kharagpur-Narayangarh 3rd line	20	168	66.11
34.	Andul-Baltikuri	7.25	53	12.8
35.	Sagardighi- Malda Town #	19	190	
36.	Byepass at Sainthia, Sitarampur, Mughalsarai, Allahabad, Etawah #	35	400	
37.	Kharagpur-Adityapur 3rd line #	132	1116	50
38.	Doubling of line between Mohishila - Kalipahari (Link) with 1 additional loop line at MOH station #	5	42.1	2
39.	New Maynaguri-Gumanihat (remaining section)	51.65	556.31	
40.	Narayangarh-Bhadrak 3rd line	155	2037.1	
41.	Damodar-Mohishila	8	70.91	
	TOTAL	1743	14880	3645
<i>Note:</i> 367 km. out of 1743 km. Doublings have been commissioned.				
	GRAND TOTAL	4556	41932	12138

Subject to obtaining approval of Government.

Note: 1782 km. out of 4556 km. of new line, gauge conversion and doublings have been completed in the State of West Bengal.

1	2	3	4	5
Metropolitan Transport Projects				
1.	Baranagar-Noapara & Noapara-NSCB Airport (8.33 km.)	8.33	413.65	413.48
2.	Remount Rd.-Santoshpur <i>via</i> Garden Reach/Metiabruz (8.8 km.)	8.80	268.52	166.88
3.	Noapara - Barasat <i>via</i> Bimanbandar - Construction of Metro Railway (18 km.)	18.00	3159.59	395.63
4.	Baranagar - Barrackpore & Dakshineswar - Construction of Metro Railway (14.50 km.)	14.50	2069.60	172.50
5.	Dum Dum Airport to New Garia <i>via</i> Rajarhat Const, of Metro Railway	32.00	4259.50	1023.25
6.	Joka - Binoy Bandal Dinesh Bagh incl. ext. from Joka-Diamond Park Ph. 1 (18.72 km.)	18.72	2913.50	534.28
7.	East-West Corridor from Howrah Maidan to Salt Lake (Transferred to Rly. in 2012-13)	16.55	9000.00	1228.10
	TOTAL	117	22084	3934
	GRAND TOTAL	4673	64016	16072

Establishment of Ministry's officers in Amaravati

*289. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has initiated action for setting up of the Offices/Departments/ Institutions that come under it, like National Informatics Centre, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology, Software Technology Parks, etc. in Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any issues relating to procurement of land and infrastructure, needed for this purpose, have been taken up with the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is

rendering uninterrupted services to the State of Andhra Pradesh from its Hyderabad Cell. In addition, NIC has set up a Chief Minister's Camp Office Cell at Vijayawada, decided to upgrade the existing NIC Cell at Vijayawada and also create a new cell at Amaravati, the upcoming capital of Andhra Pradesh. NIC has also deployed a team of five persons with effect from April, 2016, to strengthen the temporary NIC Secretariat Cell at Velagapudi, wherein a space of about 2500 square feet has been made available by the State Government.

As per existing policy, State Government provides space and other amenities for establishing NIC offices and operations. The request of NIC for allocation of space for upgradation of its existing cell at Vijayawada and creation of new cell at Amaravati has been sent to the State Government and their response is awaited.

On the request of the State Government, Standardisation, Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate has decided to set up a Seed Information Technology Centre at Amaravati for promotion of standards and testing services along with capacity building in the field of information technology.

No proposal has been received for Amaravati from the State to set up new offices or centres of National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

Price stabilization of pulses

*290. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of pulses imported from various countries during the last two years and at what actual price;
- (b) the details of steps taken so far by Government for price stabilization of pulses, indicating the amount spent thereon, during the last two years; and
- (c) the amount spent on subsidy and whether this subsidy actually benefited the farmers and the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The country imported 4584841 MT of pulses at the unit price of US \$ 608/PMT during 2014-15 and 5797699 MT of pulses at the unit price of US \$ 673/PMT during 2015-16. The details of country-wise import of pulses are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

- (b) The details of steps taken so far by Government for price stabilization of pulses

are given in Statement-II (*See* below). During the last two years *viz.* 2014-15 and 2015-16 Government allocated ₹ 50 crores and ₹ 660 crores respectively for price stabilization of pulses and other agri-horticultural commodities like Onions under the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme.

(c) During 2015-16, Government provided a subsidy of ₹ 10/- per kg to the States/agencies on the imported 5000 MT of Malawi Tur. During 2016-17, Government has so far allocated 29,932.34 MT of Tur and 8742.26 MT of Urad to the States/UTs and Central agencies at the subsidized rate of ₹ 66/- per kg and ₹ 82/- per kg respectively for retailing at ₹ 120/- per kg. Subsidy on the pulses allocated is tentatively estimated at ₹ 97.48 crores. As regards benefits, no such study has been conducted to assess the same.

Statement-I

Details of item-wise and country-wise import of pulses

(A) Item-wise import of pulses during last two years

(Values in million USD)

HS Code	Item Description	2014-15			2015-16		
		Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US\$/ Ton)	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US\$/ Ton)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
07131000	Peas (Pisum Sativum) Dried and shelled	1951974	810	415	2245390	832	371
07132000	Chickpeas (Garbanzos) Dried and shelled	418877	217	518	1031487	672	652
07133100	Beans of the SPP Vignamungo, Hepper or Vigna Radiata, Wilczek Dried and shelled	622887	596	958	581603	685	1177
07133300	Kindney Beans Incl.	116898	114	972	111506	88	790

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	White Pea Teams Dried and Shelled						
07133990	Other Dried Leguminous vegetables	74621	57	764	57463	56	970
07134000	Lentils (Mosur), Dried and Shelled	816467	558	684	1260193	1017	807
07136000	Pigeon Peas (Cajanus Cajan)	575218	428	745	462713	507	1096
07139010	Other Dried and Shelled Leguminous Vegetables Split	5	0.01	2029	33585	31	925
07139090	Other of Hdg. 071390	7896	5	683	13759	14	1020
GRAND TOTAL		4584841	2786	608	5797699	3902	673

Note: Figures for 2015-16 are provisional.

Source: DGCIS

(B) Country-wise import of pulses during last two years

(Values in million USD)

Country	2014-15			2015-16		
	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US \$/ Ton)	Qty. (Ton)	Val.	Unit Price (US \$/ Ton)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Afghanistan	4355.14	4.67	1071.67	15972.99	17.46	1093.34
Argentina	9055.73	6.50	717.83	20796.68	16.78	806.80
Australia	332654.88	188.41	566.39	912306.18	624.34	684.35
Benin				37.00	0.04	988.70
Bolivia				190.00	0.19	1016.64
Brazil	603.44	0.57	941.05	9953.00	5.92	594.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bulgaria				565.00	0.20	355.52
Canada	2195555.36	1074.57	489.43	2510913.71	1415.65	563.80
China P RP	71105.91	72.34	1017.41	68523.07	61.44	896.63
Costa Rica	110.00	0.13	1205.79			
Cote D' Ivoire	19.94	0.02	1118.59	210.79	0.22	1027.79
Djibouti				140.00	0.08	606.57
Egypt A RP				985.00	0.56	573.24
Estonia				8407.00	2.80	333.18
Ethiopia	31027.73	26.36	849.61	51120.83	36.07	705.56
France				120780.12	42.35	350.63
Indonesia	2661.00	3.26	1225.46	9477.26	11.55	1218.80
Iran	24.00	0.03	1128.92	1273.60	0.83	648.48
Kazakhstan				3537.00	1.92	543.89
Kenya	18082.40	17.12	946.50	52835.85	55.51	1050.63
Korea RP				1.00	0.00	574.00
Kyrghyzstan	284.00	0.39	1369.01	1085.00	1.31	1202.96
Latvia				1214.36	0.41	334.36
Lithuania				93260.70	30.72	329.37
Madagascar	1917.00	1.84	961.87	6410.00	5.85	913.11
Malawi	46015.00	33.42	726.36	61092.20	61.84	1012.17
Malaysia	312.00	0.31	1004.92	24.00	0.03	1218.83
Mexico	8190.00	8.92	1089.00	7479.00	5.03	672.54
Moldova	2317.00	0.88	378.54	251.00	0.09	369.96
Mozambique	97068.27	70.42	725.42	78867.93	89.42	1133.82
Myanmar	931328.91	803.00	862.21	722040.05	817.54	1132.27
Nepal	1047.03	1.30	1240.55			
Pakistan IR	2688.50	2.41	895.21	803.50	0.84	1048.59
Poland				154.00	0.22	1424.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Russia	236893.08	103.16	435.48	503490.34	217.57	432.13
Singapore	72.00	0.08	1062.26			
South Africa	48.00	0.06	1170.52	45.00	0.02	524.44
Sri Lanka DSR	738.00	0.63	858.85	43.00	0.05	1096.02
Sudan	17088.00	12.57	735.31	19430.45	19.95	1026.91
Tanzania REP	179992.89	138.83	771.29	136201.49	141.45	1038.50
Thailand	1157.00	1.34	1162.42	2516.05	3.21	1275.12
Turkey	2370.00	1.08	454.49	2141.64	1.14	531.22
UAE	167.18	0.12	733.79	27.00	0.03	976.04
USA	312227.51	168.38	539.27	259079.10	151.89	586.26
Uganda	3008.00	2.52	836.87	9538.35	10.12	1061.44
Ukraine	62067.98	25.40	409.31	89248.36	32.68	366.22
Uzbekistan	12473.40	14.99	1201.87	15182.07	16.84	1109.21
Venezuela				48.00	0.06	1265.65
Yemen Republic	115.00	0.08	709.54			
GRAND TOTAL	4584841.27	2786.11	607.68	5797698.67	3902.22	673.06

Note: Figures for 2015-16 are provisional.

Source:- DGCIS

Statement-II

Details of the steps taken to moderate the prices of pulses by the Government

1. Approved creation of buffer stock of pulses for effective market intervention and designated agencies have procured around 1.75 lakh MT of pulses as on 05.08.2016 through domestic procurement and imports. 5000 MT of Tur were also imported during 2015.
2. The Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mozambique for import of pulses Tur and other pulses on Government-to-Government (G2G) basis.
3. Released Tur and Urad from the buffer stock to States/UTs/Central agencies at subsidized rates for its retailing by them at not more than Rs 120/- per kg.

4. To boost production of pulses, largest increase in MSP (including bonus) raised for Kharif crop of 2016-17 season has been accorded to Tur, Urad and Moong.
5. Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
6. About 1.40 lakh tonnes of pulses seized from 14,612 raids and disposed off 1.28 lakh tonnes either by auction or other means permitted under EC Act, 1955
7. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned new contracts in Chana to dampen speculative activities in Chana and in respect of running contracts in Chana disallowed taking fresh positions to reduce speculative activities.
8. Export of all pulses is banned except Kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in Organic pulses and Lentils.
9. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
10. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
11. Set up a mechanism for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc. amongst the concerned agencies.
12. Strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.

Special purpose vehicle for development of railway network in Gujarat

*291. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an umbrella Special Purpose Vehicle has been formed for raising funds for development of railway network in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the hindrances faced, if any, in implementation of the MoUs signed between Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. and Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board for implementation of Regional Railway System, Ahmedabad; and

(d) the options available to implement the projects and the time-frame to remove hindrances, if any, being faced in their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) Indian Railways and Government of Gujarat are in regular contact for formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle for jointly taking up railway projects in the State of Gujarat. The Joint Venture Agreement is likely to be signed shortly.

Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB), a body of the State Government of Gujarat assigned the work of preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) to lay additional railway lines for suburban passengers, in 2005 to M/s DMRC which was got revalidated by GIDB in 2009 and again in 2012 through M/s RITES. The proposal as per DPR is to lay additional railway lines for suburban passengers in a length of about 53 Kms. in Ahmedabad area costing about ₹ 2050 crore. Ministry of Railways was requested by Government of Gujarat to sanction the project in October, 2014. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB) with Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a Public Sector Unit under Ministry of Railways on 11.01.2015. MoU states that GIDB will facilitate RVNL for approvals from concerned departments of State for Regional Rail System in Ahmedabad.

Ministry of Railways, on examination of the DPR, noted that the proposal needs to be revisited in view of following projects sanctioned by Railways on operational considerations which are overlapping with the projects proposed by Government of Gujarat.

1. Third line between Vatva and Ahmedabad (Length 7.5 km., cost ₹ 42 crore).
2. Fourth line between Vatva-Ahmedabad -Sabarmati section (15 km., cost ₹ 200 crore).
3. Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Mahesana (Length 70 km., cost ₹ 420 crore)
4. Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur with Modasa-Shamlaji Road new line (Length 321.73 km., cost ₹1662 crore)

In view of the above developments, State Government has been requested to undertake a fresh study in consultation with Western Railway.

Government's online schemes

†*292. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Central Government schemes which are completely online and whether the benefits thereof are completely available to all through internet;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that the functions related to most of the online schemes of Central Government cannot be completed online due to which the targeted benefits do not reach the beneficiaries; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to make the ongoing online schemes of Central Government completely online?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Government of India is implementing schemes/projects to provide completely online Government services, so that the all citizens can avail benefits through internet. Under Pillar 5: e-Kranti - Electronic delivery of services of Digital India programme, 44 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) are being implemented by Central Ministries/Departments and State/UT Governments to provide completely online services in various domains like Health, Education, Passport Seva, Trade, Income Tax, Excise and Customs, Corporate Affairs, India Post, e-Police, Land Records, etc. Several services are completely online while some services are partially online.

Some of the major schemes/initiatives undertaken by the Government to provide online services are:

- **Agriculture:** The major services of Agriculture MMP include Pesticide registration, Display on the Web of Seed Testing Results, Prices and arrival details, Geographical Information System (GIS) based interface for price and arrival details, District level Agro-met advisories, Information on pesticides, Information on fertilizers/seeds, etc.
- **e-Mandi:** The Government has launched e-Mandi portal to make procurement of agricultural products smoother and provide competitive remuneration, especially for small and marginal farmers.
- **Land Records:** Major services include real-time availability of land records, issuance of Record of Rights alongwith cadastral maps, issuance of certified copy of deed, issuance of non-encumbrance certificate, payment of stamp duties etc. 26 States have computerized their land records and providing computerized copies of Records of Rights on demand. These states have also placed their land records data in public domain.
- **School Education Mission Mode Project (MMP):** The MMP is focused on Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary education. It will be a driving force for implementation of National Policy on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in School Education.

- **National Scholarships Portal (NSP):** The portal is a one-stop solution to implement end-to-end disbursement of the scholarship to the beneficiaries. The process includes student registration, application, approval and disbursement. 76 schemes of 22 Ministries/Departments of the Government are being on-boarded on the portal.
- **Aadhaar and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) :** 103+ crore citizens enrolled. 27+ Crore Bank Account seeded with Aadhaar No., 74 Government Schemes are on DBT, where ₹ 1.2 lakh crores transferred through DBT. 36,500 crore cumulative saving have been done using DBT.
- **Central Excise and Customs:** Facilities trade and industry by streamlining and simplifying customs and excise processes and to create a climate for voluntary compliance.
- **MCA 21:** The major services delivered under the aegis of Ministry of Corporate Affairs through MCA21 include viewing of public records, issue of certified copy of documents, change in registered office, change in director(s), annual filings, application for change of name of a company, incorporation of a company and name allocation to a new company.
- **Passport Seva:** Project focuses on reforming Passport services in India through simple, efficient and transparent processes from processing of Passport to delivery of services.
- **e-Tourist Visa:** Tourists can apply visa online, pay visa fee online and receive e-Tourist Visa online. Around 8.45 lakh e-Tourist Visas have been issued since Nov., 2015.
- **e-Courts:** The services delivered through the e-Courts MMP *inter-alia* include Automated case filing, Automated registration of case, Automated workflow for court, Generation of automated cause list, Judicial service centers in all Courts, Automation of Case Management System, allocation of cases, etc.
- **Common Services Centers (CSC) 2.0:** The CSC aims for establishing at least one CSC in each of 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayat (GP) level under Digital India Programme to deliver various G2C, B2C and B2B services online. 2,23,307 CSCs' have already been setup, of these 1,22,793 are at Gram Panchayat level.
- **e-District:** e-District services have been launched in 555 districts of the country, which delivers various types e-Gov services at districts.

- **Mobile Governance:** The Mobile Seva platform delivers Government services over mobile devices using mobile applications installed on the user's mobile handsets. About 2521 Government departments and agencies at Central, State and local levels have been integrated with the Mobile Seva platform.
- **e-Hospital - Online Registration System (ORS):** It includes online appointment and registration by new patients, viewing of lab reports, checking the status of blood availability and integration with payment gateway (PayGov). 43 hospitals have been integrated.
- **Jeevan Pramaan:** Digital Life Certificate for Pensioners scheme known as Jeevan Pramaan envisages to digitize the whole process of securing the life certificate. With this initiative, the pensioner is no more required to physically present himself or herself in front of disbursing agency or the certification authority. Jeevan Pramaan is a biometric enabled digital service for pensioners. 16.30 lakh pensioners registered for the scheme.
- **Vikaspedia:** It is a multilingual collaborative content creation platform that promotes access and sharing of e-knowledge for empowerment of underserved communities. Vikaspedia facilitates societal empowerment through provision of relevant information in various domains including Agriculture, Education, Health, Social Welfare, Energy and e-Governance in 22 scheduled languages of the country, besides English.
- **MyGov:** MyGov aims to establish a link between Government and Citizens towards meeting the goal of good governance. MyGov encourages citizens as well as people abroad to participate in various activities *i.e.* 'Do', 'Discuss', 'Poll', 'Talk', 'Blog', etc. There are multiple theme-based discussions on MyGov where a wide range of people can share their thoughts and ideas. 35.6 lakh registered users have participated in 49 groups, 492 tasks, 590 discussion themes and 221 blogs.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The processes/functions related to most of the online schemes of Central Government can be completed online. Currently, 225 out of 252 envisaged services are being provided by 25 out of 44 MMPs. More than 62 crores per month e-Transactions have been recorded on e-Taal (Electronic Transaction Aggregation and Analysis Layer) portal. However, there are few schemes, which mandatorily require manual intervention like mutation verification in Land Records, police verification in Passport Seva etc. Further, under Digital India Pillar 4: e-Governance - Reforming Government Through Technology, Government Business Process Re-engineering is being used as a tool to improve e-transactions under Government schemes. The following steps have been undertaken for the availability of completely online Government services:

- a. Application Forms are being made simple and user friendly. Only minimum and necessary information are being collected.
- b. Online applications, tracking of their status and interface between departments are being provided.
- c. Use of online repositories *e.g.* school certificates, voter ID cards, etc. are being mandated so that citizens are not required to submit these documents in physical form.
- d. Integration of services and platforms, *e.g.* Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Payment Gateway, e-Sign, Mobile Platform, Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) etc. are being mandated to facilitate integrated and interoperable service delivery to citizens and businesses.
- e. All databases and information are being made electronic from manual.
- f. The workflow inside Government departments and agencies are being automated to enable efficient Government processes and also to allow visibility of these processes to the citizens.
- g. For Public Grievance Redressal, Information Technology is being used to automate, respond and analyze data to identify and resolve persistent problems.

Suburban area in NCR and other metropolitan cities

*293. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that there is a discrepancy in the quantum of area declared as Suburban area in the National Capital Region (NCR) and other metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata as far as train services are concerned;

(b) if so, by when Government intends to declare entire NCR as Suburban area; and

(c) whether the parameters for Suburban area are different in different metropolitan cities, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (c) The extent of routes notified as suburban and the number of services in each of the metropolitan cities and surrounding areas differs on account of the varying nature of urban spreads/settlements and varying patterns of traffic.

(b) Consideration of routes for notification as suburban routes is a continuous exercise based on the pattern of traffic, availability of rail infrastructure etc.

Protecting indigenous cows

†*294. SHRIAMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are 37 indigenous breeds of cows in India at present of which five best breeds, *i.e.*, Sahiwal, Gir, Lal Sindhi, Tharparkar and Rathi, are facing extinction and the number of male calves is decreasing steadily;

(b) average increase in percentage of indigenous cows and calves in the country during last three years, year-wise and breedwise;

(c) whether Government is considering to establish cowshed in each village for protecting indigenous cows and contemplates connecting it with Government schemes like MGNREGA; and

(d) if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor and scheme formulated by Government to protect them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) As per National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NABGR), an institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) there are 39 breeds of cattle and 13 breeds of buffaloes in India. The Sahiwal, Gir, Red Sindhi, Tharparkar and Rathi breeds of cattle are not facing extinction. As per Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013 there are (i) 48.82 lakh pure and graded Sahiwal; (ii) 51.12 lakh pure and graded Gir; (iii) 5.57 lakh pure and graded Red Sindhi; (iv) 7.32 lakh pure and graded Tharparkar and (v) 12.37 lakh pure and graded Rathi. Estimation of males of indigenous breeds including Sahiwal, Gir, Red Sindhi, Tharparkar and Rathi was carried out for the first time in the country during 2013 Breed Survey. The details of the average increase in percentage of recognised indigenous breed cows and calves in the country during 2007 Livestock Census and 2013 Breed Survey is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) As per information made available by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, the Government of India is providing grant-in-aid through Animal Welfare Board of India under Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change to animal welfare organizations/NGOs, local bodies, non profitable institutions including gaushalas/prinjrapiholes recognised by Board for construction of shelters for looking after animals. This grant-in-aid is provided mainly to gaushalas sheltering ownedness cows and progeny for construction of shelter, dispensary, compound wall, water facilities, drains

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and other miscellaneous work. In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States for development and conservation of Bovines including Indigenous Breeds, the Government of India has implemented the following Schemes:

- (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)
- (ii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission as a part of NPBBDD
- (iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme
- (iv) National Dairy Plan-I
- (v) National Livestock Mission
- (vi) Livestock Health and Disease Control

Statement

Details of percentage increase or decrease in breed-wise Cattle

Population between 2007

Livestock Census and Breed Survey 2013

				In Nos
Sl. No.	Breed	Population (as per 2007 census)	Total as per Breed Survey 2013	Average annual % of increase or decrease
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gir	21,26421	51,12,994	23.41
2.	Rathi	9,24,057	12,37,509	5.65
3.	Red Sindhi	5,50,272	5,57,386	0.22
4.	Sahiwal	4,57,177	48,82,294	161.32
5.	Deoni	1,65,846	3,51,600	18.67
6.	Gaolao	2,22,566	3,22,683	7.50
7.	Hariana	26,00,111	62,79,963	23.59
8.	Kankrej	38,84,457	30,28,279	-3.67
9.	Krishna Valley	2,314	14,381	86.91
10.	Mewati	75,427	32,940	-9.39
11.	Ongole	2,57,661	6,34,526	24.38

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Tharparkar	5,57,621	7,32,473	5.23
13.	Amrit Mahal	96,021	2,29,063	23.09
14.	Bargur	20,879	16,307	-3.65
15.	Bachaur	4,54,103	15,46,488	40.09
16.	Binjharpuri	29,749	1,10,557	45.27
17.	Dangi	3,03,630	1,93,780	-6.03
18.	Ghumsuri	82,117	83,814	0.34
19.	Hallikar	21,91,486	18,07,932	-2.92
20.	Kangayam	3,14,817	1,93,445	-6.43
21.	Kenkatha	1,79,987	6,70,400	45.41
22.	Kherigarh	1,71,414	1,99,251	2.71
23.	Kheriar			3,83,824
24.	Khillari	14,19,735	20,14,352	6.98
25.	Malvi	15,15,753	17,10,465	2.14
26.	Nagori	8,37,344	5,08,698	-6.54
27.	Nimari	3,09,237	4,53,633	7.78
28.	Motu	7,00,908	5,36,758	-3.90
29.	Ponwar	24,072	27,967	2.70
30.	Red Kandhari	1,76,621	4,58,040	26.56
31.	Siri	61,750	17,749	-11.88
32.	Umblachyery	2,17,960	72,510	-11.12
33.	Vechur	160	2,479	241.56
34.	Punganur	733	2,828	47.64
35.	Malnad Gidda	12,82,121	10,49,543	-3.02
36.	Kosali			24,32,236
37.	Pulikulam			10,085
38.	Belahi*			
39.	Gangatiri*			
TOTAL		2,22,14,527	3,79,19,232	11.78

* recognised in 2014

Organic farming through KVKs

*295. SHRI SAMBHAJI SHAHU CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of allocation of funds to Krishi Vikas Kendras (KVKs), State-wise;
- (b) whether there are any KVKs dedicated to organic farming, its effective implementation and marketing of organic farm produces; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and status of such initiatives for organic farming through KVKs?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) The state wise details of allocation of funds to Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 645 KVKs with a mandate for technology assessment and demonstration for its application and capacity development. As part of their activities the KVKs impart training to the farmers in various agricultural activities including organic farming to update their knowledge and skills. Farmers are being trained for production of organic manures through vermicompost, green manure, bio-pesticides etc. Besides, the Sikkim State was declared officially as an Organic State where four KVKs namely; East Sikkim, West Sikkim, South Sikkim and North Sikkim are dedicated to organic farming. During the year 2015-16, KVKs have conducted 1150 frontline demonstrations on organic farming, 331 On-farm trials related to promotion of organic farming and 1927 training programmes benefitting 67952 farmers, farm women and rural youth.

In addition, KVKs are also involved in creating awareness among farmers to adopt organic farming practices for availing benefits of the Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) by which Government is promoting Organic farming in the country and provisions are made for financial assistance to farmers.

Statement*State-wise allocation of funds to Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No	States	Allocation for 2016-17
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	372.26
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2087.62
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1819.66
4.	Assam	3106.12
5.	Bihar	3730.85
6.	Chhattisgarh	2610.35
7.	Delhi	120.60
8.	Goa	166.85
9.	Gujarat	2829.89
10.	Haryana	1938.42
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1414.99
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2128.92
13.	Jharkhand	2089.17
14.	Karnataka	3195.34
15.	Kerala	1623.56
16.	Lakshadweep	38.80
17.	Madhya Pradesh	4698.43
18.	Maharashtra	4868.70
19.	Manipur	1316.55
20.	Meghalaya	548.72
21.	Mizoram	1089.49
22.	Nagaland	1284.09
23.	Odisha	3403.51
24.	Puducherry	229.71
25.	Punjab	2252.00
26.	Rajasthan	4238.54

Sl. No	States	Allocation for 2016-17
27.	Sikkim	444.50
28.	Tamil Nadu	3173.44
29.	Telangana	1633.40
30.	Tripura	387.30
31.	Uttar Pradesh	6716.20
32.	Uttarakhand	1487.84
33.	West Bengal	2119.93
	TOTAL	69165.75

Land required for dedicated freight corridor

*296. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total land required for the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) and how much of it has been acquired;

(b) the status of Sonnagar-Dankuni section;

(c) how much total compensation was required to be paid under DFC and how much of it has been paid; and

(d) the position regarding Khurja-Saharanpur section?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) The total requirement of land for the Western and Eastern Dedicate Freight Corridor Projects has been assessed as 11765 hectare of which as on 30.6.2016, land acquisition compensation award under Railway Amendment Act 2008 has been completed for 10125 hectare.

(b) The Sonnagar-Dankuni Section of Eastern DFC is identified for implementation through Public Private Partnership (PPP) route in two phases - Dankuni-Gomoh and Gomoh-Sonnagar. Out of the total scope of 1177 Hectare, land acquisition award has been completed for 502 Hectare (as on 30.6.2016). 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) Total compensation payable for both Eastern and Western DFCs is ₹ 8358 crore as on 30.06.2016 out of which ₹6782 crore has been paid so far.

(d) In Khurja-Saharanpur Section of Eastern DFC, out of the total scope of 759 Hectare, land acquisition award has been completed for 174 Hectare (as on 30.6.2016) and out of the total compensation of ₹153 crore awarded, ₹102 crore compensation has been paid (as on 30.6.2016).

Improving the condition of co-operative milk associations

†*297. SHRIDIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plans for improving the condition of co-operative milk associations; and

(b) whether, in view of the fact that dairy is a complementary business of agriculture, Government would provide loan at zero per cent interest to farmers for purchasing of cattle as has been done under law for agricultural activities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India has been implementing the following dairy development schemes to improve the condition of milk cooperatives across the country:

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

(ii) National Dairy Plan, Phase-I (NDP-I)

(b) No, Sir. However, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). This is a credit linked scheme, wherein back ended capital subsidy at the rate of 25% for General category and 33.33% for SC/ST category is provided for various dairy related activities including purchasing of cattle subject to norms of the scheme. This helps in reducing the interest burden on the beneficiary.

Revisiting the MSP formula

*298. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the criticism that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) does not factor in fully the actual costs at the farmers' end and that it is tilted in favour of urban consumers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government would take steps to revisit the MSP concept/ formula to protect the farmers' interests?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments. Before finalizing its recommendations, CACP holds consultations with various stakeholders including State Governments and farmers' representatives. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers, *inter alia*, a number of important factors which include cost of production, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living etc. The cost of production, *inter alia*, includes all paid out costs and imputed value of family labour (A2+FL).

The data on cost of cultivation/production are made available to the Commission which are collected on scientific basis through State Agricultural Universities/Institutions located in various states under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops, operated by the Ministry.

(b) Methodology for estimating the cost of production is reviewed from time to time. A Committee constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand the then Director, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research and present Member of NITI Aayog in 2013, to examine the methodological issues in fixing Minimum Support Prices has submitted its Report. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

**PMO's direction to cut down on litigations involving
Ministries/Departments/PSUs**

*299. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that PMO has issued directions to cut down on litigations involving Ministries/Departments and PSUs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) how the Government would ensure that these directions are complied with;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recently the Supreme Court also remarked that State-run Corporations fight long battles with each other on tax payers' money; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Litigation involving Ministries/Departments and PS Us have been drawing the attention of the Government for quite sometime. Soon after the NDA Government came to power, the PMO asked all Ministries to desist from initiating inter-ministerial/departmental litigation in Courts.

Pursuant to discussions held in PMO on 31st July, 2014, a D.O. letter dated 1 August, 2014 was issued by Law Secretary to all the Secretaries to the Government of India, requesting to desist from inter-ministerial/departmental litigations in any Court of Law and issue necessary instructions in this regard to all Public Sector Undertaking/Boards/Authorities under their administrative control. In case it is not possible to resolve the dispute amicably by mutual consultation or through the good offices of Empowered Agencies of the Government or through Arbitration, the same should be referred first to the Cabinet Secretariat and then, if necessary, to PMO.

As regards litigation involving various wings of Union Government are concerned, as per extant Constitutional (Article 300) and Statutory provisions, there is no duality in the Government and all wings of the Government, (Union Government) are one legal entity. The Business is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961 (herein after called as ABRs) and the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 (herein after called as TBRs) and whenever there are difference of opinions between two or more wings of Union Government the same are resolved by Empowered agencies. However, the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) being the agencies or instrumentalities of the Central Government are separate legal identity. In the organizational set up of the Central Government, ideally it is envisaged that when two PSUs under one Ministry have contradictory stand, the same is settled at the level of Minister-in-Charge of that Ministry. Likewise, when two PSUs falling under two different administrative Ministries and having difference of opinion or contradictory legal stand the same are resolved in accordance with the procedure laid down in the ABRs and TBRs and if it involves interpretation of Law the issue is resolved in accordance with the legal advice of the Department of Legal Affairs. Even if, the matter is not resolved, the matter is brought to the notice of Cabinet Secretariat/Office of the Prime Minister. Recently, the Cabinet Secretary *vide* his D.O. letter No. 1/50/3/2016-Cab dated 16th June, 2016 has dwelt upon these issues and issued necessary instructions.

Besides, the administrative instructions have been issued from time to time highlighting the need to resolve cleavage of opinions or contradictions within the Government and not to allow the same to spill over outside the Government as mentioned in the aforesaid O.M. of Cabinet Secretary dated 16 June, 2016. Recently, the Cabinet Secretariat *vide* O.M. No.

1/50/3/2015-Cab dated 27th June, 2016 has highlighted that whenever a decision is taken in one Department is likely to affect the ABRs or TBRs allotted to another department such decisions may not be taken until all such departments whose business have bearing thereupon are consulted and their concurrence are obtained.

In order to curtail unwarranted litigation and deal with inter-departmental litigation (including PSUs), the Department of Legal Affairs has been issuing instructions from time to time. This aspect of uniform stand of various wings of the Government is also taken care of while vetting the pleadings by the Department of Legal Affairs to be filed on behalf of the various wings of the Union Government.

Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 6296 of 2016 (arising out of Special Leave Petition (C) No.27646 of 2008), M/s Northern Coalfield Limited vs Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited and Anr., decided on July 13, 2016, observed that "This is yet another case that brings to fore a sad state of affairs when it comes to resolving disputes between two Government owned corporations. What adds to the enigma of apathy towards realism in official circles is the fact that the respondents-corporation has with considerable tenacity opposed the move aimed at a quick and effective resolution of the conflict and resultant quietus to the controversy by a reference of the disputes to arbitration in terms of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996".

In the above judgment, Hon'ble Supreme Court finally, *inter-alia*, directed that all disputes relating to and arising out of the contracts executed between the appellant company and the respondent corporation shall stand referred for adjudication to Hon'ble Mr. Justice K G Balakrishnan, former Chief Justice of India, appointed as Sole Arbitrator to adjudicate upon all claims and counter claims between the parties. The above mentioned D.O. letter dated 7th August, 2014 already suggested resolution of disputes through arbitration.

Introduction of rail radio service

*300. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have introduced / propose to introduce Rail Radio service as onboard infotainment in Mail and Express trains, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it will also serve the purpose of public address system in coaches, if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many Radio Stations would be put into operation and what would be the initial cost and recurring cost, separately, per year; and

(d) whether commercial advertisements of travels and tourism would also be aired to make the Radio service self-sustainable, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Rail Radio system is envisaged through internet. No expenditure is envisaged by Railways as the services are to be operated by selected licensees, through commercial advertisements. A separate Non-Fare Revenue Directorate has been created with a cross-functional team working towards a common corporate objective of increasing non-fare revenue of Railways. Several initiatives have been taken which include, *inter-alia*, increasing advertising revenue using innovative approach combining digital and conventional mediums, monetising soft assets like Software, Apps and Websites, creating a new policy for encouraging innovative revenue concepts and Station re-development.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Oil Palm Plantation

2942. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's decision to allow 100 per cent FDI in oil palm plantation has failed to draw even a single investor, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to declare oil palm as a plantation crop to attract FDI in this sector, 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) and (b) The Government recently in November, 2015 has allowed 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in oil palm plantation. However, no Foreign Direct Investment has been reported in oil palm plantation so far.

Ministry of Agriculture has been consistently pursuing the matter with the concerned States to declare oil palm as a plantation crop since 2002. Union Agriculture Minister has also requested all the Chief Ministers of oil palm growing States to declare oil palm as a plantation crop so that entrepreneurs may be allowed to take up cultivation and processing of this crop and avail the benefit of 100 per cent FDI.

Opening of Markfed and Nafed centres

2943. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking steps to purchase the produces of farmers through various methods by opening the Markfed/Nafed Centres in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the

Central Government to export red gram, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The Government has introduced various schemes like Price Support Scheme (PSS), Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) Scheme to provide remunerative price to the farmers for their produce. Under the PSS and MIS, procurement is undertaken at a pre-determined rate whereas under PSF, procurement is undertaken at the prevailing market rates. NAFED is one of the agencies for implementation of PSS for oilseeds, pulses and cotton, MIS for horticultural / perishables and PSF for pulses and onion. NAFED undertakes procurement of these commodities through State Level Supporters (SLS) which are generally MARKFED/OILFEDS/Commodity Specific State Level Federation by opening procurement centres in the states in consultation with SLS and State Government.

(b) No Sir.

R&D in organic farming

2944. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new Research and Development (R&D) measures have been taken by Government for promotion of organic farming in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any path breaking innovations have been achieved in the field of organic farming during the last two years, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. In 2004, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched a Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) to undertake systematic research on organic farming through 13 research centres across the country. However, since 2015-16, the number of centres has been increased to 20 for further strengthening the efforts (Statement-I, *See* below). In addition, ICAR has also initiated a Network Project on Organic Farming for Horticultural crops with lead centre at ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozikode during 2014.

Besides, the Government of India is promoting organic farming in the country through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Under PKVY, various kind of assistance are provided to farmers to promote

organic farming. It includes assistance for organic inputs, farm implements, organic input production units, certification and marketing of produce. Similarly, under MOVCDNER, assistance for cluster development, on/off farm input production, integrated processing unit, refrigerated transport, cold storage chamber, post harvest value addition, organic certification and marketing was provided to the farmers of NE Region of the country.

(b) The important research initiative under NPOF includes characterization of organic farming systems, technologies for farm waste recycling, identification of responsive varieties, organic management practices for crop biotic stresses and biomolecular characterization of organic inputs. During last two years, 42 packages of organic farming practices has been identified and also promoted through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) in Integrated Farming System (IFS) mode (Statement-II, *See* below). In addition, suitable varieties of 10 crops vegetables and spices have been identified for organic management (Statement-III).

Statement-I

Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) centres

Sl. No.	States	University/Institute	Location
1.	Chhattisgarh	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur-492 012	Raipur
2.	Gujarat	Sardar krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural, University, S.K. Nagar-385 506 (Gujarat)	S.K. Nagar
3.	Himachal Pradesh	CSK HPKV Hill Agri. Res. & Extn. Centre, Bajaura-175 125	Bajaura
4.	Jharkhand	Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi - 834 006	Ranchi
5.	Kerala	ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, P.B. No. 1701, Marikunnu PO, Calicut - 673 012	Calicut
6.	Kerala	ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Sreekarlyam,, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 017, Kerala	Trivandram
7.	Karnataka	University of Agricultural Sciences, Yettinagudda Campus, Krishinagar, Dharwad-580 005	Dharwad
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur-482 004	Jabalpur
9.	Madhya Pradesh	ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Nabi Bagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal - 462 038	Bhopal

Sl. No.	States	University/Institute	Location
10.	Maharashtra	Dr.Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidypeeth, Daploi	Dapoli
11.	Meghalaya	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam-737 102	Umiam
12.	Punjab	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana-141 004	Ludhiana
13.	Rajasthan	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur-313 001 (Rajasthan)	Udaipur
14.	Rajasthan	ICAR-National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Tabiji, Ajmer - 305 206, Rajasthan	Ajmer
15.	Sikkim	ICAR Regional Centre, Sikkim of ICAR Research Complex for North-Eastern Hill Region, Umroi Road, Barapani-793 103, Meghalaya	Sikkim
16.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore -641 003	Coimbatore
17.	Uttarakhand	G.B.P. University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar - 263 145	Pantnagar
18.	Uttarakhand	ICAR-Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansdhan, Almora - 263 601, Uttarakhand	Almora
19.	Uttar Pradesh	ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram, Meerut -250 110	Modipuram
20.	West Bengal	Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University (RMVU), PO Belur Math, District Howrah-711 202, West Bengal	Narendrapur

Statement-II

Scientific package of practices developed for organic production of crops and cropping systems

Sl. No.	Cropping systems	Suitable State
1.	Soybean-chickpea	Chhattisgarh
2.	Soybean-onion	
3.	Rice-chickpea	

Sl. No.	Cropping systems	Suitable State
4.	Maize - Garlic	Himachal Pradesh
5.	Cauliflower - Pea -Tomato	
6.	Coriander - Pea -Tomato	
7.	Rice (Basmati type)-wheat	Jharkhand
8.	Rice (Basmati type)-lentil	
9.	Rice (Basmati type)-linseed	
10.	Rice (Basmati type)-potato	Kerala
11.	Turmeric	
12.	Ginger	
13.	Black pepper	Madhya Pradesh
14.	Soybean-Wheat	
15.	Soybean-Mustard	
16.	Soybean-Chickpea	Maharashtra
17.	Soybean-Isabgol/Linseed	
18.	Rice-groundnut	
19.	Rice-Dolichos bean	Meghalaya
20.	Rice-cucumber	
21.	Rice-red pumpkin	
22.	Rice-Carrot {Raised beds in lowland}	Punjab
23.	Rice-Tomato (Raised beds in lowland)	
24.	Maize + soybean- French bean (Upland)	
25.	Maize-potato-summer greengram	Tamil Nadu
26.	Turmeric-onion	
27.	Basmati rice-wheat-green manure (Sesbania)	
28.	Maize-durum wheat-cowpea (fodder)	
29.	Maize-berseem-bajra (fodder system)	
30.	Maize-berseem-maize+cowpea (fodder system)	
31.	Cotton-maize-green manure (Sesbania)	
32.	Chillies-Sunflower-green manure (Sesbania)	
33.	Beetroot-maize- green manure (Sesbania)	

Sl. No.	Cropping systems	Suitable State
34.	Basmati rice- wheat-Sesbania	Uttarakhand
35.	Basmati rice- Lentil-Sesbania	
36.	Basmati rice- Vegetable pea-Sesbania	
37.	Basmati rice- Brassica napus -Sesbania	
38.	Basmati rice- Chickpea -Sesbania (under biodynamic practices)	
39.	Basmati rice - wheat - Sesbania green manure	Uttar Pradesh
40.	Coarse rice- barley + mustard - greengram	
41.	Maize (grain) - potato- okra	
42.	Maize (green cobs) - mustard + radish - Sesbania green manure	

Statement-III*Varieties identified for promotion of organic farming in different crops and States*

State	Kharif		Rabi	
	Crop	Variety	Crop	Variety
1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh	Okra	P-8	Pea	Pb-89
	Tomato	Roma	Cauliflower	PSBK-1
	Tomato (Summer)	Red gold		
Chhattisgarh	Rice	Badshahbhog	-	-
Jharkhand	Rice	Birsa vikas dhan 203	Wheat	Raj 4250
Karnataka	Soybean	DSB-16	Wheat	DWR 162
	Groundnut	TGLPS 3	Chickpea	JAKI9218
	Cotton	GHAM 34	-	-
Kerala	Turmeric	Sudarshana	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	Soybean	RVS-2002-4	Wheat	GW-366
	Maize	Arawali	Chickpea	JG-130
	Rice	Madhuri	Wheat	HW 2004

1	2	3	4	5
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	-	-

Restructuring of ICAR

2945. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is holding any consultations to restructure the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to make the organization stronger in the domain of agricultural research, considering its contribution to national economy; 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) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to restructure the functioning of the ICAR. As and when the need of such restructuring will emerge, the Competent Authority in the DARE/ ICAR will take appropriate decision in the matter.

ICAR serves the technology and information needs of over half of the Indian population that lives in rural areas and predominantly cultivates small and marginal farms. With 102 ICAR research institutes, 11 Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARIs) and 73 agricultural universities spread across the country, National Agricultural Research System (NARS) is the largest national agricultural research and educational systems in the world. ICAR together with her partner institutions in National Agricultural Research System (NARS) has developed a number of technologies in various fields of Agriculture including, crop production, horticulture, dairying, poultry and fisheries sciences as a result of which the country experienced, green revolution, white revolution, yellow revolution and the pink revolution. A total 4057 high-yielding varieties/hybrids of

various field crops for different agro-ecological regions of the country have been released 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. Through the adoption of the improved varieties and the agro techniques, the productivity of crops including food grains, rapeseed-mustard and cotton have registered increases of 2-4 folds since 1950-51. India is now the second largest producer of wheat and rice in the world and is amongst the top exporters of rice. 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. 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 avenues for multiple cropping systems and enhanced cropping intensity. Improved varieties of sugarcane, wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, groundnut, mustard etc. developed, under NARS have been used for commercial cultivation in many other countries.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is alive towards the need to adapt to the changing Agricultural Research requirements of the country. Keeping this in view, committees under the chairmanship of eminent scientists have been constituted during past 4 decades to suggest measures to further strengthen the organisation. Gajendra Gadkar committee (1972) recommended strengthening of the linkage between ICAR and Ministry of Agriculture, and consequently the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) was established. On the recommendations of G V K Rao committee (1988) on strengthening inter institutional linkages, all ICAR institutions were put under the control of 8 Subject Matter Divisions headed by the respective Deputy Director General assisted by Assistant Director Generals. Based on the recommendations of the Johl Committee (1995) a number of reforms were introduced to provide functional autonomy to the scientists on all research related matters. A number of new research programmes in the strategic areas were initiated. Based on the recommendation of the Mashelkar committee (2005) initiatives were taken to improve the research base, ICAR-Industry interface and Scientist-Entrepreneur tie-up. The National Agricultural Innovation Project and the National Fund for Basic & Strategic Research were initiated apart from creating the Agrinnovate India Ltd to improve ICAR- Industry linkages. ICAR has also developed technical collaborations with various national and international research institutions to address the present and future research requirements of the country. All these initiatives have paid rich dividends and as a result the country has been able to produce 252.23 MT of food grains (235.17 MT cereals & 17.06 MT Pulses), 25.90 MT Oilseeds and 346.72 MT Sugarcane

besides producing more than 283 million tonnes of horticultural produce during 2015-16. Steady increase in breeder seed production has resulted in enhanced supply of quality seeds to the farmers. The country has also made phenomenal progress in various spheres of animal and fisheries sciences also. The milk production of the country touched a record 155.5 million tons (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 tones (2015-16) all of which have seen several fold increases during past 3-4 decades. These achievements in the agricultural sector are attributable in large measure to the technology-led improvements in agricultural productivity.

Drought situation in the country

2946. SHRI DEVENDER GOUDT.: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of drought situation in the country;
- (b) how many Mandals/districts have been declared as drought affected, State-wise;
- (c) the details of financial and other assistance sought by States and help extended by Central Government, State-wise; and
- (d) the financial assistance, if released to any State under NDRF or SDRF, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) No memorandum has been received from any State regarding damages caused due to drought occurring in the Financial Year 2016-17. The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure.

The State-wise Central share of SDRF released during 2016-17 is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Central Share Released in State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) during
Year 2016-17*

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17
		1st Installment
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24.75
3.	Assam	217.35
4.	Bihar	184.50
5.	Chhattisgarh	94.875
6.	Goa	
7.	Gujarat	
8.	Haryana	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	111.60
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	
11.	Jharkhand	143.25
12.	Karnataka	108.75
13.	Kerala	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	345.375
15.	Maharashtra	583.875
16.	Manipur	9.00
17.	Meghalaya	11.25
18.	Mizoram	8.10
19.	Nagaland	4.5
20.	Odisha	294.375
21.	Punjab	153.375
22.	Rajasthan	434.25
23.	Sikkim	14.85
24.	Tamil Nadu	

Sl. No.	State	2016-17
25.	Telangana	108.00
26.	Tripura	14.85
27.	Uttar Pradesh	265.875
28.	Uttarakhand	99.00
29.	West Bengal	203.25
	TOTAL	3608.25

Whitefly attack on crops

2947. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI ANIL DESAI:

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

(a) whether Government is considering to set up a high level committee for monitoring and checking the spread of whitefly attack on crops, particularly on cotton in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to prevent damage to the crops and advise growers to spray only recommended chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has constituted a committee under the Co-ordination of Additional Plant Protection Adviser, Directorate of Plant Protection, and Quarantine and Storage, for continuous monitoring of whitefly. The committee has the following term of References (TORs):

- (i) The committee will develop comprehensive advisories, which inter alia, include harmonising of all the advisories disseminated through various institutions.
- (ii) To ensure timely and regular dissemination of advisories through electronic, print and mobile platforms to stakeholders.
- (iii) The Committee will sensitize the State to undertake special drive to check supply of misbranded pesticides.

(b) Regular advisories are disseminated by Directorate of Plant Protection, and Quarantine and Storage (DPPQ&S) to the States on efficacious management of pest/

disease. These advisories, *inter alia*, includes list of pesticides recommended by Central Insecticide Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC) against pests/disease. In addition Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) under DPPQ&S conduct farmers field schools to educate farmers on the proper application of pesticides. Further, 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 & Registration Committee (CIB&RC).

Production of new varieties of moong and arhar

2948. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that short duration Arhar and Moong varieties have been developed which can substantially increase the production of these pulses in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government has taken to promote these varieties of pulses in Maharashtra and other pulses producing States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes Sir, seven short duration (140-160 days) high yielding varieties of arhar namely Phule T 12, BDN 711, PA 291, VLA-1, Pusa 2001, Pusa 2002 and CO-7 and nine short duration (60-65 days) high yielding moong varieties namely HUM 16, IPM 02-3, PKV AKM 4, Pusa 0672, IPM 02-14, MH 421, SML 832, CO-8 and Shalimar Moong-2 have been released for different states of the country during last 10 years by National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising of ICAR institutes and State Agricultural Universities. Besides higher yield, these varieties are suitable for multiple cropping systems and newer niches.

(b) In order to promote these varieties, the NARS is regularly producing their breeder seed for further multiplication to make available quality seeds to the farmers of different states including Maharashtra. For augmenting the availability of quality seeds of pulses, 100 seed-hubs have been established during 2016-17 across 22 states including 8 seed hubs in Maharashtra.

Development of rice intensification system

2949. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a system of rice intensification has recently been developed in which less water is consumed by crop and more production is ensured, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government proposes to take to introduce the system in Maharashtra and other rice producing States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The system of rice intensification (SRI) technique has potential to enhance rice yield ranging from 36-49% with about 22-35% less water than conventional transplanted rice.

(b) The Government under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is popularizing SRI in different rice growing states of the country. Maharashtra State is also being covered under NFSM-Rice Programme. Assistance of ₹7500/- per hectare is given to the farmers for organizing cluster demonstration on SRI. SRI is also being promoted under the scheme Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) in eastern India.

Impact of drought on cotton production

2950. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drought in cotton growing areas has deeply affected cotton production this season all over the country;

(b) if so, the expected cotton production this year, with figures for last three fiscal years;

(c) the reasons for Government being unable to make cotton cultivation immune to drought generally;

(d) the economic status of cotton growing farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana due to drought; and

(e) the steps proposed to protect cotton growing farmers from drought in future and also from volatile cotton prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) As per India Meteorological Department

(IMD), rainfall has been recorded 3 % higher against normal for the period from 1/6/2016 to 8/8/2016 in the country. The drought, so far, have not affected cotton crop in major cotton growing states in kharif 2016. The Cotton crop is in juvenile to flowering stage and 1st advance estimates of production are issued in September, therefore, it is too early to predict production of cotton in 2016-17. The Cotton production during last 3 years is as under-

(Production in lakh bales of 170 kg each)

Year	Production
2013-14	359.02
2014-15	348.05
2015-16*	301.47

*4th Advance Estimates

(c) About 64% cotton is grown in rainfed area in the country. In case of early withdrawal of monsoon, the crop is affected due to terminal stress particularly in shallow soils. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare conduct demonstrations on Integrated Crop Management (ICM) on various technologies including, crop management and water management etc. to mitigate the impact of drought through Indian Council of Agricultural Research/State Department of Agriculture. The State Department of Agriculture also advocate for use of water saving devices like drip irrigation system in cotton for optimum use of irrigation water.

(d) and (e) In view of low yield of cotton in drought prone areas, Government of Telangana is promoting diversification of cotton towards pulses and soybean particularly in red soils. Besides, the State Government is also promoting farm pond technology and life saving irrigation at the times of prolonged dry spells and introduction of micro irrigation in cotton wherever feasible. The Department of Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh is also encouraging to grow pulses and oilseeds in light and chalka soils where productivity of cotton is low. To mitigate the impact of drought, the State Government is advocating technologies viz., *insitu* moisture conservation, formulation of water conservation bunds, formulation of contour trenches, construction of farm ponds, use of micro irrigation system.

For better price realization in Telangana, a specialized electronic trading platform called "Unified Market Platform" (UMP) has been introduced which enables automated price discovery mechanisms and post auction process.

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is closely monitoring the domestic price situation. With a view to pass on benefit of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and to ensure

remunerative price to a large section of cotton farmers, the Government of India has nominated the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) as nodal agency to undertake Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation in all cotton growing States in the event when prices of seed cotton (kapas) touch the MSP level to purchase entire quantity of kapas (FAQ grade) offered by the cotton farmers in various Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) market yards at MSP rates.

Impact of drought on rabi crops

2951. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of districts that have been noted as drought affected, particularly in Odisha;
- (b) whether Government has evaluated the effect of drought on rabi sowing and on the agricultural growth rate, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Central Government has extended/plans to extend central assistance to State Governments to combat the drought situation, if so, the details thereof, time-line, identified States and quantum of funds, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As reported by the States, during the year 2015-16, 279 districts have been affected by drought including 27 districts of Odisha. No memorandum has been received from States for drought occurring in the year 2016-17.

(b) and (c) Rabi area coverage as per the 4th Advance Estimates for 2015-16 is 611.79 lakh hectare. During 2014-15 the coverage has been 629.234 lakh hectare. As per 4th Advance Estimate total production of foodgrains (Kharif+Rabi) during 2015-16 has been estimated at 252.22 million tonnes as compared to foodgrain production of 252.02 million tonnes estimated for 2014-15.

The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. 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. Details of funds approved from NDRF in the wake of drought, during the year 2015-16, is given in the statement (*See below*).

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has prepared District Agricultural Contingency Plans (DACP) to tackle any eventuality in agriculture sector. These plans

provide suitable technological interventions to minimize the losses due to weather aberrations viz. droughts, floods, cyclones, hailstorms, heat and cold waves etc. So far, contingency plan for 614 districts of the country have been prepared.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched from 1st July, 2015 with the motto of 'Har Khet Ko Paani'. PMKSY aims at providing end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, viz. water sources, distribution network and farm level applications. PMKSY not only focuses on creating sources for assured irrigation, but also creating protective irrigation by harnessing rain water at micro level through 'Jal Sanchay' and 'Jal Sinchan'. Micro irrigation is popularised to ensure 'Per drop-More crop'. 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. Under PMKSY, ₹1556.23 crores and ₹1208.75 crores have been released to States/UTs during 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively.

Statement

*Details of funds approved from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)
for Drought During - 2015-16*

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount approved
1.	Karnataka	Drought-K	1540.20
		Drought-R	723.23
2.	Chhattisgarh	Drought-K	1276.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought-K	2032.68
4.	Maharashtra	Drought-K	3049.36
		Drought -K (Supplementary)	#
		Drought-R	#
5.	Odisha	Drought-K	815.00
6.	Telangana	Drought-K	791.21
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Drought-K	1304.52
		Drought-R	622.76
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought-K	433.77
9.	Jharkhand	Drought-K	336.94
10.	Rajasthan	Drought-K	1193.41

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Amount approved
11.	Uttarakhand	Drought-R	#
TOTAL			14119.33

K: Kharif

R: Rabi

#: Under process/finalisation.

Assistance to States to combat drought

2952. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decrease in foodgrains production was recorded in the current year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has identified districts that are facing drought/heatwave currently, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures taken by Government to ensure food security and livelihood for common man due to the drought situation/heatwave in the country; and

(d) whether Government has extended/plans to extend central assistance to State Governments to combat the drought situation/heatwave, if so, the details thereof, time-line, identified States and quantum of funds, if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As per 4th Advance Estimate total production of foodgrains (Kharif+Rabi) during 2015-16 has been estimated at 252.22 million tonnes as compared to foodgrain production of 252.02 million tonnes estimated for 2014-15.

Further, as per preliminary report on production of sowing as on 05.08.2016, area coverage under Kharif foodgrain during 2016-17 has been higher by 42.34 lakh ha as compared to the area coverage during the corresponding period of 2015-16.

(b) to (d) No Memorandum has been received from any State seeking assistance for drought occurring in the Financial Year 2016-17. Further, as reported by India Meteorological Department (IMD), no district is facing heat wave conditions.

Department of Food and Public Distribution has received request from the State Govts. of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh for additional allocation of foodgrain

for distribution. Based on the request of these States and as per the demand made by them, the Department has allocated a quantity of 30.89 lakh tons of foodgrain during 2015-16 and 2016-17 as given in Statement-I (*See* below).

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has prepared District Agricultural Contingency Plans (DACP) to tackle any eventuality in agriculture sector. These plans provide suitable technological interventions to minimize the losses due to weather aberrations *viz.* droughts, floods, cyclones, hailstorms, heat and cold waves etc. So far, contingency plan for 614 districts of the country have been prepared.

The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure.

The State-wise Central share of SDRF released during 2016-17 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Foodgrain allocation for drought relief during 2015-16 and 2016-17

States	Quantity Allocated (in tons)		
	Rice	Wheat	Total
Maharashtra	163000	244000	407000
Andhra Pradesh	102312	0	102312
Chhattisgarh	82000	0	82000
Gujarat	8000	48000	56000
Jharkhand	171103	21844	192946
Karnataka	2577	2556	5133
Madhya Pradesh	24000	72000	96000
Telangana	250292	0	250292
Rajasthan	0	1138200	1138200
Uttar Pradesh	288166	471014	759180
TOTAL	1091450	1997614	3089063

Statement-II

Central share released in State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) during the Year 2016-17

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24.75
3.	Assam	217.35
4.	Bihar	184.50
5.	Chhattisgarh	94.875
6.	Goa	
7.	Gujarat	
8.	Haryana	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	111.60
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	
11.	Jharkhand	143.25
12.	Karnataka	108.75
13.	Kerala	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	345.375
15.	Maharashtra	583.875
16.	Manipur	9.00
17.	Meghalaya	11.25
18.	Mizoram	8.10
19.	Nagaland	4.5
20.	Odisha	294.375
21.	Punjab	153.375
22.	Rajasthan	434.25
23.	Sikkim	14.85
24.	Tamil Nadu	
25.	Telangana	108.00

Sl. No.	State	2016-17
26.	Tripura	14.85
27.	Uttar Pradesh	265.875
28.	Uttarakhand	99.00
29.	West Bengal	203.25
	TOTAL	3608.25

Providing insurance literacy to farmers

2953. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural agricultural households that hold crop insurance currently, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has taken measures to provide insurance literacy to farmers, if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether there have been cases of fraudulent claims by farmers, if so, details thereof, the financial implications of the same on Government and the action taken by Government to rectify the issue; and

(d) whether Government plans to introduce measures to reduce premiums payable by farmers, particularly, small and marginal, if so, details thereof and timeline for the same, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) State-wise details of Number of holdings in the country and farmers covered under various crop insurance schemes during Kharif 2015 and Rabi 2015-16 are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) To enhance the awareness/literacy about Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) among all the stakeholders including farmers, Government is undertaking a comprehensive publicity and awareness programme to educate the farmers about the benefits of crop insurance schemes. Capacity building and training programmes for other stakeholders are also being organized. The salient activities under awareness/literacy campaign involve the publicity of features and benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets in local languages, participation in agriculture fairs/melas/goshti

and organization of workshops/trainings and SMS through Kisan Portal etc. State Governments/UTs are also being regularly persuaded to increase the coverage including notifying more crops under crop Insurance schemes. One day seminar/kisan fair especially on the PMFBY has also been organized at various Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) during March- April, 2016 throughout the country. State-wise details of seminars/kisan fairs held KVKs are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) No Sir. However, some discrepancies in area sown *vis-a-vis* area insured have been found in some States like Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka etc. leading to over-insurance. To deal the situation a provision has been made in Operational Guidelines of PMFBY stating that ideally the discrepancy should be handled at farm level to protect the interests of farmers with genuine insurance coverage. All suitable measures should be taken by concerned stake holders for de-duplication with the help of land records, bank records, revenue records and proposal/loan application of insured farmers. However, in the absence of digitized farm records on a GIS platform, it would be cumbersome to physically verify each farm when the reported discrepancies are comparatively large compared to the sown areas. For the time-being, it is to be addressed as follows:-

- (i) Wherever the 'acreage discrepancy' is likely, the acreage insured at Insurance Unit level shall be compared with average planted acreage of past three years, and the difference is treated as 'excess' insurance coverage after taking into account sown area data of the Revenue authority.
- (ii) Sum insured is scaled down in the proportionate ratio the average of three years' actual planted acreage bears to the insured acreage for the given crop.
- (iii) Claims shall be calculated on the scaled down sum insured.
- (iv) Premium (farmer share and Central and State Government Subsidy) shall be refunded back to Government of India for the portion of sum insured scaled down and the amount may be utilised for improvement of technology/ research/ Impact assessment etc.

Once the individual farms (plots/ survey numbers) are digitized and available on a GIS platform, it is quite possible to overlay the crop cover as derived using satellite imagery on the GIS platform to identify the crop and estimate the cropped area on each farm. This should lead to identifying the acreage discrepancy at individual farm level.

(d) Premium payable by farmers including small and marginal farmers has already been substantially reduced and simplified under PMFBY. 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-I*No. of total holdings and farmers covered under Crop Insurance**Schemes (during 2015-16)*

States	No. of Holdings # (in lakhs)	Total farmers covered Kharif 2015 (in lakhs)	Total farmers covered Rabi 2015-16 (in lakhs)	Total farmers covered during 2015-16 (in lakhs)
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.12	0.005	0.005	0.01
Andhra Pradesh	131.75	15.19	1.81	17.00
Assam	27.20	0.31	0.14	0.45
Bihar	161.91	16.55	14.33	30.88
Chhattisgarh	37.46	12.04	0.79	12.83
Goa	0.78	0.001	0	0.00
Gujarat	48.86	5.02	0.02	5.04
Haryana	16.17	0	0	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	9.61	0.29	1.11	1.40
Jammu and Kashmir	14.49	0	0	0.00
Jharkhand	27.09	5.36	0.54	5.90
Karnataka	78.32	8.72	3.26	11.98
Kerala	68.31	0.26	0.35	0.61
Madhya Pradesh	88.72	29.59	19.66	49.25
Maharashtra	136.99	89.38	35.77	125.15
Manipur	1.51	0.08	0	0.08
Meghalaya	2.10	0.004	0.00663	0.01
Mizoram	0.92	0	0	0.00
Odisha	46.67	21.53	1.06	22.59
Puducherry	0.33	0.004	0.01274	0.02
Punjab	10.53	0	0	0.00
Rajasthan	68.88	64.10	45.54	109.64
Sikkim	0.75	0	0.00143	0.00
Tamil Nadu	81.18	1.38	9.37	10.75
Telangana	NA	8.99	3.765	12.75
Tripura	5.78	0.09	0.005	0.10
Uttar Pradesh	233.25	16.89	20.17	37.06
Uttarakhand	9.13	0.86	0.66	1.52
West Bengal	71.23	10.25	9.81	20.06
GRAND TOTAL	1380.04	306.89	168.20	475.10

Agriculture Census 2010-11

Statement-II
State wise summary of PMFBY by Awareness campaign through KVKs

State	No. of KVKs which Organised the programme	Nos. who attended										No. of Participants		Govt. Bank Officials, PRI members etc.	No. of Exhibition organised
		No. of Hon'ble Union Ministers who attended the programme	No. of Hon'ble State Govt. Ministers who attended the programme	No. of Hon'ble MPs of Lok Sabha who participated	No. of Hon'ble MPs of Rajya Sabha of participated	No. of MLAs who Attended the programme	Chairman/ Members Zilapanchayats	Distt. Collector	Bank Officials	Farmers					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
Punjab	20	1	3	3	2	5	2		17	12580	22	17			
Haryana	17	1	1	5	-	10	7		16	12727	24	13			
Himachal Pradesh	9		2	3	3		5		6	3900	14	6			
Delhi	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	450	2	1			
Jammu and Kashmir	8	1	-	1	1	3	-	-	5	3513	8	4			
Zone I TOTAL	55	3	6	13	3	21	14	0	45	33170	70	41			
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	6	559	43	2			
Bihar	38	4	0	13	1	10	6	8	102	28901	1001	266			
Jharkhand	23	2	1	9	0	18	11	4	45	16234	711	148			
West Bengal	16	0	0	7	0	2	3	0	25	6357	102	34			
Zone II TOTAL	80	6	1	30	1	30	21	12	178	52051	1857	450			
Arunachal Pradesh	14	0	1	1	1	6	11	5	6	2148	14	6			
Assam	25	0	2	14	1	17	2	12	38	17374	4	180			
Manipur	9	0	0	2	0	2	4	1	3	1732	53	41			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mizoram	8	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	11	2414	12	35
Meghalaya	5	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	1	1089	29	5
Nagaland	9	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	3	3135	18	11
Sikkim	4	0	1	1	0	2	9	1	2	1038	20	4
Tripura	4	0	0	1	0	4	3	0	4	1636	11	7
Zone III TOTAL	78	0	5	21	3	37	31	24	68	30566	161	289
U.P.	50	11	-	35	1	7	10	7	102	36487	663	463
Uttarakhand	11	-	-	7	-	3	6	4	15	4044	58	61
Zone IV TOTAL	61	11	0	42	1	10	16	11	117	40531	721	524
Andhra Pradesh	14	1	2	10	0	8	3	3	14	7551	1386	124
Maharashtra	33	2	0	19	0	6	12	9	24	17974	1284	225
Telangana	9	1	1	8	0	4	3	1	8	7747	661	67
Zone V TOTAL	56	4	3	37	0	18	18	13	46	33272	3331	416
Rajasthan	33	3	0	25	1	4	35	35	35	26250	60	40
Gujarat	25	3	1	19	3	1	25	25	25	18750	45	35
Zone VI TOTAL	58	6	1	44	4	5	60	60	60	45000	105	75
Chhattisgarh	19	1	1	10	0	18	11	6	18	13044	699	140
Madhya Pradesh	45	0	5	28	0	33	21	11	49	31025	-	158
Odisha	30	1	2	20	1	19	18	10	32	9026	895	201
Zone VII TOTAL	94	2	8	58	1	70	50	27	99	53095	1594	499
Karnataka	27	1	0	15	1	11	5	3	54	16089	466	231
Goa	2	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	3	638	16	0
Tamil Nadu	11	1	1	8	1	2	45	2	30	6749	267	165
Kerala	3	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	6	1500	25	18
Zone VIII TOTAL	43	2	2	26	2	16	54	5	93	24976	774	414
GRAND TOTAL	525	34	26	271	15	207	264	152	706	312661	8613	2708

Compensation for loss of cotton crops in Punjab

2954. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of compensation released by Government of Punjab for dealing with cotton crop loss due to whitefly attacks;
- (b) whether Central Government has sanctioned a separate amount for the same; and
- (c) whether a distinction was made between the amount of compensation sanctioned for the cotton growing farmers and the amount of compensation sanctioned for the cotton labourers, if not, the reasons therefor?

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 Government of Punjab, an amount of ₹669 crore and ₹66.81 crore have been released to farmers and cotton labourers respectively. No separate amount has been sanctioned by Central Government.

Irrigation facilities across the country

2955. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any survey of those areas which lack irrigation facilities across the country, particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu; 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 S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Water Resources Project are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. Government of India has not conducted any survey to assess the lack of irrigation facilities across the country. However, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare annually gets district-wise information on irrigated and un-irrigated area from all State/UT Governments including Tamil Nadu. As per Land Use Statistics for 2013-14 (latest available)

State-wise details of net irrigated area, net un-irrigated area and percentage of net un-irrigated area to net area sown in the country are given in the Statement.

Statement

*State-wise details of Net Irrigated and Un-Irrigated
area for the year 2013-14*

(Latest available)

(Thousand Hectares)

States/UTs	Net Irrigated Area	Net Un- Irrigated Area	Percentage of Net Un-Irrigated area to Net Area Sown (%)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3014	3434	53.26
Arunachal Pradesh	57	168	74.67
Assam	161	2649	94.26
Bihar	2933	2319	44.16
Chhattisgarh	1462	3224	68.79
Goa	38	91	70.29
Gujarat	4233	6069	58.91
Haryana	2931	566	16.19
Himachal Pradesh	110	433	79.77
Jammu and Kashmir	325	420	56.36
Jharkhand	210	1196	85.06
Karnataka	3421	6373	65.07
Kerala	397	1654	80.63
Madhya Pradesh	9455	5967	38.69
Maharashtra	3247	14121	81.31
Manipur	69	308	81.81

1	2	3	4
Meghalaya	68	217	76.09
Mizoram	16	98	86.28
Nagaland	91	289	76.09
Odisha	1245	3250	72.30
Punjab	4143	2	0.04
Rajasthan	7650	10618	58.12
Sikkim	14	63	81.35
Tamil Nadu	2679	2035	43.17
Telangana	2289	2672	53.85
Tripura	60	196	76.71
Uttarakhand	328	373	53.20
Uttar Pradesh	13913	2632	15.91
West Bengal	3099	2135	40.79
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	15	98.92
Chandigarh	1	0	26.12
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	15	77.12
Daman and Diu		3	100.00
Delhi	22	0	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	2	100.00
Puducherry	13	2	12.44
ALL INDIA	67699	73609	52.09

Note: '0' refers to area less than 500 hectares.

The above figures are provisional and may undergo minor changes on finalisation.

Increasing production of pulses

2956. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken to increase the production of pulses and oil seeds under the National Food Security Mission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof in the last five years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), only rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals and commercial crops (cotton, jute, sugarcane) are covered.

For increasing production of pulses, assistance is being provided to the farmers for demonstrations, seed distribution, micro-nutrients, soil ameliorants, plant protection chemicals, bio-fertilizers, farm machinery and implements, irrigation devices, training etc.

(b) The details of state-wise allocation and release for pulses under NFSM is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Statement**Total Allocation and Release under NFSM-Pulses for the last five years**

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16**	
		Allo- cation	Rele- ase	Allo- cation	Rele- ase	Allo- cation	Rele- ase	Allo- cation	Rele- ase	Allo- cation	Rele- ase
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
General States											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	71.092	53.87	116.31	109.84	142.82	110.62	89.78	46.27	33.07	33.07
2.	Bihar	19.683	20.98	31.62	13.54	29.46	12.58	30.53	18.47	30.70	21.02
3.	Chhattisgarh	28.805	25.25	36.78	22.12	46.47	38.24	42.53	21.26	29.64	18.96
4.	Gujarat	22.223	21.06	45.52	46.02	53.30	29.14	19.57	0.00	8.40	4.20
5.	Haryana	13.669	12.7	30.66	24.24	41.49	24.91	15.38	9.19	6.11	4.05
6.	Jharkhand	18.806	12.2	25.59	18.93	33.56	25.37	25.13	13.81	20.83	20.52
7.	Karnataka	62.929	60.95	110.97	106.31	132.75	117.88	121.45	89.58	63.98	35.27
8.	Madhya Pradesh	119.893	106.51	189.46	173.86	311.77	305.08	236.14	150.38	169.38	113.44
9.	Maharashtra	109.052	100.4	198.42	197.73	250.02	225.68	266.36	124.54	97.02	84.12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10. Odisha		25.04	26.73	32.86	23.88	43.62	32.80	35.61	28.46	47.11	36.75
11. Punjab		9.327	7.65	16.04	7.94	17.43	11.63	6.08	2.21	2.30	1.40
12. Rajasthan		72.024	56.84	121.36	107.58	181.97	107.47	172.42	145.18	139.50	83.25
13. Tamil Nadu		15.135	12.96	29.43	20.60	43.09	18.15	39.86	37.92	18.17	17.74
14. Telangana		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.89	33.86	28.95	28.06
15. Uttar Pradesh		98.657	82.41	124.96	64.84	201.04	131.15	104.53	49.91	74.67	57.44
16. West Bengal		8.764	2.45	14.37	9.30	28.31	11.52	19.73	20.16	7.86	7.20
SUB TOTAL		695.099	602.96	1124.35	946.73	1557.10	1202.22	1275.99	791.20	777.69	566.49
North-Eastern States*											
1. Arunachal Pradesh		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	0.71	2.62	3.72
2. Assam		12.512	11.34	10.91	4.30	46.55	40.61	20.52	15.58	31.92	27.11
3. Manipur		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.19	1.18	4.30	5.80
4. Meghalaya		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.68	0.90	0.45
5. Mizoram		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	1.11	1.06	0.96
6. Nagaland		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50	2.50	8.02	5.33
7. Tripura		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.19	3.19	4.41	3.89
8. Sikkim		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.90	0.90	2.65	1.70
SUB TOTAL		12.512	11.34	10.91	4.30	46.55	40.61	31.51	25.85	55.88	48.96
Hill States*											
1. Himachal Pradesh		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.29	0.96	0.96
2. Jammu and Kashmir		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.99	0.58	2.11	1.30
3. Uttarakhand		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.99	0.74	2.66	1.58
SUB TOTAL		0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.27	1.61	5.73	3.84
GRAND TOTAL		707.61	614.30	1135.26	951.03	1603.65	1242.83	1309.77	818.66	839.30	619.29

* North-Eastern States except Assam and Hill States are included under pulses component of NFSM from 2014-15 onwards

** From year 2015-16, new funding pattern has been introduced *i.e.* 60:40 for general states and 90:10 for north-eastern states and hill states. The allocation and release for the year 2015-16 is as Central share

Package for hapless farmers

2957. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

KUMARI SELJA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that due to heavy floods every year, small and marginal farmers in various parts of the country are suffering serious economic setbacks and the number of such farmers is huge;

(b) whether it is also a fact that number of jobless farmers is increasing every year, resulting in steep decline in agricultural/ foodgrain production; and

(c) if so, whether Government has any scheme to extend financial package for the hapless farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including floods. 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.

Financial assistance to farmers in the event of crop loss caused due to floods and other calamities is provided as per the guidelines on revised items and norms of assistance under SDRF/NDRF dated 8th April, 2015 of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Farmers having suffered 33% and above loss to crops are now entitled to receive financial assistance.

As per 4th Advance Estimate total production of foodgrains (Kharif+Rabi) during 2015-16 has 'been estimated at 252.22 million tonnes as compared to foodgrain production of 252.02 million tonnes estimated for 2014-15.

Government of India has released ₹12451.96 crores during 2015-16 and ₹ 5955.267 crores during 2016-17(as on 09.08.2016) from NDRF as relief assistance to the States for all the notified natural calamities including floods.

Assistance under SDRF/NDRF provided is for immediate relief and not by way of compensation for the loss suffered. Further, in order to protect farmers against crop failure

due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India recently introduced the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for implementation from Kharif 2016.

Implementation of crop insurance schemes

2958. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of farmers covered under the crop insurance schemes in various States; and

(b) how many farmers have since been benefited under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) State-wise percentage of farmers covered under Crop Insurance Schemes during 2015-16 to the number of household and farmers benefited under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme since inception are given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of farmers covered under Crop Insurance Schemes (during 2015-16) and their percentage to number of household in the States/UTs and farmers benefited under Crop Insurance Scheme (since inception)

State	No. of Holdings # (in Lakh)	Total farmers covered Kharif 2015	State-wise % of farmers covered under Crop Insurance w.r.t. No. of holdings during Kharif 2015	Total farmers covered Rabi 2015-16	State-wise % of farmers covered under Crop Insurance w.r.t. No. of holdings during Rabi 2015-16	Farmers benefited under NAIS (No.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.12	0.005	4.17	0.005	4.17	1128
Andhra Pradesh	131.75	15.19	11.53	1.81	1.37	6912061

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	27.20	0.31	1.14	0.14	0.51	65997
Bihar	161.91	16.55	10.22	14.33	8.85	3746458
Chhattisgarh	37.46	12.04	32.14	0.79	2.11	2345349
Goa	0.78	0.001	0.13	0	0.00	702
Gujarat	48.86	5.02	10.27	0.02	0.04	5500896
Haryana	16.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	129424
Himachal Pradesh	9.61	0.29	3.02	1.11	11.55	111173
Jammu and Kashmir	14.49	0	0.00	0	0.00	4492
Jharkhand	27.09	5.36	19.79	0.54	1.99	2578613
Karnataka	78.32	8.72	11.13	3.26	4.16	5848704
Kerala	68.31	0.26	0.38	0.35	0.51	85472
Madhya Pradesh	88.72	29.59	33.35	19.66	22.16	9731413
Maharashtra	136.99	89.38	65.25	35.77	26.11	22121449
Manipur	1.51	0.08	5.30	0	0.00	29932
Meghalaya	2.10	0.004	0.19	0.00663	0.32	3600
Mizoram	0.92	0	0.00	0	0.00	119
Odisha	46.67	21.53	46.13	1.06	2.28	3233754
Puducherry	0.33	0.004	1.21	0.01274	3.86	7269
Punjab	10.53	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Rajasthan	68.88	64.10	93.06	45.54	66.11	5200566
Sikkim	0.75	0	0.00	0.00143	0.19	86
Tamil Nadu	81.18	1.38	1.70	9.37	11.54	2850965
Telangana	NA	8.99			3.765	53591
Tripura	5.78	0.09	1.56	0.005	0.09	3432
Uttar Pradesh	233.25	16.89	7.24	20.17	8.65	4517617
Uttarakhand	9.13	0.86	9.42	0.66	7.21	119370
West Bengal	71.23	10.25	14.39	9.81	13.77	3270332
GRAND TOTAL	1380.04	306.89	22.24	168.20	12.19	78473964

Agriculture Census 2010-11

Payment of dues to Chhattisgarh

‡2959. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amounts of ₹ 18414.61 lakhs under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), ₹ 30187.44 lakhs under Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil-Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) scheme and second instalment of ₹2000 lakhs under National Mission on Micro Irrigation have not been released to Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether Government would make an early payment of the said amounts; and

(c) whether an amount of ₹595.575 lakhs for healthcare and disease control of livestock and ₹ 185.21 lakhs for fisheries is due for release by Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) has been subsumed in National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) from 2014-15. National Mission on Micro Irrigation has been subsumed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY) and being implemented under "Per Drop More Crop" component of PMKSY from 1st July 2015. The status of release of funds under these schemes and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during the current financial year (2016-17) is given under. Further release (Second installment) of funds under these schemes are considered only after receiving proposal for the same from State Government along with utilization certificate and physical and financial progress of implementation against funds made available.

(₹ in lakh)

Name of the Scheme	Amount released (first instalment)
RKVY	9006.00
ISOPOM/NMOOP	400.00
PMKSY	1200.00

(c) An amount of ₹224 lakh (tentatively) has been allocated to Chhattisgarh under livestock health and disease control for 2016-17. Release of funds is considered subject to availability of funds and submission of UC, Physical progress and financial progress report by the State for the fund released during previous year. No approved amount is due for release to the Government of Chhattisgarh under the Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Scheme and National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Production of pulses in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

2960. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn up any plan to boost the production of pulses in various States, particularly Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(b) whether the plan comprises any incentives including promise of a remunerative MSP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented in 29 States of country including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Under NFSM, assistance is being provided to the farmers for demonstrations, seed distribution, micro-nutrients, soil ameliorants, plant protection chemicals, bio-fertilizers, farm machinery and implements, irrigation devices, training etc.

From 2016-17, new initiatives for pulses like subsidy on production of seed, distribution of seed minikits of newer varieties, technology demonstrations through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), strengthening of seed production programme, creation of seed hubs etc. are being taken.

(b) Government has increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) per quintal for tur (arhar) from ₹4625 to ₹5050, moong from ₹ 4850 to ₹5225 and for urad from ₹4625 to ₹5000 for year 2016-17.

Operational land holdings in the country

2961. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of operational land holdings in the country, size-wise, category-wise, *e.g.* all categories SC, ST and OBCs, State-wise;

(b) total land area of operational holdings in the country, size-wise, category-wise *e.g.* all categories SC, ST and OBCs, State-wise;

(c) total land area under irrigation, category-wise, *e.g.* all categories SC, ST and OBCs, State-wise;

(d) total number of farmers in the country, category-wise, *e.g.* all categories SC, ST and OBCs, State-wise; and

(e) total number of landless farmers in the country, category-wise, *e.g.* all categories SC, ST and OBCs and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, a Statement on State-wise number of operational holdings in the country for various size groups and categories (SC, ST, Others and All Social Groups) is given in the Statement-I, Statement-II, Statement-III and Statement-IV respectively (*See* below). However, data of operational holdings belonging to OBC is not maintained separately but included in 'Others'.

(b) According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, a Statement on State-wise operated area of holdings in the country for various size groups and categories (SC, ST, Others and All Social Groups) is given in the Statement-V, Statement-VI, Statement-VII and Statement-VIII respectively (*See* below). However, data of operational holdings belonging to OBC is not maintained separately but included in 'Others'.

(c) According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, a Statement on State-wise Net Irrigated Area for various categories (SC, ST, Others and All Social Groups) of operational holdings is given in the Statement-IX (*See* below). However, data of operational holdings belonging to OBC is not maintained separately but included in 'Others'.

(d) According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, the total number of operational holders* in the country for various categories (SC, ST, Others and All Social Groups) is given in Statement-X (*See* below). However, data of operational holdings belonging to OBC is not maintained separately but included in 'Others'.

(e) In Agriculture Census, data on landless farmers is not collected. However, according to the Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households, 2013 conducted by the NSSO, about 0.1 per cent of the estimated 90.2 million agricultural households in the country were reported to be landless.

*An operational holder is the person who has the responsibility for the operation of the agricultural holding, exercises the technical initiative and is responsible for its operation. He may have full economic responsibility or may share it with others. The operational holder may be Individual/Joint/Institutional.

Statement-I

*State-wise number of operational holdings as per Agriculture Census 2010-11 -
Scheduled Castes*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1110000	247675	83581	14473	923	1456652
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	89182	29753	17646	4626	72	141279
5.	Bihar	1866519	69850	18744	2367	131	1957611
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	325427	83709	34560	8876	589	453161
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	200	27	5	1	0	233
9.	Daman and Diu	290	9	3	1	0	303
10.	Delhi	79	0	0	0	0	79
11.	Goa	373	86	16	5	0	480
12.	Gujarat	69235	47219	32161	12781	1104	162500
13.	Haryana	15226	6798	5185	1680	126	29015
14.	Himachal Pradesh	177612	25251	7867	1542	87	212359
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	81905	16490	5762	678	11	104846
16.	Jharkhand	293550	46501	23743	9571	1217	374582
17.	Karnataka	510692	264201	110487	26500	2105	913985
18.	Kerala	529419	1975	516	95	0	532005
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	609715	304723	138651	41376	2057	1096522
21.	Maharashtra	538710	311276	138994	36869	2724	1028573

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Manipur	1305	895	725	180	0	3105
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	564873	107869	26356	3230	150	702478
27.	Puducherry	1143	118	36	6	0	1303
28.	Punjab	26045	14240	14017	8139	1039	63480
29.	Rajasthan	371793	230486	178564	134666	39088	954597
30.	Sikkim	2472	894	623	281	2	4272
31.	Tamil Nadu	746253	96189	26490	4309	258	873499
32.	Tripura	106306	7183	1742	190	0	115421
33.	Uttar Pradesh	3565969	345842	92862	15466	585	4020724
34.	Uttarakhand	109296	12232	3381	435	7	125351
35.	West Bengal	1533490	192806	42394	2085	0	1770775
ALL INDIA		13247079	2464297	1005111	330428	52275	17099190

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-II

State-wise number of operational holdings as per Agriculture
Census 2010-11 - Scheduled Tribes

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	624963	263519	133470	34876	2652	1059480
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	19268	19020	33890	27854	6496	106528

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Assam	259684	97685	63211	17197	383	438160
5.	Bihar	184955	17848	8071	1201	42	212117
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	532492	296050	228264	103789	16184	1176779
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7084	3606	1558	577	56	12881
9.	Daman and Diu	685	45	5	1	. 0	736
10.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Goa	14851	3412	2194	575	34	21066
12.	Gujarat	201509	139239	108812	50094	4655	504309
13.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Himachal Pradesh	39542	10567	4831	1016	61	56017
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	142045	26621	10651	1929	83	181329
16.	Jharkhand	588473	171606	127201	67395	12315	966990
17.	Karnataka	222475	143347	77838	26049	2852	472561
18.	Kerala	86041	6117	2555	428	20	95161
19.	Lakshadweep	9013	243	109	19	1	9385
20.	Madhya Pradesh	749107	511922	350091	154288	16922	1782330
21.	Maharashtra	315911	291839	179351	69644	6802	863547
22.	Manipur	28645	21935	12435	1305	0	64320
23.	Meghalaya	102269	57632	40422	8292	233	208848
24.	Mizoram	50121	29723	9917	1716	259	91736
25.	Nagaland	6365	20210	48271	77802	25115	177763
26.	Odisha	949504	335732	118248	20867	1156	1425507
27.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Rajasthan	593349	264379	170284	78925	12826	1119763
30.	Sikkim	19619	7231	5508	3597	568	36523
31.	Tamil Nadu	48301	17569	6842	1599	103	74414

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32.	Tripura	120718	26903	13998	1829	37	163485
33.	Uttar Pradesh	47417	13620	6489	2996	415	70937
34.	Uttarakhand	17102	4436	4596	3280	259	29673
35.	West Bengal	488825	74975	17719	752	0	582271
	ALL INDIA	6470333	2877031	1786831	759892	110529	12004616

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-III

State-wise number of operational holdings as per Agriculture Census 2010-11 - Others

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4510	2380	3099	1572	2	11563
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6688411	2406251	1180988	346608	31024	10653282
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	1481015	368698	222284	62517	1222	2135736
5.	Bihar	12673033	857015	385831	77159	2777	13995815
6.	Chandigarh	453	133	78	47	3	714
7.	Chhattisgarh	1324704	451296	240106	89107	10810	2116023
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	877	262	235	150	44	1568
9.	Daman and Diu	6727	399	127	28	6	7287
10.	Delhi	10861	4057	2898	1511	147	19474
11.	Goa	44633	6304	3477	1408	527	56349
12.	Gujarat	1543403	1241711	937729	449014	41899	4213756

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Haryana	757055	305608	276324	189970	42127	1571084
14.	Himachal Pradesh	452878	138665	72072	24918	3039	691572
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	981040	123820	47075	8720	305	1160960
16.	Jharkhand	963653	209874	131044	51144	6606	1362321
17.	Karnataka	3109771	1728486	1076737	456682	61341	6433017
18.	Kerala	5915763	167820	51865	10656	1261	6147365
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2531456	1631566	1165677	593066	69372	5991137
21.	Maharashtra	5843736	3444283	1836513	600696	56540	11781768
22.	Manipur	46785	26020	9075	1250	40	83170
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	1853554	474933	166485	39406	3205	2537583
27.	Puducherry	27125	2619	1376	404	29	31553
28.	Punjab	138315	181119	310349	289978	68379	988140
29.	Rajasthan	1542572	1013897	983719	911222	349783	4801193
30.	Sikkim	17640	8725	4654	1920	145	33084
31.	Tamil Nadu	5461035	1064891	466634	142985	15289	7150834
32.	Tripura	271829	20903	5755	719	40	299246
33.	Uttar Pradesh	14905270	2671324	1231536	377722	23519	19209371
34.	Uttarakhand	544427	140389	56616	13480	712	755624
35.	West Bengal	3828009	711349	206759	19333	48	4765498
ALL INDIA		72970540	19404797	11077117	4763392	790241	109006087

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-IV

*State-wise number of operational holdings as per Agriculture
Census 2010-11 - All Social Group**

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4626	2415	3137	1592	33	11803
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8424698	2918374	1399123	397252	35653	13175100
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	21456	19333	34038	27941	6530	109298
4.	Assam	1831115	496574	303528	84869	4137	2720223
5.	Bihar	14744098	948016	414664	81484	3129	16191391
6.	Chandigarh	453	133	78	47	3	714
7.	Chhattisgarh	2182834	831118	502989	201841	27698	3746480
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8177	3903	1807	733	104	14724
9.	Daman and Diu	7716	458	137	36	8	8355
10.	Delhi	11308	4517	2979	1543	150	20497
11.	Goa	59900	9817	5707	2010	586	78020
12.	Gujarat	1815634	1429021	1079533	512651	48771	4885610
13.	Haryana	778142	314818	283828	194694	45829	1617311
14.	Himachal Pradesh	670425	174596	84868	27606	3270	960765
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1206612	167130	63681	11449	525	1449397
16.	Jharkhand	1848324	428861	282818	128683	20242	2708928
17.	Karnataka	3848834	2138208	1266829	510745	67573	7832189
18.	Kerala	6579692	180171	57028	12044	1854	6830789
19.	Lakshadweep	9854	267	130	26	8	10285
20.	Madhya Pradesh	3891016	2448652	1654834	789143	88732	8872377
21.	Maharashtra	6709034	4052317	2159109	710591	67914	13698965

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Manipur	76735	48850	22235	2760	40	150620
23.	Meghalaya	102714	57755	40542	8312	238	209561
24.	Mizoram	50210	29753	9922	1731	264	91880
25.	Nagaland	6476	20338	48457	77968	25172	178411
26.	Odisha	3368296	918647	311261	63688	5574	4667466
27.	Puducherry	28481	2779	1449	448	71	33228
28.	Punjab	164431	195439	324515	298451	69718	1052554
29.	Rajasthan	2511512	1511068	1335144	1127122	403590	6888436
30.	Sikkim	40476	16941	10809	5922	780	74928
31.	Tamil Nadu	6266555	1181344	502308	150646	17371	8118224
32.	Tripura	499054	55043	21544	2752	86	578479
33.	Uttar Pradesh	18532272	3035331	1334266	398278	25309	23325456
34.	Uttarakhand	672138	157330	64781	17302	1099	912650
35.	West Bengal	5852681	979833	267474	22657	702	7123347
ALL INDIA		92825979	24779150	13895552	5875017	972763	138348461

Note: (1) Total may not tally due to rounding off. (2) *All Social Group include Institutional holdings also.

Statement-V

State-wise operated area (in hectare) as per Agriculture Census 2010-11 - Scheduled Castes

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	455992	342300	209452	77520	15234	1100498

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	37815	40691	48127	23897	958	151488
5.	Bihar	443154	87817	47994	12810	2081	593856
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	134351	115438	91346	47512	8185	396833
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	79	38	11	4	0	132
9.	Daman and Diu	59	12	8	4	0	82
10.	Delhi	30	0	0	0	0	30
11.	Goa	136	153	43	32	0	364
12.	Gujarat	33555	67458	88204	74025	31027	294268
13.	Haryana	7364	10059	14490	9869	1643	43425
14.	Himachal Pradesh	66800	34561	20895	8413	1220	131889
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	31280	23144	15185	3534	133	73276
16.	Jharkhand	124263	62709	65571	51838	17395	321775
17.	Karnataka	243713	371432	285285	145108	28674	1074212
18.	Kerala	30927	2541	1329	449	0	35247
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	305649	415823	367763	222140	28994	1340369
21.	Maharashtra	258593	435828	364911	203784	40357	1303473
22.	Manipur	700	950	1735	870	0	4255
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	296118	171927	76401	18702	2316	565464
27.	Puducherry	411	157	95	27	0	690
28.	Punjab	13363	19113	35176	45324	13990	126966

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29. Rajasthan		191043	326757	500499	817762	631202	2467263
30. Sikkim		881	1029	1511	1489	67	4976
31. Tamil Nadu		264466	131300	69346	23474	3719	492306
32. Tripura		26749	9808	4373	915	0	41844
33. Uttar Pradesh		1164541	467437	245754	82818	8716	1969267
34. Uttarakhand		39738	16738	8706	2228	124	67534
35. West Bengal		695195	300223	113611	10225	0	1119254
ALL INDIA		4866968	3455442	2677819	1884771	836034	13721034

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-VI

State-wise operated area (in hectare) as per Agriculture Census 2010-11 - Scheduled Tribes

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	303473	368723	346799	190598	38520	1248113
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10889	25525	93561	154404	95884	380263
4.	Assam	115844	135587	171337	87957	5872	516597
5.	Bihar	55752	22757	20579	5875	574	105537
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	253196	423012	610577	599026	272868	2158680
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3681	4928	4289	3265	770	16933
9.	Daman and Diu	171	62	12	10	0	255
10.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11. Goa		7330	6271	6400	3449	626	24076
12. Gujarat		91339	200668	299945	285859	90704	968515
13. Haryana		0	0	0	0	0	0
14. Himachal Pradesh		16180	14579	12980	5457	988	50183
15. Jammu and Kashmir		51687	37604	28727	10565	1229	129812
16. Jharkhand		261946	239464	354056	384912	190230	1430608
17. Karnataka		111145	202490	206667	145699	39175	705176
18. Kerala		17158	8057	6139	2303	785	34442
19. Lakshadweep		1609	328	267	120	10	2334
20. Madhya Pradesh		382688	724787	939432	889815	233906	3170628
21. Maharashtra		169716	415943	478062	394602	99672	1557996
22. Manipur		15870	26890	30395	5840	0	78995
23. Meghalaya		46096	76710	112929	47016	3416	286167
24. Mizoram		30119	37686	24031	8808	3885	104529
25. Nagaland		3264	22875	124342	479779	441264	1071523
26. Odisha		584636	543852	344892	122170	19143	1614693
27. Puducherry		0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Punjab		0	0	0	0	0	0
29. Rajasthan		279558	372697	470415	458681	203605	1784956
30. Sikkim		6979	8719	13490	19349	8263	56800
31. Tamil Nadu		21894	24494	18153	8681	1461	74684
32. Tripura		41734	37424	34946	9241	509	123854
33. Uttar Pradesh		19155	19436	17880	17093	6308	79873
34. Uttarakhand		6092	6431	13073	18982	3282	47860
35. West Bengal		234970	111158	46760	3753	0	396641
ALL INDIA		3144169	4119157	4831138	4363309	1762950	18220724

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-VII*State-wise operated area (in hectare) as per Agriculture Census 2010-II - Others*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1989	3414	8141	6797	31	20373
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2967034	3407564	3125609	1932369	460154	11892730
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	620647	510240	597424	322060	21295	2071667
5.	Bihar	3162656	1070435	999013	391905	37382	5661391
6.	Chandigarh	208	190	223	268	33	923
7.	Chhattisgarh	565148	640864	645566	505896	166243	2523717
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	369	368	674	912	765	3089
9.	Daman and Diu	1553	542	325	167	133	2721
10.	Delhi	4576	5411	7791	8389	2232	28400
11.	Goa	20617	11144	10270	8750	11723	62504
12.	Gujarat	759347	1805537	2598162	2565796	828289	8557132
13.	Haryana	350476	449077	793377	1155857	695485	3444272
14.	Himachal Pradesh	190140	194640	196307	141781	43998	766866
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	333009	173493	126061	47200	4093	683856
16.	Jharkhand	376324	287190	353090	284868	98198	1399668
17.	Karnataka	1493727	2443058	2896380	2603689	872286	10309139
18.	Kerala	827815	266069	146082	56396	30894	1327255
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1226645	2324908	3201877	3430137	1118650	11302217
21.	Maharashtra	2753665	4880187	4910563	3373377	888535	16806327
22.	Manipur	23630	34915	23120	6530	440	88635

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Odisha	1040975	781835	497229	239314	59098	2618450
27.	Puducherry	9328	3849	3946	2285	419	19827
28.	Punjab	87603	249845	819548	1665434	1005607	3828037
29.	Rajasthan	765120	1459057	2796059	5627457	6126726	16774417
30.	Sikkim	6595	10510	11864	10451	1947	41366
31.	Tamil Nadu	2001552	1484039	1261367	804721	236953	5788634
32.	Tripura	71143	28499	14802	3687	528	118659
33.	Uttar Pradesh	5981461	3750004	3355881	2086421	338948	15512714
34.	Uttarakhand	249315	201562	153074	72395	11245	687591
35.	West Bengal	1959520	1144237	568615	92695	540	3765607
ALL INDIA		27852187	27622684	30122439	27448004	13062870	126108184

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-VIII

State-wise operated area (in hectare) as per Agriculture
Census 2010-11 - All Social Group*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Semi- medium (2.00- 4.00 ha.)	Medium (4.00- 10.00 ha.)	Large (10.00 ha. & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2022	3464	8243	6911	1217	21856
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3727131	4119946	3684946	2208770	552474	14293266
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	11863	25914	93944	154858	97292	383872

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Assam	774796	687156	817982	437372	281763	2999070
5.	Bihar	3668728	1185695	1072969	414941	45228	6387561
6.	Chandigarh	208	190	223	268	33	923
7.	Chhattisgarh	952786	1179403	1347658	1152856	451344	5084047
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4137	5344	5000	4208	1608	20297
9.	Daman and Diu	1787	622	351	226	160	3145
10.	Delhi	4800	5967	8014	8577	2270	29628
11.	Goa	28103	17591	16770	12377	14152	88994
12.	Gujarat	884823	2074884	2988660	2930432	1019668	9898466
13.	Haryana	360474	462703	814473	1185436	822519	3645606
14.	Himachal Pradesh	273270	243942	230469	156459	50510	954651
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	416427	234531	170530	62145	11727	895361
16.	Jharkhand	763906	590764	775052	724846	310715	3165283
17.	Karnataka	1850946	3020002	3393036	2903687	993786	12161457
18.	Kerala	885644	282305	159075	64063	119729	1510816
19.	Lakshadweep	1712	364	324	159	192	2751
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1915352	3466141	4510221	4544530	1399633	15835877
21.	Maharashtra	3185931	5739050	5765450	3992777	1083852	19767061
22.	Manipur	40200	62755	55250	13415	440	172060
23.	Meghalaya	46196	76833	113174	47132	3923	287258
24.	Mizoram	30168	37723	24041	8872	3985	104789
25.	Nagaland	3327	23066	124863	480758^	442214	1074228
26.	Odisha	1921842	1497752	918947	381272	132201	4852014
27.	Puducherry	9834	4068	4138	2561	1200	21801
28.	Punjab	101006	269082	855112	1712859	1028575	3966634
29.	Rajasthan	1237578	2161876	3774350	6918368	7044064	21136235
30.	Sikkim	14811	20397	26932	32238	12304	106683

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31. Tamil Nadu		2291702	1643697	1355509	847811	349652	6488370
32. Tripura		139700	75809	54265	13942	1229	284945
33. Uttar Pradesh		7170852	4243297	3628857	2198774	379806	17621586
34. Uttarakhand		295556	225124	175382	94221	25401	815684
35. West Bengal		2890646	1556602	730577	109787	221970	5509582
ALL INDIA		35908264	35244061	37704789	33827908	16906832	159591855

Note: (1) Total may not tally due to rounding off. (2) *All Social Group includes Institutional holdings also.

Statement-IX

*State-wise Net Irrigated Area (in hectare) by Social Group as per
Agriculture Census 2010-11*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Sche- duled Castes	Sche- duled Tribes	Others	Total*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	34	34
2.	Andhra Pradesh	365927	325025	4717002	5425194
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	49103	0	49767
4.	Assam	7461	26108	90586	161235
5.	Bihar	231570	38966	2779238	3052632
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	892	892
7.	Chhattisgarh	171803	208337	959935	1341613
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19	780	858	1658
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0	21	21
10.	Delhi	29	0	21477	22357
11.	Goa	108	8112	26461	35570
12.	Gujarat	110575	257786	3655036	4076266

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Haryana	42153	0	3098207	3287265
14.	Himachal Pradesh	13254	15555	79225	108973
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	26850	32506	291182	356891
16.	Jharkhand	19360	37938	58900	118010
17.	Karnataka	212594	164506	2883147	3267007
18.	Kerala	8121	4598	295296	336489
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	612669	715446	5605827	6941996
21.	Maharashtra	200487	162470	2921717	3304061
22.	Manipur	424	104	31664	32192
23.	Meghalaya	0	60041	0	60274
24.	Mizoram	0	10244	0	10423
25.	Nagaland	0	74423	0	74683
26.	Odisha	168861	234261	866399	1271274
27.	Puducherry	596	0	14209	15477
28.	Punjab	125345	0	3812516	3949164
29.	Rajasthan	739002	782817	5194494	6744487
30.	Sikkim	757	8471	7934	17228
31.	Tamil Nadu	246809	17609	2962424	3254308
32.	Tripura	11466	21006	28821	61421
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1558081	39396	11775902	13426085
34.	Uttarakhand	18840	29308	276818	334249
35.	West Bengal	645840	146004	2548333	3428117
ALL INDIA		5539003	3470920	55004554	64567313

*includes institutional holdings also.

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement-X

*State-wise number of operational holders by Social Group as per
Agriculture Census 2010-11*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Sche- duled Castes	Sche- duled Tribes	Others	Total*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	11563	11803
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1456652	1059480	10653282	13175100
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	106528	0	109298
4.	Assam	141279	438160	2135736	2720223
5.	Bihar	1957611	212117	13995815	16191391
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	714	714
7.	Chhattisgarh	453161	1176779	2116023	3746480
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	233	12881	1568	14724
9.	Daman and Diu	303	736	7287	8355
10.	Delhi	79	0	19474	20497
11.	Goa	480	21066	56349	78020
12.	Gujarat	162500	504309	4213756	4885610
13.	Haryana	29015	0	1571084	1617311
14.	Himachal Pradesh	212359	56017	691572	960765
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	104846	181329	1160960	1449397
16.	Jharkhand	374582	966990	1362321	2708928
17.	Karnataka	913985	472561	6433017	7832189
18.	Kerala	532005	95161	6147365	6830789
19.	Lakshadweep	0	9385	0	10285
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1096522	1782330	5991137	8872377
21.	Maharashtra	1028573	863547	11781768	13698965
22.	Manipur	3105	64320	83170	150620

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Meghalaya	0	208848	0	209561
24.	Mizoram	0	91736	0	91880
25.	Nagaland	0	177763	0	178411
26.	Odisha	702478	1425507	2537583	4667466
27.	Puducherry	1303	0	31553	33228
28.	Punjab	63480	0	988140	1052554
29.	Rajasthan	954597	1119763	4801193	6888436
30.	Sikkim	4272	36523	33084	74928
31.	Tamil Nadu	873499	74414	7150834	8118224
32.	Tripura	115421	163485	299246	578479
33.	Uttar Pradesh	4020724	70937	19209371	23325456
34.	Uttarakhand	125351	29673	755624	912650
35.	West Bengal	1770775	582271	4765498	7123347
ALL INDIA		17099190	12004616	109006087	138348461

* includes institutional holdings also.

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Organic farming

†2962. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to encourage organic farming in the country;
- (b) whether organic farming is more expensive and whether Government provides assistance to the farmers to reduce these expenses;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to make conventional manures more accessible and cheaper than chemical fertilizers; and
- (d) the quantum of organic manures being produced in the country at present, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Govt. of India is promoting organic

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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 Govt. of India are also supporting organic farming viz., National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (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 I-B (*See below*).

(b) to (d) There is no evidence to show that organic farming is more expensive as compared to conventional farming. Government is promoting the use of organic manures under the scheme / Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) / to make it more accessible. The Government is enhancing the use of organic inputs in the country, which are as under:

- (i) Financial assistance is provided under the component Integrated Manure Management of PKVY for Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) as per specification given in FCO, 1985 @ ₹1000/acre for procuring and application of PROM to soil to meet phosphorus/Zinc deficiency in soil.
- (ii) Financial Assistance is provided for vermi-compost (size 7'x3'x1') @ ₹5,000/- unit for procurement of earth worms, preparation of pits, construction of brick wall etc.
- (iii) Promotion of Organic Inputs under Organic and INM Components of Soil Health Management, assistance is provided for Vermi-compost, Bio-fertilizers (Liquid / solid), Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc. including PROM @50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5000/- per ha and maximum ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary.
- (iv) Government is also promoting the production of organic manures by providing 100% financial assistance to State Governments/ Government Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh per unit and 33% of project cost maximum limited to ₹ 63 lakh per unit for individuals/private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for establishment of agro/vegetable waste compost production units of 3000 Total Per Annum (TPA) production capacity.
- (v) Under the Rainfed Area Development (RAD) component of NMSA, 50% of cost subject to limit of ₹ 125/- per cubic ft. and maximum permissible assistance of ₹ 50,000/- per unit for permanent structure and ₹ 8,000/- per unit for High Density Polyethylene (HDP) vermi bed is provided for construction of compost unit and organic input production unit.
- (vi) The Government of India is providing a Market Development Assistance @ ₹ 1500/-per metric ton (MT) to Fertiliser Companies for sale of City Compost. The details of organic manure produced during the year 2014-15 is given at in Statement-II.

Statement-I***Details of pattern of assistance given to dedicated schemes for promoting organic farming in the country***

- 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 Govt /Govt. 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 at Statement-IA

- 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.

- 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.
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.

Name of Component	Assistance
Administrative expenses for certification.	@ ₹ 59950/- (Salary & 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).
Production Units <i>i.e.</i> 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/-

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

Statement-I B***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	4075/- per farmer. @ ₹ 20.375 lakh/FPC
A.1.2	Assistance for on-farm input production infrastructure (@ Rs 3750/ha) and off-farm inputs (@ Rs 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 Guidelines)	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	

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
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	
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

Sl. No.	Components	Rate (₹)
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

State-wise details of different organic manures produced/available (lakh MT) in different States (2014-15)

State	Rural Compost (MT)	FYM (MT)	City Compost (MT)	Organic manure (MT)	Vermi Compost (MT)	Other manure (MT)	Total Manure (MT)	Area cover (Lakh Ha.)	Green manure (Ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	49.5	0.21	21.3	0	1.02	0	72.03	7.203	28.54
Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	0.25	0.00	0.01	0.65	0.06	1.08	0.108	0.07
Assam	0.92	940	0.03	0	1.75	0	942.70	94.27	2.9
Bihar	3.83	0	0.29	4.91	3.14	0	12.17	1.217	362000
Chhattisgarh	49	45.5	3.25	0.0011	3.5	3	104.25	10.42511	420000
Delhi	0	0	0.8	0	0	0	0.80	0.08	0
Goa	0.04	0	0.5	0.04	0.03	0.216	0.83	0.0826	3
Gujarat	0	361	0	0	0.51	4.195	365.71	36.5705	3.2
Haryana	0	0	0	0.084	0.063	0	0.15	0.0147	0
Himachal Pradesh	2	0	0.23	0.0074	26.4	0	28.64	2.86374	0.5
Jammu and Kashmir	1.761	0.00	0.19	0	0	0	1.95	0.1951	1080
Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	511	0	511.00	51.1	0
Karnataka	0	0	10.32	0	6.1	0	16.42	1.642	0
Kerala	0	1.11	1.86	0	0.88	0	3.85	0.385	0
Madhya Pradesh	5.85	0.01	0.059	0	0	0.135	6.05	0.6054	60000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Maharashtra	0	0	5.5	0	1.42	3.126	10.05	1.0046	0.65
Manipur	0	0.65	0.00	0	0.05	0	0.70	0.07	0
Mizoram	0	0.06	0	0	0.06	0	0.12	0.012	0
Meghalaya	0	17.00	0.00	0	0	0	17.00	1.7	0
Nagaland	0.035	0.84	0	0	0.05	0	0.93	0.0925	0.9
Odisha	23.27	0	0.07	0	0	0	23.34	2.334	0
Punjab	0	2.96	0	0.0064	0.329	0.031	3.33	0.33264	199000
Puducherry	0	0	3.23	0	0	0	3.23	0.323	0
Rajasthan	0	0	0	0.015	0	0.007	0.02	0.0022	0
Sikkim	0.32	0	0	0	0.03	0	0.35	0.035	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0	6.38	5.042	0	0	11.42	1.1422	0
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0.105	0	0.11	0.0105	238805
Uttarakhand	9.4	13.6	0	0	0.2961	0	23.30	2.32961	0
West Bengal	79.84	17.2	10.21	0.07	25.8119	3.986	137.12	13.71179	16.1
GRAND TOTAL	225.88	1400.39	64.22	10.186	583.20	14.756	2298.62	229.8622	1280941

Total Cover Area = 242.67 lakh ha. or 24.26 million ha.

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

(Manure area cover 229.86 lakh ha + Green manuring area 12.80 lakh ha.)

Linking of wholesale markets with e-platform

†2963. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to develop a national integrated agriculture market to provide better price for agricultural produce to improve the deteriorating condition of farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning to link the main wholesale markets of the country including Maharashtra with an e-platform;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the total number of wholesale markets in Maharashtra that are to be connected with it in the first phase; and

(d) whether any time-limit has been fixed to connect all wholesale markets in the country including Maharashtra with an e-platform, if so, details thereof and if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme on 01.07.2015 with a budget of ₹200 crore. The scheme envisages, to deploy a pan India electronic trading portal in selected regulated wholesale markets in States across the country. 585 markets are targeted for integration with e-NAM by March, 2018.

For integration with e-NAM, States are required to complete certain pre-requisite reforms in their respective Agriculture Produce Marketing (Regulation) Acts to provide for (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 of price discovery.

Under the scheme, the Government provides software free of cost and grant up to ₹30 lakh per market to the eligible States for related infrastructure/equipments including for assaying.

e-Nam is expected to benefit the farmers through enhanced market access by way of allowing remote online bidding for their produce, removal of information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, real-time price discovery based on the actual demand-supply gap through transparent online auction, uniform marketing procedures, remuneration according to quality of produce and online payment directly to farmer's account.

(c) The Government of Maharashtra has identified 30 markets of Maharashtra to integrate with e-NAM in the first phase.

(d) Yes, Sir. The target is to integrate 200 markets across the country by 30th September, 2016, another 200 markets by 31st March, 2017 and 185 markets by 31st March, 2018 with e-NAM which includes 30 markets of Maharashtra State.

Cultivation and marketing of indigenous varieties of rice

2964. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to promote native rice varieties in various parts of the country;

(b) whether Government has chalked out a strategy to explore avenues to propagate cultivation of indigenous varieties of rice and to ensure a marketing network therefor;

(c) whether indigenous rice varieties have a huge potential in the market but it has yet to be tapped properly; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) All varieties of rice including native varieties are being promoted under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER). Under both programmes, assistance is provided for packing, labelling and branding of products produced organically.

For increasing production of rice in the country, newer varieties of rice are also promoted under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI). Assistance is provided to farmers for demonstrations of improved new varieties and production technologies.

Adverse effect on chemical fertilizers

†2965. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive use of chemical fertilizers causes many problems, including loss of land fertility and diseases;

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any research to ascertain the reasons therefor, if so, details thereof;

(c) the results of research conducted and whether Government has taken any action on these results, the details thereof;

(d) the proportion of traditional safe manures and chemical fertilizers used in the country in each of last three years and the current year; and

(e) whether Government has launched any awareness drive to train farmers in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) There is no harmful effect of chemical fertilizers with recommended doses and judicious use. However, imbalanced use of chemical

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may cause micronutrient deficiencies in the soil as evident from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) study on 'Long Term Fertilizer Experiments' in different soil types under various cropping system. The research also shows that the limiting nutrients which are deficient will also not allow the full expression of other nutrients, thereby lowering fertilizer responses and crop productivity. Having regard to the use above said research, Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, bio-fertilizer etc) of plant nutrients.

(d) and (e) The production/ use of various manures and chemical fertilizers for the last 3 years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Balance and integrated nutrient management is being popularized among the farmers through Front Line Demonstration (FLD), farmers trainings, publishing extension materials in local languages.

Statement

Details of year-wise production/ use of various manures and chemical fertilizers during last 3 years

Year	Chemical Fertilizers (NPK) (‘000, tones)	Rural Compost	FYM	Manures (In MT)			Total
				City- compost	Vermi- compost	Other manures	
2012-13	52924.84	1039.35	2850.50	143.05	53.71	2917.00	7003.61
2013-14	51381.15	224.98	1399.30	63.34	582.27	24.28	2294.17
2014-15	53355.69	225.88	1400.39	64.22	583.20	24.95	2298.64

Setting up of Central Agriculture Universities in Bihar and Jharkhand

†2966. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the setting up of two new Central Agriculture Universities in the States of Bihar and Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the locations thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) by when these two Universities are going to commence their operation; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) to (d) The Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar has been converted into Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar by enactment of Parliament on 11.05.2016. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Act, 2016 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 28.05.2016. The University is already in operation.

Jharkhand University is not Central Agricultural University.

Suicide by farmers

2967. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is paying special attention to the reasons responsible for forcing farmers to commit suicide day by day as such incidents keep on increasing;
- (b) whether Government is conducting any study to understand the financial burden of farmers; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor as the increasing cases of suicide by farmers is a tragic and complex issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Agriculture, including agricultural indebtedness, being a State subject, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture in the State. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

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

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme by which the farmers can know the major and minor nutrients available in their soils which will ensure judicious use of fertiliser application and thus save money of farmers. The balanced use of fertiliser will also enhance productivity and ensure higher returns to the farmers.
- (ii) Neem Coated Urea is being promoted to regulate urea use, enhance its availability

to the crop and reduce cost of fertilizer application. The entire quantity of domestically manufactured urea is now neem coated. From the current year (*i.e.* 2016), the urea that is imported would also be neem coated.

- (iii) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- (iv) The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) is being implemented to expand cultivated area with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency.
- (v) National Agriculture Market scheme (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, Telengana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand covering 21 markets. As of now 23 markets have been integrated.
- (vi) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is being implemented from Kharif 2016 season. PMFBY has addressed all the shortcomings in the earlier schemes and is available to the farmers at very low rates of premium. This scheme would provide insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.
- (vii) The Government provides interest subvention of 3% on short-term crop loans up to ₹ 3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 7% per annum, which gets reduced to 4% on prompt repayment. Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2015-16, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.
- (viii) In addition, the Government is implementing several Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP);

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

MSP is notified for both Kharif and Rabi crops based on the recommendations of the Commission on Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP). The Commission collects and analyses data on cost of activation and recommends MSP. The Government has also declared bonus on pulses for Kharif 2016 over and above the approved MSP. Even during last year, Government offered bonus over and above the MSP in case of pulses.

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 Price Support Scheme on the request of State/UT Government. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when the prices tend to fall below the economic level/cost of production.

(b) and (c) A study titled "Farmers Suicides: Causes and Policy Prescriptions" has been approved as an All India Coordinated study and allotted to Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC), Bangalore as a coordinator of the study. The study is to be carried out in 18 states *i.e.* Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry, Punjab and Maharashtra with their respective Agro Economic Research Centres (AERCs). The reference year of the study has been decided as the agriculture year 2015-16 (June, 2015-May, 2016). As per time line, the study is to be completed by March, 2017.

Compensation to farmers of Rajasthan for crop loss

†2968. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance Central Government provides to the farmers suffering from crop loss caused due to drought and other calamities;

(b) the details of compensation provided to the farmers of Rajasthan during the last two years; and

(c) the average monthly income of farmers' families in Rajasthan and the action plan of Government to improve it?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. 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.

Financial assistance to farmers in the event of crop loss caused due to drought and other calamities is provided as per the guidelines on revised items and norms of assistance under SDRF/NDRF dated 8th April, 2015 of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Farmers having suffered 33% and above loss to crops are now entitled to receive financial assistance in place of a minimum threshold of crop loss of 50% and above which obtained earlier. Further, norms of assistance have been revised by 1.5 times in all categories. Assistance under SDRF/NDRF provided is for immediate relief and not by way of compensation for the loss suffered.

The details of financial assistance provided to Rajasthan from NDRF during the last two years is as under:

(₹ in crores)

Calamity	Year	Assistance approved from NDRF
Hailstorm	2014-15	1447.73
Drought	2015-16	1193.41
Hailstorm	2015-16	79.18

(c) The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) conducted a "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households", during NSS 70th round (January 2013-December 2013) in rural parts of the country. As per the survey the average monthly income per agricultural household for the period July 2012-June, 2013, in Rajasthan is ₹7350 (Income includes income from salary wages, net receipt from cultivation, net receipt from farming of animals and net receipt from non-farm business).

Govt. of India is implementing various crop development schemes for increasing production and productivity of crops in order to increase the farmers income in the country viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) as sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Besides, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Soil Health Card, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), etc. are also being implemented to increase productivity and thereby the farmers income.

Assistance under NICRA

2969. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides assistance to farmers affected from climate change under the National Innovations on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) scheme;
- (b) if so, the details of assistance given to the farmers during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of activities carried out under NICRA; and
- (d) the procedure for granting the assistance under NICRA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) National Innovation on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) is a network research scheme of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for undertaking strategic research, capacity building and technology demonstrations to enhance resilience of Indian agriculture in changing climate. Under its technology demonstration component (TDC) various climate resilient technologies are demonstrated in 151 villages of the most vulnerable districts of the country. Major interventions implemented under the scheme include efficient management of natural resources, adoption of resilient agronomic practices, adoption of stress tolerant varieties, efficient management of livestock, poultry and fisheries besides strengthening local institution and technical advisories. And, there is no provision under NICRA to provide assistance to farmers affected due to climate change.

Changes in curriculum of agricultural education

†2970. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the key recommendations of the committee constituted by Agriculture Research Council for bringing change in the curriculum of agriculture education and the recommendations implemented by Government;
- (b) whether teachers and other facilities are available for new curriculum in the institutes; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to popularize the agriculture education?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) The Fifth Deans' Committee Report has been approved by the Hon'ble Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister and President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and key recommendations of committee are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps have been taken to strengthen/popularize higher agricultural education under XII Plan scheme "Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India":

- (i) To attract and sustain the interest of youth in agricultural education, the ICAR provides Stipend and Fellowship/assistance under various programs.
- (ii) A new Student 'READY' (Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana) programme has been launched with a stipend of ₹ 3000/ student / month for maximum of six months.
- (iii) The National Talent Scholarships for undergraduate students has been enhanced to ₹ 2000/ student/ month from existing ₹ 1000/ student/ month and Scholarship for PG students has also been initiated @ ₹ 3000/ student/ month.
- (iv) Netaji Subhas-ICAR International Fellowship for Ph.D. to Indian students at overseas universities @ US\$ 2000/month and foreign students at Indian Agricultural Universities @ ₹40,000/- per month is being implemented since 2009.

Statement

Key Recommendations of Fifth Deans Committee

1. Student READY (Rural and Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana)

In compliance with the Student READY programme launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 25th July, 2015, the following components are recommended for conducting one year program in all the UG disciplines:

- Experiential Learning
- Rural Agriculture Work Experience
- In Plant Training/Industrial attachment
- Hands-on Training (HOT)/Skill development training
- Students Projects

2. Common Courses- It was a general consensus that students of all disciplines need to be taught the courses on the following topics. The title of the course may, however, be kept as per the feasibility of the Institute.

1. Environmental Studies and Disaster Management
2. Communication Skills and Personality Development
3. Information and Communication Technology
4. Entrepreneurship Development and Business Management
5. Agricultural Informatics
6. Economics and Marketing

3. New Programmes- Fifth Deans' Committee has introduced the following new courses:

- B. Tech. (Biotechnology)
- B.Sc. (Hons) Sericulture
- B.Sc. (Hons) Home Science rechristened as Community Science
- B.Sc. (Hons) Food Nutrition and Dietetics

4. Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Establishment of new Colleges:

Fifth Deans' Committee has Developed DPRs for establishment of colleges by integrating the recommendations of Committee on Minimum Standards on Higher Agricultural Education in terms of faculty strength, land requirement, departments and infrastructure.

5. Holistic distribution of courses:

The Committee recommended to distribute courses in the following format to inculcate the Basics, Principles and Skills in a systematic way.

I year	-	Basic and fundamental courses
II Year	-	Principles
III Year	-	Production system
IV Year	-	Skill and entrepreneurship development

6. Declaring degrees in Agricultural Sciences as professional:

The committee has recommended that all degrees in the disciplines of Agricultural Sciences be declared as professional courses, which include undergraduate in:

- (1) Agriculture
- (2) Agriculture Engineering
- (3) Biotechnology
- (4) Dairy Technology
- (5) Fisheries
- (6) Food Technology
- (7) Forestry
- (8) Home Science (Community Science)
- (9) Horticulture
- (10) Sericulture

Irrigation facility for additional land

†2971. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to make two crore hectares of additional land irrigated across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) in what manner arrangement for water will be made to make the land irrigated; and
- (d) the total estimated cost for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, a target of creating irrigation potential of 28.5 lakh hectare (7.5 Lakh ha under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and 21.0 Lakh ha under Har Khet Ko Pani component) had been kept under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for the period 2015-16 to 2019-20.

Further, during 2016-17, under PMKSY-AIBP and Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) component (PMKSY-HKPP), Ninety Nine (99) Major/

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Medium Irrigation Projects having potential of 76.03 lakh ha. have been identified in consultation with states, to be completed in phases by Dec, 2019. For completion of these projects in a mission mode, innovative funding mechanism through NABARD is envisaged.

Package for revival of credit cooperative structure in Gujarat

†2972. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a revival package amounting to ₹828.69 crore has been sanctioned to Government of Gujarat for credit cooperative structure on the basis of recommendation of Prof. Vaidyanathan Committee; and

(b) whether ₹260.91 crore are yet to be released to Government of Gujarat by Central Government with reference to above at present, if so, the time period in which Central Government plans to release outstanding amount of ₹ 260.91 crore which could be utilized to strengthen Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) and District Central Cooperative Banks?

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

(b) No, Sir. As per the condition of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 21.12.2006 between the Government of Gujarat and the Government of India (GoI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for implementation of the Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure, the Government of Gujarat was required to complete the benchmark activities by 21.12.2009. (The Revival Package was for three year / and the implementation period ended on 21.12.2009.) According to the said MoU (para 16), the release of financial assistance was subject to fulfillment of key benchmark activities. Out of 8 benchmark activities, the Government of Gujarat had completed only 4 benchmark activities by 30.06.2011. A sum of ₹567.78 crore had been released as GoI's share to the Government of Gujarat out of the total GoF share of ₹826.69 crore. National Implementing and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) constituted by the GoI extended the implementation period upto 30th June, 2011. The Government of Gujarat could not complete all the benchmark activities within the stipulated date *i.e.* 30th June, 2011. Government has since closed the package as on 30th June, 2011 and therefore, the balance Government share of ₹260.91 crore could not be released under the package.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Difference between MSP and selling price of agricultural produces

2973. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) whether there is a vast difference between MSP of the agricultural produces and their selling price in the markets;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether farmers are getting lesser price for their crops/produce; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove the role of middlemen so that farmers could get more prices for their crops/produce and the consumers could get them at low prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) Market/ selling price of agricultural produces is determined by market forces of demand and supply. Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) is fixed by Government based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers, *inter alia*, a number of important factors which include cost of production, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living etc.

The objective of the Government's price policy is to ensure remunerative prices to farmers by offering to procure their produce at MSP. However farmers are free to sell their produce to Government procurement agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

(d) To facilitate better price realization to farmers in competitive and transparent manner and to provide quality produce at reduced cost to consumers Government has launched 'National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)' Scheme on 14th April, 2016. Under the Scheme, a PAN India electronic trading portal (e-NAM) is being deployed in selected regulated wholesale markets in States across the country and is aimed to integrate 585 markets with e-NAM. At present 23 wholesale regulated agricultural markets of 8 states in the country have been linked with e-NAM portal.

Schemes implemented by the Ministry in Andhra Pradesh

2974. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes/missions being implemented by the Ministry in Andhra Pradesh and the status of the same, scheme-wise and mission-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and released for each of the scheme/mission in the last three years and the current year, year-wise, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether any special assistance was sought by Government of Andhra Pradesh under any of the above scheme/mission; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Ministry on such request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) The details of the schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare indicating scheme wise funds allocated and released during the last three years and current year for the State of Andhra Pradesh is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for release of funds to rejuvenate the perennial horticulture crops in State under "Interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops on account of deficit rainfall as per Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast of below average monsoon during 2015-16". However, due to paucity of funds, no funds could be released to any state including Andhra Pradesh under "Interventions for saving perennial horticulture crops on account of deficit rainfall as per IMD forecast of below average monsoon during 2015-16."

Statement

Details showing funds allocated and released during 2013-14 to 2016-17 to the State of Andhra Pradesh under schemes implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A Krishonnati Yojana									
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	191.87	157.37	131.36	75.23	49.28	49.28	71.12	0
2.	National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP)	85.94012	85.94012	51.36	17.98	52.63	39.57	52.4319	13.108
3.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)								
(i)	Rainfed Area Development & Climate Change (RAD)			13	13	19.5	19.5	15	9
(ii)	Soil Health Management (SHM)	3.9341	4.6115	2.8905	7.5035	0			
(iii)	Soil Health Card (SHC)				1.2408	7.0609	4.5775	13.9447	6.97235
(iv)	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)							22.5681	7.9817

(₹ in crore)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension & Technology (NMAET)								
(i)	Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)	26.9163	20.1872	22.6444	22.6444	11.4094	11.4094	11.2172	5.6086
(ii)	National E-Governance Plan Agriculture (NeGP)			1.0596	1.0596	1.5547	1.5547	1.2447	0.6223
(iii)	Sub Mission On Agriculture Mechanisation (SMAM)			10.759	10.5357	7.5847	7.278	12	12
(iv)	Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Material (SMSP)		30.53	9	11.11	6.35	9.69	8.5	6.29
5.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)								
(i)	National Horticulture Mission (NHM)	127.5	91.06	74.59	64.68	71.5	55.75	64.03	29.1
(ii)	National Agroforestry & Bamboo Mission (NABM) #	0.2328		0.8395		0		0	
B	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	483.23	456.87	267.07	263.54	197.79	192.66	234.16	0
C	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchay Yojana								
	Micro Irrigation	295	265.56	121.48	121.48	131.75	*177.68	220	132
	Other Intervention						28.7852	43	25.8
	TOTAL	1210.68922	841.95732	703.1625	484.9546	561.0212	394.1601	513.7201	90.68295

* An additional Central Grant of ₹ 45.93 crore was released.

Funds could not be released to State of Andhra Pradesh despite of allocation due to non submission of required documents by State Authorities.

Protecting and enhancing fertility of soil

2975. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what the ICAR is doing to protect the existing fertility of soil as also to increase its fertility for better productivity;

(b) the status of soil fertility in various States, particularly Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(c) whether any research is underway on soil health of the country by ICAR and other institutions, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) The ICAR is developing technologies for soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, biofertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients to protect and improve soil health and fertility. The Council has developed improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and soil types. Liquid biofertilizer technology with higher shelf life has also been developed. Besides, the Council has developed technology to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermincompost, bio-enriched compost, municipal solid waste compost, etc. from various organic wastes.

The ICAR also imparts training, organises frontline demonstrations etc. to educate farmers on all these aspects.

(b) The status of soil fertility in various States including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Yes Sir, the ICAR through Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal and All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) on Soil Test Crop Response, Micro- and Secondary Nutrients and Pollutant Elements and Plants, Long Term Fertilizer Experiments and Network Project on Soil Biodiversity-Biofertilizers with coordinating centres located at various state agricultural universities are addressing soil health and fertility related issues in the country.

Statement*Status of soil fertility (districts low in soil available nutrients) in different States*

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Andhra Pradesh	N	Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Krishna, Kurnool, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, West Godavari
	P	Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Guntur, Hyderabad, Krishna, Kurnool, Nellore, Srikakulam
	K	Nil
	S	Kurnool, Kadappa, Guntur, Anantpur
	Zn	Kurnool, Guntur, Anantpur, Krishna, West Godavari, Parakasham, Srikakulam
	Fe	Kurnool, Anantpur, Parakasham, Vishakhapatnam
	Mn	West Godavari
	B	Krishna, West Godavari, Vishakhapatnam, Srikakulam
Telangana	N	Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Nizamabad, Warangal
	P	Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad, Rangareddi, Warangal
	K	Nil
	S	Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Nalgonda
	Zn	Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Rangareddy, Adilabad
	Fe	Nizamabad, Adilabad
	Mn	Rangareddy, Nizamabad, Medak
Assam	B	Mehboobnagar, Karimnagar, Rangareddy, Nalgonda, Adilabad, Medak
	N	Bongaigaon, Bopeta, Chirang, Darrang, Kokrajhar, Morigaon, N C Hills, Nalbari

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Chhattisgarh	P	Jorhat, Karbi angling, Udalguri
	K	Bongaigaon, Cachar, Chirang, Golaghat, Hailakandi, Jorhat, Karimganj, Kokrajhar, N C Hills, Nagaon, Sivsagar, Udalguri
	S	Jorhat, Sibsagar, Kamrup
	Zn	Jorhat, Golaghat, Barpeta, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Dibrugarh, Darang, Tinsukia
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Jorhat, N Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh
	N	Bastar, Dantewara, Dhamtari, Durg, Kanker, Kawardha, Mahasmand, Raipur, Rajnandgaon
	P	Bastar, Dantewara, Dhamtari, Kanker, Korba, Mahasmand, Raipur
	K	Bastar, Dantewara, Kanker
Gujarat	N	Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Kutch, Mahesana, Narmada, Patan, Sabarkantha, Surat, Surendranagar, Vadodara
	P	Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhawnagar, Dahod, Mahesana, Narmada, Navsari, Panchmahal, Patan, Porbandar, Surendranagar, Valsad
	K	Nil
	S	Banaskantha, Anand, Kheda, Panchmahal, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Dahod
	Zn	Patan, Bharuch, Ahmedabad, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Kutch
	Fe	Anand, Kheda, Patan, Vadodara, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Gandhinagar Kutch
	Mn	Nil
	B	Panchmahal, Patan, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Gandhinagar

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Haryana	N	Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehbad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Sirsa, Sonapat, Yamuna Nagar
	P	Bhiwani, Faridabad, Fatehbad, Gurgaon, Hisar, Jhajjar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Panchkula, Panipat, Rewari, Sirsa, Sonapat, Yamuna Nagar
	K	Nil
	S	Kurukshetra, Mohindergarh, Jhajjar, Rewari, Ambala, Palwal, Bhiwani, Rohtak, Fatehabad
	Zn	Mohindergarh, Bhiwani
	Fe	Sirsa, Hisar, Mohindergarh, Fatehabad, Bhiwani, Rohtak
	Mn	Hisar, Karnal, Fatehabad
	B	Nil
Himachal Pradesh	N	Nil
	P	Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi, Simla, Una
	K	Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kinnaur, Lahaul spiti, Una
	S	Nil
	Zn	Hamirpur, Una, Chamba, Mandi
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Bilaspur, Una, Kangra, Shimla, Solan
Karnataka	N	Kolar
	P	Bellari, Bijapur, Hassan, North Kannada, South Kannada, Udupi
	K	South Kannada, Udupi
	Kerala	N Kasaragod, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram
	P	Nil

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

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Odisha		Buldhana, Chandrapur, Aurangabad, Wardha, Hingoli, Nanded, Nagpur, Parbhani, Latur
	Fe	Akola, Jalna, Amravati, Aurangabad, Washim, Wardha, Beed, Parbhani
	Mn	Nil
	B	Nil
	N	Bhadrak, Boudh, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapada, Khurda, Mayurbhanj, Naupada, Nayagarh, Bhulbani, Puri, Sundargarh
	P	Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Nawrangpur, Phulbani, Sambalpur
	K	Cuttack, Ganjam, Nayagarh
	S	Bargarh, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Kalahandi, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Sambalpur, Sonapur
	Zn	Angul, Bhadrak, Boudh, Puri, Sonapur
	Fe	Nil
Punjab	Mn	Nil
	B	Angul, Bargarh, Bhadrak, Boudh, Dhenkanal, Kandhmal, Kendrapada, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Puri, Sambalpur, Sonapur
	N	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Mansa, Moga, Muktsar
	P	Nil
	K	Nil
	S	Nil
	Zn	Gurdaspur
	Fe	Bhatinda

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Rajasthan	Mn	Bhatinda, Faridkot, Gurdaspur, Tarantaran
	B	Nil
	N	Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Bharatpur, Barmer, Bundi, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Durgapur, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhun, Jodhpur, Karauli, Kota, Nagpur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirhi, Sriganganagar, Tonk
	P	Bharatpur, Barmer, Churu, Dausa, Dholpur, Durgapur, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Sirhi, Sriganganagar
Tamil Nadu	K	Nil
	N	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Fudukkottai, Kanchipuram, Kanyakumari, Karur, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Peerambalur, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Theni, Thiruvallur, Thiruvarur, Thoothukudi, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Trichirapalli, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar
	P	Kanchipuram, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi, Trichirapalli
	K	Ariyalur
	S	Nagapattinam, Coimbatore, Virudhunagar, Theni, Krishnagiri, Pudukkottai
	Zn	Thanjavur, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Theni, Krishnagiri, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Pudukkottai
	Fe	Trichy, Erode, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Krishnagiri
	Mn	Villupuram
	B	Erode, Salem, Krishnagiri, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Pudukkottai

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Uttar Pradesh	N	Aazamgarh, Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkarnagar, Auraiya, Badanyu, Baghpat, Baharaich, Baliya, Balrampur, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijnaur, Buland Shahar, Chandouli, Chitrkut, Devariya, Eta, Etahwa, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehabad, Firozabad, Gautambudh nagar, Gazipur, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Hameerpur, Hardoi, Hathras, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Jyotishaphool nagar, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kashiram Nagar, Kaushambee, Kushinagar, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Lukhimpur, Maharajganj, Mahowa, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Muradabad, Muzzafar Nagar, Peelibhit, Pratapgarh, Rampur, Raybareli, Saharanpur, Santkabeer Nagar, Shahjahapur, Sidhrth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonebhadra, Sribasti, Sultanpur, Unnav, Varanasi.
	P	Aazamgarh, Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ambedkamagar, Auraiya, Badanyu, Baghpat, Baharaich, Baliya, Balrampur, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijnour, Buland Shahar, Chandouli, Chitrakut, Devariya, Eta, Etawa, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehabad, Firozabad, Gautambudh nagar, Gazipur, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Hameerpur, Hathras, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Jyotishaphool nagar, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Kashiram Nagar, Kaushambee, Kushinagar, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Lukhimpur, Maharajganj, Mahowa, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Mirzapur, Muradabad, Muzzafarnagar, Peelibhit, Pratapgarh, Rampur, Raybareli, Saharanpur, Santkabeer nagar, Santravidasnagar, Shahjahapur, Sidhrath Nagar, Sitapur, Sonebhadra, Sribasti, Sultanpur, Unnav, Varanasi
	K	Nil
	S	Allahabad, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Raibareli, Ramabai nagar, Unnao

States/UTs	Nutrient	Districts
Uttarakhand	Zn	Agra, Allahabad, Farrukhabad, Gorakhpur, Kannauj, Kanpur, Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Raibareli, Ramabai nagar, Sitapur
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Etawah, Farrukhabad, Kannauj, Kanpur, Sitapur, Varanasi
	B	Nil
	N	Dehradun, Tehari Gadwal, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarkashi
	P	Bageswar, Chamoli, Champawat, Dehradun, Haridwar, Paudi, Rudraprayag, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarkashi
	K	Nil
	S	Champawat, Dehradun
	Zn	Udham Singh Nagar
	Fe	Nil
West Bengal	Mn	Rudraprayag
	B	Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Tehri
	N	Midnapore E, Midnapore W, North 24- Parganas, South 24- Parganas
	P	Midnapore E, Prakama, Purulia
	K	Jalpaiguri
	S	Nil
	Zn	Jalpaiguri, North Dinajpur, N 24 Pargana, Bardhaman, Coochbehar
	Fe	Nil
	Mn	Nil
	B	Hooghly, Murshidabad, Bardhaman, Nadia, Coochbehar, S 24 Pargana

Source: agricoop.nic.in/dacdivision/Comsoilhealth28612.pdf and IISS, Bhopal

Development of floriculture

2976. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the various steps taken by Government to improve floriculture in the country;
- (b) the expected average yield per-acre and the total area under cultivation for flower farming;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure good quality Germ Plasm and tissue culture facility at affordable rates;
- (d) whether Government is planning to provide adequate marketing facility and sophisticated cold storage space for floriculture; and
- (e) whether Government is also planning to reduce import duty on all kinds of floriculture farming related material and equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India under the centrally sponsored scheme, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), provides financial assistance for holistic development of horticulture including floriculture. The various development programmes undertaken under MIDH are production of planting materials, area expansion, promotion of Integrated Pest Management/Integrated Nutrient Management, protected cultivation, promotion of organic farming, horticulture mechanization, creation of water resources, post-harvest management, strengthening tissue culture laboratories, development of market yards, human resource development etc. Floriculture farmers are provided assistance @ 40% of the cost ranging from ₹40,000 per ha. to ₹1.50 lakh per ha. limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary. Besides, the technological support is provided by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which has established a full-fledged Directorate of Floricultural Research at Pune to address the issues specific to floriculture research.

(b) The productivity of flowers varies from variety to variety. However, the average yield of flowers per acre is estimated at 3.48 tonnes. The total area covered under floriculture is 248300 ha. and the total production is 2158850 tonnes.

(c) Considerable quantity of germplasm of floriculture crops has been collected and being maintained at 21 All India Coordinated Research Project Centres (AICRP) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) spread across the country. Besides, State Agricultural Universities, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) organizations like National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Institute of Himalayan

Bioresource Technology (IHBT) and various botanical gardens in different parts of country also maintain the germplasm of floriculture crops. The plant tissue culture laboratories in the State Department of Horticulture ensure the development of quality planting material including floricultural crops under assistance from MIDH.

(d) Government has been supporting all relevant infrastructures for integrated cold-chain development, which ensures market access for all horticulture produce including floriculture sector. The MIDH provides assistance ranging from 25 to 55% for establishment of market infrastructure like terminal markets, whole sale markets, rural and retail markets. Assistance is given for construction of cold storages, on-farm pack houses, mobile pre-cooling units, staging cold rooms, refrigerated vans etc. for which subsidy is extended by 35 to 50%.

(e) No. At present, this Department does not have any proposal to reduce the import duty of floriculture farming related material and equipment.

Whitefly attack on cotton crops in Punjab and Haryana

2977. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cotton cultivation area in Punjab and Haryana has shrunk by 27 per cent this year;

(b) whether Government is also aware that framers have faced huge losses due to whitefly attack this year; and

(c) if so, whether Government is planning to give assistance to farmers in the form of subsidised pesticides and better MSP to reduce their accumulated losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As per latest reports on sowing for the current year received from State Governments and 4th Advance Estimates for 2015-16, area coverage under cotton in Punjab during the current year is lower by 24.48% as compared to its area during the last year. In Haryana, the area coverage under cotton this year is lower by about 13.27% as compared to cotton area in the State during the last year.

(b) As per information received from State Government of Punjab, this year only a marginal area in Fazilka district of the State has been affected by whitefly above the Economic Threshold Limits (ETL). Though minor attacks have been reported from some isolated areas, the situation is manageable and there are no reports of any significant loss due to whitefly.

This year, there are no reports of loss due to whitefly attack in the State of Haryana.

(c) The Government of Punjab is providing assistance for 3162 cluster demonstrators (31620 hectare) where seed, pesticides and fertilizers are being provided to farmers at a subsidy of ₹7500/- per hectare.

In order to ensure remunerative price to cotton growers in the country, Government of India has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) from ₹3800/- per quintal to ₹3860/- per quintal for Medium Staple variety and from ₹4100/- per quintal to ₹4160/- per quintal for Long Staple variety of cotton for 2016-17.

Bringing radical agricultural reforms

2978. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any new schemes and programmes for the benefit of small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the system of farm credit to farmers;

(c) whether Government has recently assessed the reasons for slow growth of agriculture, marketing problems being faced by farmers and non-availability of proper remuneration for their farm produce; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to bring radical agricultural reforms to alleviate the difficulties faced by farmers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Agriculture is a State subject. However, the Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments, through various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented for the benefit of farmers including small and marginal farmers. The list of schemes being implemented is given in Statement (*See* below).

In order to bring more and more farmers within the institutional fold of credit, the Government is providing, through institutional sources (commercial banks, cooperative banks and regional rural banks), short term crop loans and medium/long term loans to the farmers.

The benefit of Interest Subvention Scheme has been extended to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months post harvest on the same rate as available to crop loan against negotiable warehouse receipt for keeping their produce in warehouses.

In order to ensure that all eligible farmers are provided with hassle-free and timely credit for their agricultural operations, the Government has introduced the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, which enables them to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash to satisfy their consumption needs.

(c) The growth rate in agriculture and allied sector has been as under:

Year	Growth rate in GVA in agriculture and allied sector (%)
2011-12	at constant prices
2012-13	1.5
2013-14	4.2
2014-15	-0.2
2015-16	1.2

The growth rate during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 has been low due to deficiency of rainfall and moisture stress affecting production of Kharif and Rabi crops.

The Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the major agricultural produce on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of the State Governments, concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors.

(d) The strategy for radical reforms involves efficient input management and remunerative prices on farm produce while redesigning the production environment. Some of the schemes being implemented/focus area for the purpose are:

1. Soil Health Card;
2. Neem Coated Urea;
3. Promotion of organic farming through Parmparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana;
4. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana;
5. Focus on pulse production;
6. Efficient agriculture marketing through National Agricultural Market; and
7. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

Statement

Details of various Central sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented for the benefit of small and marginal farmers

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
2.	National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP)
3.	Rainfed Area Development & Climate Change (RAD)
4.	Soil Health Management (SHM)
5.	Soil Health Card (SHC)
6.	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
7.	Sub-mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)
8.	National E-Governance Plan Agriculture
9.	Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)
10.	Sub-mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP)
11.	National Horticulture Mission (NHM)
12.	National Agroforestry & Bamboo Mission (NABM)
13.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
14.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) [For Micro Irrigation]
15.	Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNE&HS)
16.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
17.	National Agriculture Market (NAM)

Declaration of milk as an agricultural produce

2979. SHRIR. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to declare milk as an agricultural produce; and

(b) if so, its implications on the dairy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) There is no proposal to declare milk as an agricultural produce.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at part (a).

Implementation of recommendation of Swaminathan Commission on MSP

2980. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per Government, implementation of Swaminathan Commission's recommendation on MSP would distort the market and would lead to inflation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) The present level of MSP for various crops provides a return of 40% or more for paddy (41%), bajra (44%), maize (41%), arhar (56%), urad (40%), cotton (44%), soyabean (50%), wheat (94%), barley (58%), gram (65%), masur (69%) and rapeseed/mustard (97%) over their respective all India weighted average all paid out cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) as estimated by CACP.

National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. MSP is recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) based on objective criteria, considering variety of relevant factors. A mechanical linkage between MSP and cost of production may be counterproductive.

Government has taken various initiatives to increase farm productivity for ensuring higher returns to farmers. In addition, the Government has also constituted an inter-ministerial committee to recommend appropriate strategy to double the income of farmers over the next six years.

Remunerative price for onion growers

†2981. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that onion growing farmers in various parts of the country get the price of their produce quite less in comparison to the cost involved in it;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take steps to ensure remunerative price for onion to 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 S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Price of onion differs from place to place and depends on various factors such as seasonality of production, quality of produce, mismatch in demand and supply etc. Production of onion has increased about 7% in 2015-16 over the previous year. The average cost of production of rabi onion was estimated to be around ₹ 6-7 per kg.

The latest average wholesale prices of onion prevailing in major States are given below:

States	(₹ / quintal)		
	Current week 09.08.2016	Previous week 02.08.2016	A Month ago 09.07.2016
Delhi	800	775	725
Haryana	1170	1215	1087
Punjab	1200	1267	1067
Uttar Pradesh	1313	1313	1100
Gujarat	1250	1294	1138
Madhya Pradesh	717	775	950
Maharashtra	1217	1282	1194
Rajasthan	1133	1050	933
Bihar	1133	1133	1017
West Bengal	1300	1450	1200
Telangana	1200	1200	1200
Seemandhra	1333	1333	1267
Karnataka	1413	1475	1450
Tamil Nadu	1240	1220	1440
Average	1173	1199	1126

Source: D/o Consumer Affairs.

(b) and (c) The Government is already implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities including onion which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The MIS is implemented on the specific request of the State Government/UT Administration willing to share loss with the Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North Eastern States). No proposal has been received from any State Government so far. Other steps to ensure remunerative price to farmers, including onion growers are facilitating direct marketing, contract farming, setting up of private markets, farmer-consumer markets and e-markets as well as providing market information to farmers on prices and arrivals in regulated markets on AGMARKNET portal.

Decline in production of foodgrains

2982. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's farm sector shrank for the first time in five years, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the total foodgrain production for the last 11 months ending 28 February, 2016 and how much the production has declined; and

(c) the factors responsible for the decline in farm sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) The year 2013-14 was an excellent agricultural year with very good quantity and distribution of monsoon rainfall in the country. Consequently, production of most of agricultural crops registered increase over their production during the previous years.

On account of deficit/deficient rainfall in many parts of the country during monsoon, 2014 and unseasonal rains/hailstorm during February-March, 2015, production of agricultural crops during 2014-15 was lower than the previous years. The year 2015-16 also suffered from erratic/deficient rainfall with higher rainfall deficiency than the previous year *i.e.* 2014-15. Consequently, the production of most of agricultural crops during 2015-16 also remained lower than their production levels achieved during 2013-14.

Production of agricultural crops in the country is estimated for the agricultural year as a whole *i.e.* from July, 2015 to June, 2016. As per 4th Advance Estimates (latest available),

total production of foodgrains in the country during 2015-16 is estimated at 252.22 million tonnes which is marginally higher than their estimated production of 252.02 million tonnes for the agricultural year 2014-15.

Policy on Herbicide Tolerant crops

2983. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swaminathan Task Force on Applications of Agricultural Biotechnology had recommended against the use of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) crops in the country and that Government had adopted the recommendations in 2004; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has adopted a policy on such HT crops as of now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The Swaminathan Task Force on Application of Agricultural Biotechnology has not recommended against use of Herbicide Tolerant crops. It has however, indicated that breeding for Herbicide Tolerant crops may have low priority in several parts of India where there are large numbers of landless labour families. It also states that the priorities will have to be determined both on the basis of agro-climatic and socio-economic factors, region by region. Central Government accepted the report of Biotechnology Task Force in 2004.

(b) There is no direct policy stated in the Task Force Report on the issue of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) crops.

Measures to improve livelihood of small land holding farmers

†2984. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of big, medium and small farmers, category-wise, in the country in terms of agricultural acreage; and

(b) the number of farmers having less than two hectares of land or small land holding and the measures taken to ensure livelihood of such farmers and agricultural labourers and the number of beneficiaries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) According to the latest Agriculture

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Census 2010-11, a Statement on category-wise number of operational holders* in the country for various size groups is given below:

Sl. No.	Size category	Number of operational holders
1.	Marginal (Below 1.00 hectare)	92825979
2.	Small (1.00-2.00 hectare)	24779150
3.	Semi-medium (2.00-4.00 hectare)	13895552
4.	Medium (4.00-10.00 hectare)	5875017
5.	Large (10.00 hectare & above)	972763
TOTAL		138348461

* An operational holder is the person who has the responsibility for the operation of the agricultural holding, exercises the technical initiative and is responsible for its operation. He may have full economic responsibility or may share it with others. The operational holder may be Individual/Joint/Institutional.

(b) According to the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, there were 117.61 million operational holders having operated area less than two hectare.

The Government has taken several measures to promote the agriculture and to support farmers and agricultural workers in the country. Assistance is provided to various categories of farmers, through programmes like, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Soil Health Card Scheme, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Crop Diversification Programme, National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology, National Food Security Mission, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, etc. The Department of Rural Development is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the rural areas of the country to benefit rural people including agricultural workers/labourers through creation of employment and livelihood opportunities. All of the above schemes are implemented by State Governments, which maintains the number of beneficiaries of the respective schemes.

Special package for suicide-prone area of farmers

2985. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is working on a special package for India's

worst farmer suicide-prone districts of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Odisha; and

(b) if so, the details of the special package and the time-frame for implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, during the year 2015-16, the Governments of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh declared drought in parts of their States and submitted memoranda seeking financial assistance for drought affected areas from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). The Centre has approved ₹ 2263.43 crore for Karnataka, ₹ 3049.36 crore for Maharashtra, ₹ 815 crore for Odisha, ₹ 791.21 crore for Telangana and ₹ 433.77 crore for Andhra Pradesh from NDRF.

Vacant posts of Judges and pending court cases

2986. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of pending cases in Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts in the country, State/Court-wise;

(b) the number of vacancies in these Courts, State/Court-wise; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to fill up the vacancies in various Courts and to dispose of the large number of pending court cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information available, 60,946 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 03.08.2016. As per information made available by the High Courts, details of pendency of cases in various High Courts and District/Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015 are given in the Statements-I and II respectively (*See* below).

Vacancy position of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (High Court-wise) as on 01.08.2016 is given in the Statement-III (*See* below). Vacancy position of Judges / Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts (State/UT-wise) as on 31.12.2015 is given in the Statement-IV (*See* below).

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. 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. 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 filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among Constitutional Authorities to select suitable candidates for higher judiciary and is time consuming. 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 the Judge strength of the High Courts.

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.

Statement-I

Details of pending cases in High Courts as on 31.12.2015

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of cases
1.	Allahabad	9,18,829
2.	Punjab & Haryana	2,88,351
3.	Madras	2,84,428
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2,73,827
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2,70,272
6.	Bombay	2,46,441
7.	Rajasthan	2,44,866
8.	Karnataka	2,37,454
9.	Calcutta	2,21,282
10.	Odisha	1,69,453
11.	Kerala	1,57,369
12.	Patna	1,28,738

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of cases
13.	Gujarat	87,072
14.	Jharkhand	80,419
15.	Delhi	68,784
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	56,453
17.	Chhattisgarh	50,111
18.	Uttarakhand	26,680
19.	Himachal Pradesh	26,533
20.	Gauhati	25,948
21.	Manipur	3,315
22.	Tripura	3,037
23.	Meghalaya	597
24.	Sikkim	114
TOTAL		38,70,373

Statement-II*Details of pending cases in District/Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of cases
1	2	3
1.	Uttar Pradesh	55,74,490
2.	Maharashtra	29,94,074
3.	West Bengal	26,18,813
4.	Gujarat	21,42,011
5.	Bihar	20,73,303
6.	Rajasthan	14,79,173
7.	Kerala	13,45,127
8.	Karnataka	12,68,966
9.	Madhya Pradesh	11,91,799

1	2	3
10.	Tamil Nadu	10,82,793
11.	Odisha	10,64,039
12.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	10,31,515
13.	Delhi	5,39,601
14.	Haryana	5,24,281
15.	Punjab	5,04,028
16.	Jharkhand	3,24,357
17.	Chhattisgarh	2,85,962
18.	Assam	2,42,503
19.	Uttarakhand	1,66,618
20.	Himachal Pradesh	1,62,553
21.	Tripura	1,29,789
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,24,763
23.	Goa	39,615
24.	Chandigarh	36,322
25.	Puducherry	24,973
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9,495
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	8,776
28.	Meghalaya	7,493
29.	Manipur	6,885
30.	Mizoram	4,671
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,903
32.	Nagaland	3,862
33.	Daman and Diu	1,723
34.	Sikkim	1,299
35.	Lakshadweep	380
TOTAL		2,70,19,955

Statement-III

Details of vacancy position of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts as on 01.08.2016

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of vacancies
1	2	3
A.	Supreme Court of India	03
B.	High Court	
1.	Allahabad	82
2.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	37
3.	Bombay	30
4.	Calcutta	32
5.	Chhattisgarh	14
6.	Delhi	24
7.	Gauhati	11
8.	Gujarat	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	02
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	08
11.	Jharkhand	11
12.	Karnataka	36
13.	Kerala	14
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19
15.	Madras	37
16.	Manipur	01
17.	Meghalaya	01
18.	Odisha	08
19.	Patna	26
20.	Punjab & Haryana	41
21.	Rajasthan	19

1	2	3
22.	Sikkim	01
23.	Tripura	0
24.	Uttarakhand	05
TOTAL		478

Note: As per the Memorandum of Procedure, initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges of a High Court rests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court and for appointment of a Judge in the Supreme Court, it rests with the Chief Justice of India.

Statement-IV

Vacancy position of Judges in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Number of vacancies
1	2	3
1.	Gujarat	769
2.	Bihar	660
3.	Maharashtra	334
4.	Delhi	303
5.	Karnataka	302
6.	Uttar Pradesh	277
7.	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	249
8.	Madhya Pradesh	218
9.	Rajasthan	206
10.	Punjab	182
11.	Haryana	170
12.	Jharkhand	126
13.	Odisha	118
14.	Assam	105
15.	Uttarakhand	74
16.	West Bengal & Andaman and Nicobar Islands	59

1	2	3
17.	Tamil Nadu	46
18.	Chhattisgarh	44
19.	Tripura	36
20.	Mizoram	33
21.	Meghalaya	28
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	25
23.	Himachal Pradesh	18
24.	Kerala	15
25.	Puducherry	12
26.	Goa	8
27.	Manipur	6
28.	Sikkim	4
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
30.	Nagaland	2
31.	Daman and Diu & Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
32.	Chandigarh	0
33.	Lakshadweep	0
TOTAL		4,432

**Effect of closure of fertilizer plants on production
and availability of fertilizers**

2987. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the effects of closure of fertilizer manufacturing units in the country on production and availability of fertilizers; and

(b) whether Government proposes to privatise the sick/closed units in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKHL. MANDAVIYA): (a) Five fertilizer manufacturing units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) and three fertilizer manufacturing units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (HFCL) have been lying closed. Unit-wise

installed capacity, at the time of closure of these fertilizer units, is indicated in the table below:

Name of closed plant and company	Installed annual capacity at the time of closure (in Lakh Metric Tonne- LMT)
Gorakhpur (FCIL)	3.30
Sindri (FCIL)	3.30
Talcher (FCIL)	4.95
Ramagundam (FCIL)	4.95
Korba (FCIL)	Never commissioned
Durgapur (HFCL)	3.3
Haldia (HFCL)	Never commissioned
Barauni (HFCL)	3.3
TOTAL	23.1

Despite the closure of these units, India achieved the highest ever production of urea of 244.75 LMT in 2015-16. The production and availability of major fertilizers in the last three years are as under:

(Fig. in LMT)			
Fertilizers	Year	Production	Availability
Urea	2013-14	227.15	306.75
	2014-15	225.85	310.42
	2015-16	244.75	329.00
DAP	2013-14	36.11	72.90
	2014-15	34.44	77.80
	2015-16	37.87	101.28
Complex	2013-14	74.83	79.63
Fertilizers	2014-15	82.73	90.57
(including A/S & CAN)	2015-16	87.15	98.03

(b) Question does not arise as there is no fertilizer producing CPSE which is located in Karnataka.

Revival of defunct urea plants

2988. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved a proposal to revive the defunct fertiliser units in the country, particularly Maharashtra, to meet the growing demand for urea, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how Government would finance revival of the defunct urea plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 13.07.2016 has approved to revive three defunct fertilizer units, namely Gorakhpur, Sindri units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited and Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, by means of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) of Public Sector Units (PSUs) namely, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Coal India Limited (CIL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and FCIL/HFCL, through nomination route. None of the unit situated in Maharashtra is being revived.

(b) All of these units are to be revived subject to non-recourse to Government funding. Funding to revive these units will be made by the PSUs constituting the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).

Fixing of prices of medicines by pharma companies

†2989. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pharmaceutical companies print 20 per cent more than the actual price of medicines, if so, the reasons therefor in view of some medical stores giving concession of 5 to 15 per cent to their customers while some others refusing to give the same; and

(b) the norms for fixing the prices of medicines in view of the fact that customer is unable to negotiate their price like other things?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) As per the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 the Maximum Retail Price of a scheduled formulation shall be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

fixed by the manufacturer on the basis of the Ceiling Price notified by the Government plus local taxes. While fixing the Ceiling Price of scheduled formulations 16% as a margin to retailer of the price to the retailer shall be allowed. There is no such cap for non-scheduled formulations.

(b) The ceiling prices of scheduled formulations are fixed by allowing 16 % margin to the retailers. There is no such cap for non-scheduled formulations.

Import of bulk drugs and APIs from China

2990. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has imported bulk drugs and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) worth crores of rupees from China and other foreign countries recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of last three years, country-wise;

(c) whether National Security Adviser has warned the Government of its over dependence on China for supply of essential drugs and APIs;

(d) if so, the reasons for importing eighty to ninety per cent essential drugs and APIs from China; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to shift this over dependence on China for supply of essential drugs and APIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKHL. MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of India's imports of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients from top 5 countries during the last three years is as under:

(₹ in crores)

Years	Total import	Imports from China	Imports from Germany	Imports from USA	Imports from Italy	Imports from Singapore
2013-14	18991.14	12061.53 (63.51%)	1293.70 (6.81%)	855.14 (4.5%)	557.20 (2.93%)	159.71 (0.84%)
2014-15	19833.20	12757.96 (64.33%)	1172.05 (5.91%)	791.17 (3.99%)	644.38 (3.25%)	241.25 (1.22%)
2015-16	21216.91	13853.20 (65.29%)	1054.69 (4.97%)	979.28 (4.62%)	662.42 (3.12%)	593.57 (2.8%)

Source: CMIE economic outlook.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main reasons for imports are because of economic considerations.

(e) The Government policies are framed from time to time so that the country doesn't depend on only one source for its requirements. To further encourage domestic production of bulk drugs, the Government has on 28 January, 2016 notified the withdrawal of exemption in customs duties which were earlier given to certain categories of drugs and bulk drugs. This step of the Government would help the country to reduce its dependence on China for imports of certain essential Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).

Reforms in fertilizer sector

2991. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a road map for reforming fertilizer sector to its logical end and decontrol of urea prices; and

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

As per the said policy, the existing gas based urea units has been classified into three groups as per their pre-set energy norms and given the target energy consumption to be achieved in the year 2018-19. A copy of the New Urea Policy-2015 dated 25th May, 2015 for existing gas based urea units is given in the Statement (*See below*).

So far as decontrol of urea prices is concerned, there is no such proposal.

Statement

Copy of the New Urea Policy -2015 for existing gas based urea units

No. 12012/1/2015-FPP

Government of India

Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers

(Department of Fertilizers)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

25th May, 2015.

To,

CMD/MDs

RCF/MFL/BVFCL/NFL/KRIBHCO/IFFCO/GSFC/GNVF/SFC/NFCL/CFCL/TCL /
ZACL/INDO-GULF/SPIC/KSFCL/MCFL/FCIL/HFCL/FACT/IPL/MATIX/KFCL

Subject: New Urea Policy-2015 for existing gas based urea manufacturing units.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Department's letter No. 12012/3/2010-FPP dated 2nd April 2014, *vide* which the salient features of Modified New Pricing Scheme (NPS)-III was introduced *w.e.f.* 02.04.2014 for one year were communicated. It has been decided to implement New Urea Policy-2015 as contained in the succeeding paragraphs.

1. Duration

The New Urea Policy-2015 will be effective from 1st June, 2015 to 31.3.2019. The provisions of existing Modified NPS-III and New Investment Policy 2008 shall continue till 31st May, 2015.

2. Grouping of urea units

2.1 The existing gas based urea units will be classified into the following three groups;

- (i) **Group-I** includes the following urea units having pre-set energy norms between 5.0 G Cal/MT to 6.0 G Cal/ MT:
 - a. NFL-Vijaipur-I & II, Kribhco-Hazira, Indo-Gulf-Jagdishpur, IFFCO-Aonla-I & II, KSFL-Shahjahanpur, CFCL Gadepan-I & II, TCL-Babralla, NFCL-Kakinada-I & II and IFFCO-Phulpur-II (Thirteen units).
- (ii) **Group-II** includes the following urea units having pre-set energy norms between 6.0 G Cal/MT to 7.0 G Cal/ MT:
 - (a) IFFCO-Kalol, GSFC-Baroda, RCF-Thal and GNVFC-Bharuch (Four Units)
- (iii) **Group-III** includes the following urea units having pre-set energy norms more than 7.0 G Cal/MT:
 - (a) NFL-Nangal, NFL-Panipat, NFL-Bhatinda, ZACL-Goa, SFC-Kota, RCF-Trombay-V, IFFCO-Phulpur-I and KFCL-Kanpur (Eight units).

- 2.2 MFL- Manali, MCFL-Mangalore, SPIC Tuticorin, BVFCL - Namrup-II and BVFCL - Namrup-III will not be covered under this scheme because these units are not connected to gas pipeline network in the country.
- 2.3 BVFCL - Namrup-II and BVFCL - Namrup-III are proposed to be closed and to install a new high efficiency unit and will be dealt separately under their restructuring proposal. Till then, these two units will function under the provisions of Modified NPS-III.
- 2.4 The twenty five units in para 2.1 above will be eligible to get the concession rate on the basis of revised energy norms fixed for each group from 1st June, 2015 to 31st March, 2018.

3. Revised Energy Norms for three years (2015-16 to 2017-18)

- 3.1 For the year 2015-16 (from 1st June 2015 onwards), 2016-17 and 2017-18, the revised energy norms would be the simple average of pre-set energy norms of NPS-III and average actual energy consumption achieved during the years 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 or the pre-set set energy norms of NPS-III, whichever is lower.

3.2 Energy Norms for 2018-19

a) For Group I

Energy consumption norm for this group for financial year 2018-19 would be 5.5 G Cal/MT, except for TCL- Babrala. For TCL- Babrala, existing pre-set energy consumption norm of NPS-III *i.e.* 5.417 G Cal/MT will continue.

b) For Group II

Energy consumption norm for this group for financial year 2018-19 would be 6.2 G Cal/MT.

c) For Group III

Energy consumption norm for this group for financial year 2018-19 would be 6.5 G Cal/MT.

- 3.3 The present provisions for conversion of FO/LSHS urea units to Natural Gas issued by the Department of Fertilizers for urea units at Bathinda, Nangal & Panipat of NFL and Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Corporation- Bharuch will continue.

- 3.4 The units which have converted to gas from Naphtha viz., ZACL and KFCL will continue to get saving on energy consumption over the pre-set norms of NPS-III to recover their investment for conversion from Naphtha to Natural Gas. The data from each such unit will be obtained and based on this data, the Department of Fertilizers, in consultation with Department of Expenditure, shall work out the period for which existing pre-set energy norms will be allowed, which shall not be more than five years from the date of conversion so that each unit may be in a position to recover the investment with interest thereon from energy savings.
4. The compensation for other variable cost e.g. the cost of bag, water charges & electricity charges and fixed cost will be determined in accordance with existing provisions of NPS-III and Modified NPS-III.
5. For production beyond the Re- Assessment Capacity (RAC), the units will be entitled for their respective variable cost and a uniform per MT incentive equal to the lowest of the per MT fixed costs of all the indigenous urea units subject to import parity price plus weighted average of other incidental charges which the government incurs on the imported urea.
6. All other existing policy guidelines related to escalation/de-escalation of concession rate, Neem coated urea, distribution and movement, import of urea and taxes on inputs for urea production, freight reimbursement, issued by this department from time to time will continue.
7. In case, any modification of the policy is required in relation to the operational issues, which does not alter the basic framework of the policy i.e. pooling of gas and energy efficiency target and is financially beneficial to the Government, the Department of Fertilizers is authorized to take a decision in the matter in consultation with Department of Expenditure.

Yours faithfully,

sd/-

(Sham Lal Goyal)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

011-23388481

Copy to:

The Executive Director,
Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee,
8th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

Setting up of plastic park in Uttarakhand

‡2992. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Plastic Park has been set up in Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has received any request from the State Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, whether the environment of the State is not likely to be adversely affected with the establishment of this park, at a time when the environmentalists are striving to get plastic banned in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Based on a request/proposal received from the Government of Uttarakhand, a Plastic Park has been accorded 'in-principle' approval in Udham Singh Nagar District of the State.

(c) For safeguarding against adverse effects on the environment, the Government of India has issued the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, etc.

Revival of Gorakhpur fertilizer plant

‡2993. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to renovate the Gorakhpur Fertilizers Factory in the last two years;
- (b) by when the production is likely to be started; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is progressing in the direction of establishing more new fertilizers factories keeping in view the increasing demand of fertilizers and inflation in the country, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 13.07.2016, *inter-alia*, approved to revive the Gorakhpur fertilizer unit by means of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) of Public Sector Units namely, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Coal India Limited (CIL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Fertilizer Corporation India Limited (FCIL)/Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL), through "nomination route" instead of bidding route as approved earlier. Pre project activities have been started. It takes 36 months for commissioning of plant after the zero date *i.e.* completion of all essential statutory requirements.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) In addition to Gorakhpur fertilizer plant, CCEA/Cabinet has, so far, approved for the revival of four more defunct fertilizer units. These are; Talcher, Ramagundam and Sindri units of FCIL and Barauni unit of HFCL. Cabinet has approved for setting up of Urea plants having annual production capacity of 1.27 MMT Urea to revive each of these units including Gorakhpur unit. In addition, the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 21.05.2015 approved for setting up of a New Brownfield Ammonia-Urea Complex (Namrup-IV) having an annual production capacity of 8.646 Lakh MT Urea in the existing premises of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) at Namrup. These fertilizer units will help to meet the growing demand in the country.

Support to pharma industry

2994. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to phase out support to pharma industry by 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any resistance has come from pharma industry in this regard; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the support to pharma industry towards research and development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKHL. MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply to (a) above, does not arise.

(d) The Government is providing financial support for research and development through Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP) run by the Department of Science and Technology. The companies undertaking Research and Development activities are provided income tax benefits. The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013, Para-32 (iii) provides exemptions from price control to a manufacturer producing a new drug involving a new delivery system developed through indigenous Research and Development for a period of five years from the date of its market approval in India.

Shortage and black-marketing of urea

2995. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any action plan to meet the shortage of urea

and to check its black-marketing in the country, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of fertilizer plants closed down in the country, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government proposes to start these closed plants in the interest of farmers, 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) Availability of urea in the year 2015-16 and during the current year up to July, 2016 was 329.00 LMT and 105.00LMT against the requirement of 313.35 LMT and 98.00LMT respectively. There is no report of shortage of urea from any State Government.

Government has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 and / Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973. The State Governments have been empowered to take appropriate action to curb diversion of fertilizers and initiate action against the persons who violate these orders. Department of Fertilizers has, from time to time, written to the Chief Secretaries of various States and Ministry of Home Affairs to activate the enforcement agencies under their jurisdiction to take appropriate action to curb black-marketing.

(b) State-wise and company-wise detail about the closed fertilizer plants of the fertilizer PSUs is given in the table below:

Company	Name of Fertilizer Plant	State
Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)	Gorakhpur	U.P.
	Sindri	Jharkhand
	Talcher	Odisha
	Ramagundam	Telangana
	Korba	Chhattisgarh
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL)	Durgapur	West Bengal
	Haldia	West Bengal
	Barauni	Bihar

(c) Government, so far, has approved to revive 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 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 India Limited/Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, through "nomination route" instead of bidding route as approved earlier. In pursuance to the decision of the Government of India, CIL, and NTPC have registered a SPV by name Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Limited (HURL) for revival of closed urea plant of FCIL at Gorakhpur and Sindri."

Extension of BSN's 3G internet network in rural areas

2996. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether BSNL has extended its 3G internet network to all rural areas of the country;
- (b) if not, whether there is any timeframe to achieve this target; and
- (c) the details of the plan and timeline for rollout of 4G services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) 3G telecommunication networks support services that provide wireless voice telephony and mobile internet access. BSNL is providing 3G services in rural areas in a phased manner based on techno-economic considerations.

(c) BSNL plans to upgrade its network for 4G services for launching 4G services progressively starting from the next financial year 2017-18.

Details of achievements of the Ministry

2997. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of achievements of the Ministry in the last two years;
- (b) whether presentation before the Prime Minister was made about Ministry's last two year's 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 road-map to achieve the same;
- (e) the details of difficulties brought out 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 OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of achievement of the Ministry during the last two years are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) No presentation was made before the Prime Minister on two years achievements.

(c) No specific target was fixed for the period by the Department of Post. However the details of targets and achievements (Revenue and Expenditure) pertaining to Department of Telecommunications are given as under:

Detail of Revenue receipts

(₹ in crore)

Revenue	Actual	Revenue	Actual
Receipts	2014-15	Receipts	2015-16
target		target	
(RE 2014-15)		(RE 2015-16)	
46243.54	30624.18	55982.10	55166.73

*Detail of Expenditure under Plan Head (Net)**(₹ in crore)*

Expenditure Projection (RE 2014-15]	Actual 2014-15	Expenditure Projection (RE 2015-16)	Actual 2015-16
2970.58	2949.87	5794.96	5787.24

(d) The targets set by the Department of Posts for the coming three years and road-map to achieve the same are given in Statement-II (*See* below). However no specific targets have been set by the Department of Telecommunications.

(e) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(f) The details of core areas the Ministry is going to focus during the coming three years are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I*A. Achievements of department of telecom during the last three years (2014-2016)***1. Salient Features of the Telecom Sector**

- FDI equity inflow in telecom sector from April, 2014 to March, 2016 has reached to US \$ 4219 million which is more than two and half times that came in the corresponding period of previous two years i.e April, 2012 to March, 2014 (US\$ 1611 million).
- The mobile telephony which showed a net decline of 14.66 million during the period of April, 2012 to March, 2014 posted a tremendous growth of 129.59 million during the period from April, 2014 to March, 2016.
- The net addition in total connections in rural areas during April, 2014 to March, 2016 is 69.99 million which is almost 50% more than that added during April, 2012 to March, 2014 (46.96 million).
- With this, the overall teledensity increased from 75.23% in March, 2014 to 83.40% in March, 2016 while, during the period April, 2012, to March, 2014, the teledensity declined from 78.66% in April, 2012 to 75.23% in March, 2014.
- Rural teledensity is 51.26% as in March, 2016. It increased by 7.25% during April, 2014 to March, 2016 as compared to 4.75% during March, 2012 to March, 2014.
- Internet connections added during April, 2014 to March, 2016 is 91.08 million. With this the total internet connections as on March, 2016 are 342.66 million.

2. Connecting the Unconnected

The Government has also taken the following initiatives to connect the unconnected part of the country:

- A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region at an estimated cost of ₹ 5,336.18 crore has been approved. This project will connect 8621 villages through installation of 321 mobile tower sites and is likely to be commissioned by September 2017.
- Another Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands with the total estimated investment of ₹ 221.05 crore which will cover population of about 3.8 lakh people in the islands, has also been approved.
- Government has also approved a project to provide Mobile Services in 2199 locations in the areas affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). Till date, a total of 1517 towers out of 2199 towers identified by Ministry of Home Affairs have started radiating.

3. BharatNet

For the deeper digital penetration in rural areas, Government has taken up BharatNet, in mission mode to connect all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats (over 600 million rural citizens) in the country with 100 mbps broadband to bridge the rural coverage gap both for broadband penetration and voice. BharatNet will support e-governance services, telemedicine, tele-education, financial services, e-commerce and e-entertainment and, hence, benefit all the people in the remote areas. The work has started in 2336 block out of 2727 blocks in Phase-I. OFC laying has been completed in 50,732 GPs and 6937 GPs have been lit and provided connectivity.

- End June, 2014-

- OFC pipe laid is 2292 kms
- Optical fiber laid is 358 kms

- As on 21.05.2016-

- OFC pipe laid is 1,43,045 kms (61,880 GPs)
- Optical fiber laid is 1,15,784 kms (50,732 GPs)

4. Public Internet Access Programme

In order to enable citizen to access internet, BSNL has commissioned 2504 Wi-Fi hotspots at over 1227 locations. BSNL has plans to install 40,000 WiFi hotspots in the next 2 years.

5. Spectrum Auction

For the first time, spectrum in 4 bands was put to auction simultaneously which has enabled bidders to take informed decisions while placing bids and consider alternatives dynamically. In all, 470.75 MHz were put to auction in various Licence Service Areas (LSAs) in 800, 900, 1800 and 2100 MHz bands. As against the approved reserve price of ₹ 80277 crore, the auction fetched a record highest ever realization of ₹109875 cr.

6. Spectrum Sharing

Government has allowed the Spectrum sharing, the guidelines for which were issued on 24.09.2015. Spectrum sharing allows operators to pool their respective spectrum for usage in a specific geographical areas.

7. Spectrum Trading

The Govt. has also allowed the Spectrum trading the guidelines for which were issued on 12.10.2015. This is expected to transform the spectrum usage in the telecom sector. Spectrum Trading allows parties to transfer their spectrum rights and obligations to another party.

8. Virtual Network Operator (VNO)

A new category of unified license for virtual network operators is proposed to be introduced shortly. They would be known as Virtual Network Operators (VNO). VNOs basically buy the bandwidth and talk time in wholesale from telecom operators which own the spectrum and infrastructure. These virtual operators can then sell the usual telecom services (voice calls, data packs etc.) to the consumers under their own brand.

9. National Telecom M2M Roadmap

'National Telecom Machine to Machine (M2M) Roadmap' was launched by the Minister of Communications and IT on 12th May, 2015. Roadmap document endeavours to assimilate various M2M standards, outline policy and regulatory approaches and measures for increased M2M proliferation.

10. IPv6 deployment

The 'Digital India' programme aims to connect all gram panchayats by broadband Internet, promote e-governance and transform India into a connected knowledge economy. Accordingly, 'Compendium on IPv6 based Solutions/Architecture/ Case Studies for Different Industry Verticals' was released by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT in May, 2015 for the benefit of the ecosystem.

11. Empowering Consumers**Mobile Number Portability**

Government has allowed One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability (MNP) w.e.f July, 2015. This has enabled the subscribers to change their licence service area and still retain their mobile number. MNP also allows subscribers to retain their existing mobile number when they switch from one telecom service provider to another irrespective of technology or service area limitation. This will also help in developing mobile numbers as an identity of individuals for providing various government services and more towards JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhar-Mobile) Trinity.

All new mobiles to have panic button from 2017

Starting next year, all mobile phones sold in India will come with a dedicated "panic button" that can be used to send out a signal in case of distress. This is aimed at improving the safety of women and ensuring a quick response from security agencies.

*Achievements of Department of Posts during the last two years***A. Revenue Growth**

	(₹ in crore)		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Speed Post revenue	1372	1495	1600.45
Parcel revenue	77.63	112	149.94

B. E-commerce

Tie-up with e-commerce agencies	900 e-commerce merchants		
	(₹ in crore)		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Collection through	100	400	800
Cash on Delivery (COD)			
Parcel delivery per day			40,000 parcels
	Rural (in ₹)		Urban (in ₹)
Average value of e-commerce parcel	3000		5000

Overall premium products and services Revenue (₹ in crore)

2014-15	2015-16	2016-17(upto June)
2827.95	3097.24	691.60

Post Shoppes

No of Post Shoppes opened	50
Total revenue generated	₹ 60 lakh

Distribution of Gangajal

The Department since 10th July 2016 has made arrangement for distribution of Gangajal, sourced from Rishikesh and Gangotri in 200 ml and 500 ml bottles, from post offices. The same are available through Head Post Offices across the country and can also be ordered online at www.epostoffice.gov.in.

The packaging and handling charges of delivery of Gangajal are as follows:

Size	Source	Post Office counters (in ₹)	*Online (in ₹)	Doorstep Delivery (in ₹)
200 ml	Rishikesh	15	101	28
500 ml	Rishikesh	22	151	38
200 ml	Gangotri	25	101	38
500 ml	Gangotri	35	151	51

*Online cost includes Speed Post charges.

Doorstep delivery means a customer can place an order in the nearest post office and the Gangajal is delivered at his doorstep. The cost excludes Speed Post charges.

C. Parcel Infrastructure

Road Transport network established for fast, secure, and reliable transmission of parcels	34 (major routes)
Mail vans fitted with GPS devices for online monitoring of mail movement	950

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Parcel Centre established	20	28	9

D. IT Modernization

CBS roll out	22,722 Post Offices
Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) Accounts migrated to CBS	31.61 crore
ATM Installed	946
Hand held devices supplied to rural branch Post Office	4,782

E. Financial inclusion

(i) Post Office Savings Bank Account

2014-15	2015-16
33,03,35,249	34,53,21,639

(ii) Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)

No. of Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA) upto March 2016	85,31,482
Amount invested upto March 2016 (INR)	5151,33,40,173

(iii) Kisan Vikash Patra (KVP)

No. of KVP sold upto March 2016	2,79,76,490
Amount invested upto March 2016 (INR)	27853,19,91,700

(iv) Jan Suraksha Yojana (JSY)

No. of Atal Pension Yojana (APY)	98,802
No. of Pradhan Mantri Jeewan Jyoti Yojana (PMJJBY)	25,852
No. of Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)	3,73,173
Total Number	4,97,827

F. Social Security Pension Scheme

Sl. No.	National Pension Schemes	SB Accounts			
		2014-15		2015-16	
		Total no. of SB accounts (in crore)	Total Amount disbursed through the SB accounts during the year 2014-15 (in crore)	Total no. of SB accounts (in crore)	Total Amount disbursed through the SB accounts during the year 2015-16 (in crore)
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	.79	889.44	1.42	1250.99
2	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	.24	385.46	.70	909.76
3	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	.39	237.25	.95	432.56
4	Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY)	.05	106.56	.05	27.59
TOTAL		1.47	1618.71	3.12	2620.9

G. MGNREGA

Disbursement through savings Bank Accounts (SB) under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural employment Guarantee Scheme:

	2014-15	2015-16
Total no. of active SB Accounts	4,43,38,667	4,59,03,201
Total amount of disbursement (in ₹)	6631,98,19,176	6177,75,72,875

H. Money Orders

Disbursement through Money Orders under National Pension Schemes

Sl. No. National Pension Schemes	2014-2015		2015-2016	
	No. of MO Booked (in crore)	Amount (in crore)	No. of MO Booked (in crore)	Amount (in crore)
1 Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	4.32	3201.82	3.13	2256.83
2 Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	1.40	1029.24	1.76	937.23
3 Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	.55	414.22	.57	445.78
TOTAL	6.27	4645.28	5.46	3639.84

Statement-II

Details of targets set by the Department of Posts for the coming three years and roadmap to achieve the same

1. Postal Life Insurance (PLI)/Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI):

India's Life Insurance sector is expected to increase at a compound Annual Growth (CAGR of 12-15%) over the next few years (source ASSOCHAM Report 2016 and IBEF). In line with Industry growth trend Postal Life Insurance/Rural Postal Life Insurance may achieve a CAGR of approximately 15% to 25% over the next few years. A tentative growth in premium income and revenue (FRR) is given below:

Business Targets

Year	PLI			RPLI		
	No. of Policies in force	Sum Assured (In ₹ crore)	Premium income (In ₹ crore)	No. of Policies in force	Sum Assured (In ₹ crore)	Premium income (In ₹ crore)
Actual						
2015-16	63,13,447	1,36,747.65	6737.72	2,33,59,574	1,15,970.15	2003.03
(unaudited)						
Projections						
2016-17	66,28,650	1,57,259.79	7750.00	2,47,15,950	1,33,365.70	2359.00
2017-18	69,60,083	1,88,711.76	9298.05	2,59,51,748	1,60,038.8	2764.18
2018-19	73,08,087	22,65,454.11	11,157.66	2,72,49,335	1,92,046.6	3317.01

Road Map to achieve the targets:

- Revamping Marketing Structure
- Improvement in after sales service of PLI and RPLI
- Technology Induction- Stabilization of McCamish (the software developed by Infosys for Postal Life Insurance.
- Reduction / check of lapse of PLI and RPLI policies
- Marketing/ promotion and publicity of PLI and RPLI products leading to brand image
- Customer friendly Initiatives such as premium due alert, direct and timely payment of maturity amount to insureds etc.
- Training of Marketing Personnel in marketing skills and back office staff in policy servicing and underwriting

2. Financial Inclusion

Saving Bank Cash Certificate (SBCC) Target	
Current year 2016-17	10247 crs.
Targets set of coming three years	
2017-18	11,272 crs.
2018-19	12,399 crs.
2019-20	13,639 crs.

Road Map to achieve the targets:

- (i) Door to door contact for opening of accounts through field staff by way of handbills, flyers etc. upto the level of rural areas, and distributing pamphlets to all customers who visit post offices.
- (ii) Organizing Seminars/Melas/Road Shows to open savings accounts upto the level of rural areas.
- (iii) Targets are fixed for each Post Office right from the level of Rural Branch Post Office for opening of Accounts.

Statement-III

(a) Details of the core areas the department of telecommunications is going to focus on the coming three years

BHARATNET: National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, renamed as BharatNet, is planned to establish a network infrastructure by connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country of providing broadband connectivity by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis through wifi hotspots as the last mile strategy.

The Government has decided to implement the project in three phases. Under first phase of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) is to be connected by laying underground OFC by March, 2017. Under second phase, connectivity will 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. In third phase, District Headquarters shall be connected to Blocks and Blocks to GPs in ring topology to create a state of the art, future-proof network for 5G services and Internet of Things era.

Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected States: The Government has implemented a special project to set-up 2199 mobile towers in ten left wing extremist affected states namely; (1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Telangana (3) Maharashtra (4) Bihar (5) Chhattisgarh (6) Jharkhand (7) Madhya Pradesh (8) Uttar Pradesh (9) Odisha (10) West Bengal in August, 2014. In a short span of time, Government has already made 2032 mobile towers operational, which has substantially improved the connectivity in these difficult and remote areas. Phase 2 of this project in other LWE areas will be taken up.

North Eastern Region (NER): The Government has approved a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for North Eastern Region with a project cost of ₹5336.18 Crores to set up 6673 mobile towers to provide mobile connectivity to 8621 uncovered villages. The project will be launched in October 2016 and completed by March, 2018.

ISLAND Connectivity: The Government is committed to improve telecom connectivity for which it has planned comprehensive Telecom Development for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands. The project also includes augmentation of satellites bandwidth between the mainland and the islands. Submarine Optical Fibre Cable between Mainland (Chennai) and Port Blair and to five other islands namely Car Nicobar, Little Andaman, Havelock, Kamorta and Great Nicobar Islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands will be laid by December 2018 with capital expenditure of ₹ 880.03 crore.

SPECTRUM AUCTION: The Government has decided to conduct the next round of spectrum auction in seven bands (700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz) simultaneously in September, 2016. About 2300 MHz of spectrum will be put on auction making it the largest auction ever. Availability of large blocks of spectrum will help operators improve quality of services.

b. The details of core areas the department of posts is going to focus on the coming three years

1. **India Posts Payments Bank (IPPB):** In the area of financial inclusion, the Government has decided to set up the India Post Payments Bank. The Post Office with its vast network is the last mile Government institution in the villages that is closest to the people's heart. The Payments Bank will be run on the state-of-art technology so that they can give quick and sufficient service to the village folks especially in making Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) payments. The India Post Payments Bank is expected to commence working from May, 2017 and complete linking with all the 1.55 lakh Post Offices by September, 2017.

Benefit:

- I. Department of Posts with its vast reach and infrastructure is ideally suited to fulfil the parameters laid down for a Payment Bank to ensure financial inclusiveness across the country especially in the rural and remote areas.
- II. The India Post Payments Bank will promote financial inclusion by providing small savings accounts and payments/remittance services to migrant labour workforce, low income households, small businesses, other unorganised sector entities and other users.
- III. India Post Payments Bank will help to expand banking services to the remotest corner of the country as there is large population in India which do not have banking facilities due to India's geographical spread, regional disparities, reach and connectivity.

- IV. The benefits of financial inclusion would result in bringing a host of financial products to suit the needs of different strata of society with special focus on the marginalized sections and citizens in rural areas. It would also bring a large number of individuals and small businesses into the formal banking channel. Combining the use of technology and physical presence it will, create a unique Bank combining physical and digital presence.
- V. Generation of new employment opportunities for skilled banking professionals and for entities and individuals engaged in propagating financial literacy across the country would be a byproduct of this India Post Payment Bank.

The current status in context of setting up of the Payments Bank including the focus areas is as follows:

- (i) Process of selection of top level management of upcoming India Post Payments Bank has been initiated. A proposal has been sent to Department of Personnel & Training seeking approval of Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) for the selection of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO) of the Bank.
- (ii) The Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of System Integrators for setting up India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has been floated.
- (iii) Name of the company India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has been registered with registrar of companies (MCA) and incorporation of the company is under process.
- (iv) Steps for implementation of the project are being taken as per target set by the cabinet.

2. IT Modernization Project:

India Post IT Modernization Project with total outlay of ₹ 4909 crore aims at modernization, digitization and networking of 1,54,620 post offices, including 1,29,323 Gramin Dak Sewak post offices, in rural areas across the country.

Under this Project, the benefits for the Customer and the Government are:-

Benefits for the Customers

- Better financial inclusion especially in rural areas
- Effective and transparent delivery of social security schemes including DBT
- Faster and more reliable postal services

- Multiple channels of access

Benefits for the Government

- Last Mile IT Network connecting about 1,55,000 post offices
- Improved delivery of Government schemes in rural areas
- Improved quality of services

Impact of Digitization/Modernization - CBS and ATM

India Post is one of the largest provider of financial services in the country with an account base of 34.53 crore and total deposit of Post Office Saving Bank (POSB) accounts and Cash Certificates of ₹ 6.53 lakh Crore managed through a network of more than 1.5 lakh post offices.

Service Delivery Impact:

- Reduction in waiting time for customers at Core Banking Solution enabled post offices
- Anytime, Anywhere, Any Branch banking from the CBS enabled branches
- Enabling quick money transfer to rural customers
- Faster service delivery
- Access to facilities like ATMs, net banking and phone banking to the customers of Small Savings Schemes
- Prompt grievance redressal on a real-time basis
- Service level improvement for transfer of accounts, posting of interest and encashment of certificates

Core Banking Solution (CBS)

Core Banking is to be rolled out in all departmental post offices (around 25,000). About 1.3 lakh branch post offices will also be covered by deploying CBS (Core Banking Solution) mobile application in hand-held devices. The project will bring in facilities of ATM banking, Internet Banking, Mobile Banking and Phone Banking to the Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) customers. It will enable POSB customers to perform transactions 24x7 in ATMs.

The specific focus areas under this project:

Sl. No.	Project	Expected time of completion
1.	Financial Services Integrator (FSI) Core Banking Solutions for Post Office Savings Bank (POSB), ATM facility and Core Insurance Solution Postal Life Insurance (Postal Life Insurance, Rural Postal Life Insurance (PLI & RPLI).	Roll out of Core Banking Solution (CBS) and Core Insurance Solution (CIS) has almost been completed (CBS-88.89% and CIS-99.39%) in technically feasible Post Offices. Efforts are on to provide stable connectivity to the remaining POs so as to expedite CBS & CIS migration. A total of 946 ATMs have been installed.
2.	Core System Integrator (CSI) Solutions relating to Mails, Postal counters Remittances, Human Resource (HR), Finance & Accounts (F&A), Customer Interaction etc. and Common Infrastructure.	March, 2017.
3.	Change Management (CM) Preparing the workforce of the Department, including the Gramin Dak Sewaks for the complete change in the Department's working after implementation of the Project.	March, 2017.
4.	Mail Operations Hardware (MOH) Providing postman handheld devices & Hardware for Mail offices & Transit Mail Offices.	December, 2016.
5.	Rural ICT Hardware (RICT RH) Supply & installation of Hardware and other peripherals, connectivity and solar backup systems to 130000 Rural Branch Post Offices.	40,000 offices shall be covered by November, 2016.
6.	Rural ICT RSI (RICT RSI)	March, 2017.

Sl. No.	Project	Expected time of completion
	Development of Core application platform, development of MGNREGS application and expansion of already existing e-MO application for RICT hardware devices.	

Installation of mobile towers in Sialkal range in Champhai, Mizoram

2998. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether mobile telephone services in Mizoram are suffering due to call drops of various mobile service providers, if so, the details of action taken to rectify the same;
- (b) whether more mobile towers need to be installed in the backward Sialkal range in Champhai district to compensate for the lack of good surface communication; and
- (c) the details of action plan of BSNL and Government to install more mobile towers in Sialkal range, especially in the border areas in and around Mimbung and Teikhang villages, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Sir, as per provisions of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997, TRAI prescribes Quality of Service (QoS) norms and monitors the performance of cellular mobile service providers, against the norms for the various parameters laid down by it through QoS Regulations, through performance monitoring reports submitted by service providers for the licensed service area. For the purpose of Telecom Service license, the state of Mizoram is a part of the North East service area. QoS is monitored by TRAI service-area-wise *i.e.* for the entire North East service area and separate monitoring of QoS parameters for the State of Mizoram is not done. As such, it is not possible to assess as to whether mobile telephone services in Mizoram are suffering due to call drops of various mobile service providers.

As per the performance monitoring reports for the quarter ending March 2016, submitted by the service providers for 2G and 3G Services, it is seen that in the North East service area the non-compliance with benchmark for call drop is observed only in the 2G & 3G network of M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the parameter "call drop rate/Circuit Switch Voice drop rate" and "worst affected cells having more than 3 per cent Traffic Channel (TCH) drop rate" and also in the 3G network of M/s Aircel for parameter, "worst affected cells having more than 3 per cent TCH drop rate".

TRAI has been pursuing with service providers for improving Quality of Service and in this regard regular interactions are held with the service providers. 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.

In order to improve the QoS and to provide the uninterrupted mobile services to the customers, BSNL has taken following steps:

- (i) BSNL is augmenting its mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage capacity, and to further improve the Quality of Service. 32 new towers have been installed by BSNL in Mizoram under Phase VII Project.
- (ii) To strengthen the mobile coverage in BSNL network, BSNL is adding new BTSs under phase VII+ project subject to techno commercial viability.
- (iii) BSNL is also optimizing its network continuously for its performance.
- (iv) BSNL continuously surveys the area of poor signaling and take necessary corrective remedial measures to settle the issue of call drop.
- (v) BSNL as part of regular activity is conducting independent tests/ audit of the network for all cities and towns and takes remedial corrective action to improve the network.

BSNL has planned five new mobile towers in the Siakal range and a new 7 GHz Microwave system between Aizawl and Champhai *via* Hliappui for improvement of media at Champhai district to provide mobile coverage in the area including Teikhang and Mimbung villages.

For provision of mobile coverage along National Highways as well as in uncovered inhabited villages and strengthening the telecom network connectivity in the North-Eastern Region (NER), the Government has approved a proposal for implementation of a comprehensive telecom development plan for the NER at an estimated cost of approximately Rupees 5336 crore to be funded by Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund, which includes telecom development in the State of Mizoram also. The telecom development plan component for the State of Mizoram includes provision of mobile coverage in 252 identified uncovered inhabited villages by installation of about 227 mobile towers, 19 mobile tower sites along the National Highways and strengthening of transmission network at an estimated cost of ₹ 282.48 crore. Under the said plan, in Champhai District, 10 mobile

towers have been planned to provide mobile coverage in 12 villages namely Khankawn, Thekpui, Thekte, Buang, Bungzung, Khuangleng, Lianpui, Sazep, Sesih, Tlangpui, Vangchhia and Vanzau.

Meeting with CEOs of telecom companies

2999. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has held a meeting with the CEOs of all telecom companies on 25 July, 2016;
- (b) the major issues that Government had asked the CEOs to address urgently to help telecom users;
- (c) whether Government has stressed that customer satisfaction must be given top priority by telecom companies;
- (d) how does Government propose to ensure that telecom companies implement this assurance on customer satisfaction;
- (e) whether steps will be taken to set up Telecom Grievance Offices in every State; and
- (f) if not, how can customers air their grievances before an impartial body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The major issues discussed in the said meeting are:

- (i) expansion of network and services as per committed targets;
- (ii) addressing the issue of call drop by improved planning and deploying new technological tools, increase in number of sites, optimization and real time monitoring;
- (iii) improvement in Quality of Service of voice calls and customer experience;
- (iv) sharing of active infrastructure at much larger scale to improve services and also improving aesthetic aspect;
- (v) proliferation of data services, etc.

(d) As per provisions in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997, TRAI has laid down the Quality of Service (QoS) norms for assessing the performance of TSPs and to protect the interest of consumers. TRAI undertakes assessment for compliance to the QoS norms by following means:

- (1) Quarterly Reports, on self-declaration basis from the service providers;
- (2) Independent Service Drive-tests on sample basis in different cities at different intervals; and
- (3) Assessing customer perception of service through surveys.

TRAI has been pursuing with service providers for improving Quality of Service and in this regard regular interactions are held with the service providers. 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.

(e) and (f) At present, there is no plan to set up Telecom Grievance Offices in every State. 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.

In addition to the above, the customers can also register their grievances through Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) portal of Government of India.

Market share of BSNL

3000. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the market share of BSNL in telecom business;
- (b) whether BSNL's market share has been growing or sliding down in the last five years;
- (c) the details of present market share of various telecom companies in the country; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to enhance BSNL's market share in telecommunication business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Market share of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) of number of telephone connections during the last five years is detailed below:

Year	Telephone Connections (in Million)	%age Telephone Market Share of BSNL
31.03.2012	120.98	12.7
31.03.2013	121.65	13.55
31.03.2014	113.14	12.13
31.03.2015	93.24	9.36
31.03.2016	101.58	9.59

As on 31.05.2016, all India market share of BSNL of telephone connections is 9.73% with 103.02 million subscribers and the market share of BSNL of telephone connections in its operational area excluding Delhi and Mumbai is 10.58%.

(c) The details of market share of various telecom operators in the country as on 31.05.2016 are as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of telecom operators	%age share
1.	BSNL	9.73
2.	MTNL (operating in Delhi and Mumbai)	0.67
3.	Bharti Airtel	24.38
4.	Vodafone Essar	18.78
5.	Idea Mobile	16.58
6.	Reliance	9.69
7.	Aircel / Dishnet	8.34
8.	Tata Teleservices	5.79
9.	Telewings	5.01
10.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd. (SSTL)	0.73
11.	Quardant Televentures	0.30

(d) Government has provided financial assistance to BSNL in following manner:

- Surrender with refund of BWA spectrum held by BSNL in 6 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs). Under this head, ₹ 6724.51 crore is being refunded to BSNL through budgetary resources.
- Waiver of notional loan of ₹ 1411 crore due to be paid to the Government by BSNL.
- Refund of ₹ 169.16 crore to BSNL on account of surrender of CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) spectrum.

In addition, Government assigned the following projects of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to BSNL which will support BSNL in additional revenue generation:

- Providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- Providing mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam to BSNL on nomination basis at an estimated cost of ₹ 1975.38 crores.
- Implementation of transmission-media plan of North Eastern Region (NER) at an estimated cost of ₹ 295.97 crore.
- Implementation of comprehensive development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep at an estimated cost of ₹ 99.03 crore.

Separately, BSNL itself is also making relentless efforts towards enhancement of telecom business. Some of the steps being taken by BSNL in this direction are as follows:

- Plans to install 11,340 numbers of 3G Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and 13,926 numbers of 2G BTSs under Phase-VII GSM (Global System for Mobile Communication) expansion for 15 Million lines. Out of the planned BTSs, 11,242 (3G) BTSs and 13,791 (2G) BTSs have become operational as on 31/05/2016. This has improved 2G and 3G network coverage and data capability of 3G network.
- 2500 wi-fi hotspots have been provided at 1200 locations to enable fast and seamless data connectivity.
- Implemented ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) as one of the important IT initiative in all circles.

- During the current Five Year Plan (2012-17), BSNL has plans to make the entire wire line customer base network IP enabled. Next Generation Network (NGN) equipment based on the latest architecture are planned to be deployed gradually to replace the entire Circuit Switched equipments/ Digital Telephone Exchanges.
- Setup wireline call centres for all of its customers of landline and broadband at Dehradun, Ajmer and Bangalore.
- Launched various customer centric initiatives like Night free calling from landline from 9:00 pm to 7:00 am, Free incoming calls while roaming, increased minimum speed of broadband to 2 Mbps etc.
- Based on Government policy on Virtual Network Operator (VNO), BSNL has plans for optimum utilization of its network.

Non-compliance of TRAI norms by telecom operators

3001. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most Indian telecom operators do not comply with TRAI norms on call drop rate;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that call drop rates have increased during the last six months;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the instructions issued by Government to improve the service quality of telecom operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) For assessing the performance of service providers on call drop, both for 2G and 3G services, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down two parameters *viz.* "call drop rate/Circuit Switch Voice drop rate (benchmark:- less than or equal to 2% and "worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop/Circuit Switched Voice drop rate during Cell Bouncing Busy Hour (CBBH) (benchmark:- less than or equal to 3%)."

The details of instances of non-compliance with the benchmarks as observed from the performance monitoring reports for the quarter ending September, 2015 December, 2015 and March, 2016, submitted by service providers for 2G and 3G Services, are given below:

	Sept. 2015 (out of 183 cases)	Dec. 2015 (out of 183 cases)	March 2016 (out of 178 cases)
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2G Services

Call drop rate (benchmark:-less than or equal to 2%)	4	1	1
Worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop (Call drop) rate: (benchmark:- less than or equal to 3%).	54	39	27

	Sept. 2015 (out of 94 cases)	Dec. 2015 (out of 97 cases)	March 2016 (out of 106 cases)
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3G Services

Circuit Switch Voice drop rate (benchmark:-less than or equal to 2%)	2	2	3
Worst affected cells having more than 3% Traffic Channel (TCH) drop (call drop) and Circuit Switched Voice drop Rate: (benchmark:- less than or equal to 3%)	20	18	15

The above parameters are averaged over the Licensed Service area for a month's period. In view of above, TRAI, through agencies appointed by it, has also conducted Independent Drive Tests in Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow, Kanpur, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Darjeeling and Sikkim, Bhopal, Ranchi, Trivandrum and Ahmadabad during May-June 2016. In Delhi and Mumbai, these drive tests were a repeat of the drive test undertaken earlier in December 2015/January 2016. While the drive test result in Delhi shows that most of the service providers are not meeting the benchmark for call drop rate, the Mumbai results shows that there is improvement in the performance on call drop rate. The drive tests results at Hyderabad, Bhopal, Ahmadabad and Ranchi show that most of the service providers are not meeting the benchmark for call drop rate in the areas covered by the drive test. In Sikkim and Darjeeling all the service providers failed to meet the benchmark for call drop rate. However, in Chandigarh, Lucknow, Kanpur and Trivandrum, most of the service providers are meeting the benchmark for call drop rate. Detailed reports of these Independent Drive Tests are published on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in.

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.

Opening of new post offices and modernisation of existing ones

3002. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal for opening of new post offices and modernization of the existing post offices in various States/UTs, including Haryana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Haryana; and
- (c) the time by which these post offices are likely to be opened in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. There are proposals for opening of 93 new Branch Post Offices (BOs) and 90 new Sub-Post Offices (SOs) in the country including Haryana during current financial year 2016-17. 131 post offices have been selected for modernization under 'Look and Feel' activity during the current financial year 2016-17.

(b) The Postal Circle-wise number of BOs and SOs proposed to be opened and post offices selected for modernization under 'Look and Feel' activity during 2016-17 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The proposed post offices are likely to be opened in the country by 31st March, 2017.

Statement

Details of Postal Circle-wise targets for opening of Branch Post Offices (Bos) and Sub-Post Offices (SOs) and Post Offices selected for modernization under 'Look & Feel' activity during the current financial year 2016-17

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	Physical Target for opening of BOs (in number)	Physical Target for opening of SOs (in number)	Post Offices selected for modernization under 'Look & Feel' Activity (in number)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	2	6
2.	Assam	4	4	8
3.	Bihar	6	5	2
4.	Chhattisgarh	6	6	0
5.	Delhi	0	3	5
6.	Gujarat including Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	4	3	9
7.	Haryana	4	4	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	2	0
10.	Jharkhand	6	6	1
11.	Karnataka	4	4	17
12.	Kerala including Lakshadweep	0	4	11
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5	4	12
14.	Maharashtra including Goa	5	5	2
15.	North East [includes Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland,	7	7	24

1	2	3	4	5
	Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura States]			
16.	Odisha	6	5	0
17.	Punjab including Chandigarh	3	3	3
18.	Rajasthan	4	3	9
19.	Tamil Nadu including Puducherry	4	4	4
20.	Telangana	3	4	2
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5	5	6
22.	Uttarakhand	2	2	0
23.	West Bengal including Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Sikkim State	3	3	7
	TOTAL	93	90	131

Merger of MTNL, BSNL and VSNL

3003. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated/contemplated any move for merger of MTNL, BSNL and VSNL; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Government of India held 52.97% of the issued and paid up share capital of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) until 13.2.2002. In pursuance of its policy of disinvestment, the Government of India decided to disinvest 25% of its share in VSNL to a strategic partner and to pass on its management control. Therefore, the question of merger of VSNL with MTNL and BSNL does not arise.

Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of Government for merger of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

Providing free wi-fi connectivity

†3004. SHRIAMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to provide free high-speed wi-fi connectivity to 2500 cities, towns and Panchayats in the country, including Maharashtra, under the National Broadband Project in the next three years;
- (b) whether any time-limit has been prescribed for completion of this project;
- (c) whether due to taking more time in buying the necessary device, Gigabit Passive Optical Network, the project is not likely to be completed in time; and
- (d) if so, the total work of fibre cables completed in kilometres so far in the country, including Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project, renamed as BharatNet, is planned to establish a network infrastructure by connecting all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Maharashtra, for providing broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats, which can be used by all categories of service providers on non-discriminatory basis.

The project is planned to be implemented in three phases. In Phase-I of the project, 1 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) are to be connected by laying underground Optical Fibre Cable (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. It is planned to provide wi-fi infrastructure in all the Gram Panchayats of the country, including Maharashtra. The Phase-II of BharatNet project is envisaged to be completed by December 2018.

(c) Material procurement issues, including supply of Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) have been sorted out and procurement has been decentralised to Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) executing the project for speedy execution.

(d) The status of progress made under BharatNet Phase-I in the country, including Maharashtra, as on 06.08.2016, is given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Items	All India		Maharashtra	
	Planned	Achievement	Planned	Achievement
Pipe laid (km)	2,30,000	1,53,943	28,674	16,326
OFC pulled (km)	2,30,000	1,29,616	28,674	13,741
Pipe laid (Gram Panchayats)	1,00,000	67,122	12,055	7,071
Optical Fibre Network (OFC) laid (GPs)	1,00,000	56,703	12,055	6,096
Connectivity provided (GPs)	1,00,000	7,911	12,055	311

Improving services of BSNL in Rajasthan

†3005. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the road-map for improving the mobile services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Rajasthan;

(b) whether towers of BSNL are not operational in various cities and villages of Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, by when those towers, which are not working as of now, will start functioning, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is replacing old technology Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) equipment procured in Phase-I to Phase-III by new technology equipment. BSNL has installed/plans for installation of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) at 232 sites in Rajasthan for enhancement of coverage and capacity in Phase-VII and VII+ expansion project to improve the mobile services. BSNL adhere to the Quality of Services (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for mobile services. Drive tests are being conducted regularly by BSNL and immediate corrective actions are taken to improve its mobile services.

(b) and (c) BSNL's all installed BTSs are operational.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Optical fibres laid under NOFN

†3006. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the optical fibres laid, so far, under National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats covered under this project, so far, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats in Gujarat and Rajasthan yet to be covered under this project, the district-wise details thereof; and

(d) the expenditure incurred so far and the cost outlay for completion of this project, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) State-wise status of progress of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN), renamed as BharatNet, including the Optical Fibre laid and connectivity provided to Gram Panchayats, as on 06.08.2016, is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) District-wise details of number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) covered and yet to be covered in Gujarat and Rajasthan under BharatNet project are given in Statement-II and III respectively (*See below*).

(d) As the project is a Pan-India project and is being executed by single executing agency *i.e.* Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), funds to the tune of ₹ 5741.79 crore have been released to it, till 30.06.2016 against an amount of ₹ 11,148 crore sanctioned for phase-I of BharatNet project.

Statement-I

State-wise status of NOFN (BharatNet) as on 06.08.2016

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	Conn- ectivity provided (GPs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assam	1013	2016	1904	728	156

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Bihar	5202	8093	7021	2656	231
3.	Chhattisgarh	2110	5252	5044	1717	679
4.	Haryana	6090	5807	5694	3589	183
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	624	253	240	103	0
6.	Karnataka	5599	10317	10666	5219	3243
7.	Kerala	977	720	826	1129	1129
8.	Madhya Pradesh	10516	20889	18818	6487	262
9.	Maharashtra	12055	16326	13741	6096	311
10.	Punjab	6128	5728	5347	4290	0
11.	Rajasthan	6967	14758	13979	4328	394
12.	Uttar Pradesh	22514	31500	22843	10418	380
13.	Uttarakhand	1767	1863	1481	829	184
14.	West Bengal	2713	2548	2407	820	20
15.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	69	0	0	0	0
16.	Chandigarh	12	18	19	12	12
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	256	649	107	22	0
18.	Nagaland	743	2078	801	182	0
19.	Manipur	24	71	73	24	0
20.	Mizoram	163	448	123	0	0
21.	Tripura	1021	1519	1329	593	79
22.	Meghalaya	638	1086	266	76	0
23.	Gujarat	5735	7208	5553	2521	139
24.	Puducherry	98	82	92	98	101
25.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1913	19	0	0
26.	Telangana	2097	4201	3763	1729	106
27.	Odisha	3388	5433	4584	1884	129
28.	Jharkhand	1388	2925	2743	1106	173

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	Himachal Pradesh	283	242	133	47	0
30.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Lakshadweep	10	0	0	0	0
34.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Goa*	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL		100200	153943	129616	56703	7911

*All the GPs of Goa are already connected with Optical Fibre.

Statement-II

District-wise details of number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) covered and yet to be covered in Gujarat under BharatNet

Sl. No.	Name of Districts	Total number of GPs	GPs where broadband connectivity has been provided	Number of GPs yet to be provided connectivity
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmedabad	517		517
2.	Amreli	598		598
3.	Anand	347	98	249
4.	Aravalli	315		315
5.	Banaskantha	818		818
6.	Bharuch	543		543
7.	Bhavnagar	769		769
8.	Dahod	432		432
9.	Dang	67		67
10.	Gandhinagar	301		301

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Jamnagar	665		665
12.	Junagadh	831		831
13.	Kheda	577		577
14.	Kutch	618		618
15.	Mehsana	593	41	552
16.	Narmada	220		220
17.	Navsari	372		372
18.	Panchmahal	665		665
19.	Patan	472		472
20.	Porbandar	150		150
21.	Rajkot	845		845
22.	Sabarkantha	421		421
23.	Surat	565		565
24.	Surendranagar	652		652
25.	Tapi	279		279
26.	Vadodara	849		849
27.	Valsad	344		344
TOTAL		13825	139	13686

Statement-III

District-wise details of number of Gram Panchayats (GPs) covered and yet to be covered in Rajasthan under BharatNet

Sl. No.	Name of Districts	Total number of GPs	GPs where broadband connectivity has been provided	Number of GPs yet to be provided connectivity
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ajmer	276	130	146
2.	Alwar	472		472

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Banswara	307		307
4.	Baran	214		214
5.	Barmer	380		380
6.	Bharatpur	372.		372
7.	Bhilwara	383	27	356
8.	Bikaner	220	39	181
9.	Bundi	181		181
10.	Chittorgarh	288	36	252
11.	Churu	251		251
12.	Dausa	225		225
13.	Dholpur	66		66
14.	Dungarpur	237		237
15.	Hanumangarh	251		251
16.	Jaipur	489		489
17.	Jaisalmer	128		128
18.	Jalore	264		264
19.	Jhalawar	252		252
20.	Jhunjhunu	289	162	127
21.	Jodhpur	352		352
22.	Karauli	223		223
23.	Kota	157		157
24.	Nagaur	461		461
25.	Pali	320		320
26.	Pratapgarh	124		124
27.	Rajsamand	205		205
28.	Sawai madhopur	197		197
29.	Sikar	333		333
30.	Sirohi	151		151

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Sriganganagar	320		320
32.	Tonk	230		230
33.	Udaipur	467		467
	TOTAL	9085	394	8691

Meeting with heads of telecom companies on call drop issue

3007. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had a meeting with the heads of telecom companies, including BSNL and MTNL, very recently regarding the problem of call drop;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the issues raised and discussed in the meeting;

(c) the reaction of these companies with regard to checking the call drop problem; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to settle the issues raised by these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The major issues discussed in the said meeting are:

(i) expansion of network and services as per committed targets;

(ii) addressing the issue of call drop by improved planning and deploying new technological tools, increase in number of sites, optimization and real time monitoring;

(iii) improvement in Quality of Service of voice calls and customer experience;

(iv) sharing of active infrastructure at much larger scale to improve services and also improving aesthetic aspect;

(v) proliferation of data services, etc.

The industry mentioned that they have adopted multi-pronged approach to improve customer experience by reducing call drops by way of increasing the number of sites to handle capacity and coverage; improve performance efficiency through optimization and real time monitoring; use of the state of the art tools, etc.

Following steps have been taken by the Government to address the issues raised by telecom companies from time to time:

- (i) Guidelines on spectrum sharing, spectrum trading and liberalization of administratively allocated spectrum issued.
- (ii) Active radio-infrastructure sharing permitted in addition to passive infrastructure sharing.
- (iii) Interconnections over IP-networks permitted.
- (iv) Regular coordination with Civil and Security Agencies to secure permissions to use Government Land and Buildings at select locations such as Lutyens Zone, New Delhi.

Decreasing subscriber base of MTNL and BSNL due to call drops

3008. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to stop call drops in MTNL and BSNL on an immediate basis, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the number of MTNL and BSNL subscribers are decreasing due to excessive call drops; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof for last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have reported that they are meeting all the Quality of Service (QoS) parameter prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for mobile service including call drop in their respective license service areas. To reduce the call drop ratio, BSNL and MTNL are taking various steps including online monitoring of Base Transceiver Stations (BTS), Optimization of Radio Frequency (RF) network on regular basis, preventive maintenance to minimize hardware faults and expansion of network.

(b) and (c) The status of wireless subscribers of BSNL and MTNL as reported by TRAI is detailed below:

Month	MTNL	Increase/decrease	BSNL	Increase/Decrease
December, 2015	36,14,439	5,193	825,07,640	11,49,547
January, 2016	36,23,659	9,220	834,32,741	9,25,101
February, 2016*	36,34,355	10,696	848,26,568	13,93,827
March, 2016	35,60,856	-73,499	863,45,709	15,19,141
April, 2016	35,72,447	11,591	874,85,250	11,39,541
May, 2016	35,81,747	9,300	882,38,939	7,53,689

* CDMA services closed down by MTNL.

DDoS attack in Maharashtra

3009. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether internet users across Maharashtra are reporting slow speeds after several major Internet Service Providers (ISPs) came under a sustained Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack over the past few days; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and remedial steps being taken to rectify the slow down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Sir, a case has been reported of Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack on 18-07-2016 in the network of M/s Syscon Infoway Pvt. Ltd. a class B Internet Service Provider (ISP) operating in Maharashtra, Goa and Mumbai. As per the licensee, services were restored by 24.07.2016.

(b) The DDoS attack was launched from multiple Internet Protocol (IP) addresses from different countries through the upstream Service Provider namely M/s Tata Communication, M/s Bharti Airtel and M/s Vodafone. M/s Syscon after rearranging the upstream bandwidths and help from the upstream Service Providers was able to contain the DDoS attack.

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has analyzed the reports and logs to identify the nature of the attack. The said analysis has revealed that the attack originated from improperly configured systems located across various countries. Accordingly, measures have been taken in coordination with the ISPs and respective CERTs of the countries to mitigate the attack sources.

To address such issues, the department has already issued guidelines to ISPs to protect their networks and their customer's network from volumetric Reflection/Amplification attacks including DDoS by deploying anti-spoofing devices, network infrastructure based mitigation techniques, intelligent DDoS mitigation system etc. in their networks.

Rise in prices of food items

3010. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the increase in prices of food items, particularly pulses;
- (b) if so, the corrective steps, including imports, being undertaken by Government to contain/stabilise the prices of above commodities; and
- (c) whether any cases of hoarding of essential commodities, including grains and pulses, have been reported/detected during the last three years, if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken/ proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) During last one month, All India Average Retail Prices of wheat in cereals, Tur, Urad and Moong dal in Pulses, Groundnut and Mustard in Edible Oil and Tomato in Vegetables have declined while there has been increase in the prices of Gram dal in pulses and Onion in Vegetables. Prices of other commodities were either stable or have shown marginal increase, details are given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) Details of the corrective steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise of food items are given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) Yes, Sir. Details are given in Statement-III

Statement-I

All India Average Retail Prices (₹/Kg.)

Commodity	Price As On 9.8.2016	1 Month Ago 9.7.2016	% Variation over 1 Month
1	2	3	4
Rice	27.56	27.43	0.47

1	2	3	4
Wheat	23.2	23.39	-0.81
Atta (Wheat)	24.89	24.45	1.8
Gram Dal	100.26	89.6	11.9
Tur/Arhar Dal	134.83	140.1	-3.76
Urad Dal	145.06	153.22	-5.33
Moong Dal	93.22	95.75	-2.64
Masoor Dal	86.04	84.08	2.33
Sugar	40.59	39.41	2.99
Milk (per ltr.)	40.19	40.69	-1.23
Groundnut Oil	134.94	136.38	-1.06
Mustard Oil	108.37	109.23	-0.79
Vanaspati	74.96	74.35	0.82
Soya Oil	83.36	82.17	1.45
Sunflower Oil	96.43	94.63	1.9
Palm Oil	68.96	68.67	0.42
Gur	43.23	42.45	1.84
Tea Loose	199.34	194.02	2.74
Salt Pack	14.72	15.13	-2.71
Potato	22.93	22.1	3.76
Onion	16.99	15.71	8.15
Tomato	32.37	43.75	-26.01

Source: State Food and Civil Supplies Department.

Statement-II

Steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

General Measure:

1. National Consultation Meeting of Ministers of States and UTs in charge of Food and Consumer Affairs, on prices of food items was held on 21.5.2016 at New Delhi

to take steps to keep prices of essential commodities including Pulses, Edible Oil etc. under control.

2. Advisory were issued to State Governments to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 & the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
3. Regular review meeting on price and availability situation is being held at the highest level including at the level of Finance Minister, Committee of Secretaries, Inter Ministerial Committee, Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee and other Departmental level review meetings.
4. Higher MSP has been announced so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
5. A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) is being implemented to regulate price volatility of agricultural commodities.

Specific Measures:

Rice and Wheat

6. For the year 2016-17, a target of 65-75 LMT has been set for sale of wheat by FCI out of Central Pool under the OMSS (D) subject to review as per extant policy.
7. A target of 20 lakh MT of Grade 'A' rice has also been kept for sale under OMSS (Domestic) during 2016-17.
8. A quantity of 8.81 LMT of wheat and 0.26 LMT of rice have been sold under OMSS (D) as on 22.7.2016.

Pulses

9. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.
10. Import of pulses are allowed at zero import duty.
11. Stock limit on pulses extended till 30.9.2016.
12. 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.
13. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of pulses for effective market intervention. Procurement of around 1.75 lakh tonnes have already been made toward building the stock.

14. Government has released around 38,774.6 MT of pulses from the buffer stock (consisting of Tur and Urad) to States/UTs at subsidized rates for retailing by them at not more than ₹ 120/- per kg to improve availability and stabilise prices.
15. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned new contracts in Chana to dampen speculative activities in Chana and in respect of running contracts in Chana disallowed taking fresh positions to reduce speculative activities.
16. Strict vigilance by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent importers from mis-using the facilities of Customs Bonded Warehouse facility.
17. Setting up of a Group of Officers for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization etc.
18. About 1.40 lakh tonnes of pulses seized from 14612 raids and disposed of 1.28 lakh tonnes either by auction or other means permitted under EC Act, 1955.

Edible Oils

19. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kg. is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.
20. MSP (including bonus) increased for various rabi and kharif oil seeds.

Statement-III***A. Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during 2014***

*(Relating to offences under EC Act- for other than violation of stock control orders/
for violation of stock control orders)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons				Value of goods Confiscated (₹ in lakhs)
			Arrested	Prose- cuted	Con- victed	Deten- tions Ordered	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6884	64	0	0		239.66
2.	Arunachal Pradesh						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3. Assam		184	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
4. Bihar		25	9	6	-		19.64
5. Chhattisgarh		101	0	0	0		12.06
6. Delhi							
7. Goa		44	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
8. Gujarat		7217	38	24	-	18	117.11
9. Haryana		63	15	4	1		7.08
10. Himachal Pradesh		13589	-	-	-		12.55
11. Jammu and Kashmir							
12. Jharkhand							
13. Karnataka		129	52	0	1		0.01
14. Kerala		18702	11	0	0		18.7
15. Madhya Pradesh		3255	35	89	3		276.05
16. Maharashtra		515	6475	58	0		11958.18
17. Manipur		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
18. Meghalaya		290	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
19. Mizoram		107	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
20. Nagaland		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
21. Odisha							
22. Punjab		141	Nil	Nil	Nil		6.34
23. Rajasthan							
24. Sikkim		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
25. Tamil Nadu		9176	3949	1980	2068	124	87.09
26. Telangana							
27. Tripura							
28. Uttarakhand		12571	87	264	0		356.7
29. Uttar Pradesh		455	122	27	-		61.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30. West Bengal		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
31. Andaman and Nicobar Islands							
32. Chandigarh		3	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
33. Dadra and Nagar Haveli							
34. Daman and Diu							
35. Lakshadweep		780	10	21	0		0.83
36. Puducherry		6217	0	0	0		19.76
TOTAL		80448	10867	2473	2073	142	13193.73

B. Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during 2015 (Relating to offences under EC Act - for other than violation of stock control orders/ for violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 31.03.2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons				Value of goods Confiscated (₹ in lakhs)
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted	Detentions Ordered	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1300	0	23	23		1056.51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	-	-		0.01
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR		NR
4.	Bihar	299	Nil	Nil	Nil		NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	673	0	0	0		42.28
6.	Delhi	24	2	Nil	Nil		Nil
7.	Goa	96	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
8.	Gujarat	9098	25	16	-	28	112.31
9.	Haryana	3229	123	138	-		120.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10. Himachal Pradesh		39314	-	-	-		3 1.69
11. Jammu and Kashmir		NR	NR	NR	NR		NR
12. Jharkhand		140	NR	NR	NR		NR
13. Karnataka		4529	199	0	6		16.71
14. Kerala		8465	26	12	1		64.00
15. Madhya Pradesh		38648	-	111	6		92.46
16. Maharashtra		6302	777	277	2	1	14669.66
17. Manipur		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
18. Meghalaya		41	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
19. Mizoram		141	-	-	-		-
20. Nagaland		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
21. Odisha		2291	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	0.02
22. Punjab		10443	-	-	-	-	
23. Rajasthan		840	NR	NR	NR		Nil
24. Sikkim		71	-	-	-		Nil
25. Tamil Nadu		29	41	41	0	196	0.09
26. Telangana		4601	349	2	0	1	609.47
27. Tripura		199	NR	1	NR		57.13
28. Uttarakhand		5	9	9	1		2.5
29. Uttar Pradesh		2045	107	121	17		252.71
30. West Bengal		780	174	52	-		96.15
31. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		86	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
32. Chandigarh		2	1	17	3		-
33. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
34. Daman and Diu		NR	NR	NR	NR		Nil
35. Lakshadweep		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
36. Puducherry		741	1	2	-		0.63
TOTAL		134438	1835	822	59	227	7224.71

c. Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during 2016 (Relating to offences under EC Act- for violation of stock control orders)

Updated as on 4.08.2016

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons		Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted	Value of goods Confiscated (₹ in lakhs)	Detentions Ordered	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		May
2.	Bihar	54	0	0	0	0	0	0		*
3.	Chhattisgarh	81	0	0	0	0	0	0		April to June
4.	Delhi	78	-	-	-	-	-	-		June(Except 2/3/4/5/2016)
5.	Goa	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		June
6.	Gujarat	4428	11	11	-	-	-	57.58	11	June
7.	Haryana	53	36	4	-	-	-	57.29		June (Except 03/2016)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10513	-	-	-	-	-	10.17		May
9.	Kerala	105	26	14	0	0	0	0.45		May
10.	Maharashtra	212	322	163	0	0	0	119.6	1	May
11.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		March
12.	Mizoram	10	-	-	-	-	-	-		June (Except 2/4/2016)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13.	Meghalaya	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		May
14.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		January
15.	Rajasthan	35	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		*
16.	Sikkim	57	-	-	-	-		June (Except 03/2016)
17.	Tamil Nadu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	77	-
18.	Telangana	1062	136	5	5	762.76	7	June
19.	Tripura	152	0	0	0	2.95		June
20.	Uttarakhand	595	22	4	-	0.3		June
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10966	49	57	21	115.49		April
22.	West Bengal	253	86	18	Nil	1881.33		June
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	35	-	-	-	-		June
24.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	3	1	Nil		June
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		June
26.	Puducherry	469	-	3	-	2.14		June
TOTAL		29169	688	282	27	3010.06	96	

Note: Other States have not submitted report so far. NR: Not Reported *: Raids under Pulses only

Monitoring mechanism in FCI

3011. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a regular monitoring mechanism in the Food Corporation of India (FCI), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether monitoring has been done through the said mechanism in the godowns, where foodgrains have been reported to be spoiled, during last three years;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto; and
- (d) the reasons for damage to foodgrains despite availability of adequate storage facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes Sir.

FCI has in place well established Monitoring Mechanism to keep a check on procurement, storage and the distribution activities undertaken by it through its field functionaries.

Procurement

Before the start of each procurement season, Government of India prescribes the Uniform Specification for Quality of Wheat, Paddy, Rice and Coarse grains. FCI ensures procurement of foodgrains in the Mandis and at the depots strictly in accordance with quality specifications.

In order to ensure acceptance of foodgrain conforming to laid down specification only, Checks/Super checks are conducted by various authorities, as given in Inspection sampling and Analysis Procedure issued every year before commencement of respective KMS.

In addition to above super checks, squads are sent from Hqrs, Zonal Offices and Regional Offices to ensure that stocks are procured strictly in accordance with Uniform Specifications of GOI.

Senior officers of Ministry of CAF and PD conduct timely inspection of Mandies/ Depots of State Agencies including FCI during the onset of Procurement Operations to ensure procurement of foodgrains as per GOI specifications.

Storage

After procurement, QC Wing of FCI ensures proper preservation of procured stocks to keep the health of foodgrains. Foodgrains after procurement is scientifically stored and its quality is maintained in storage till its disposal. QC Personnel impart curative/preventive treatments to stocks. During storage, fortnightly/quarterly/surprise inspections are done by the Quality Control officials/officers of various levels to check the health of grains and overall hygienic conditions of godown and its premises.

Distribution:

FCI releases foodgrains stocks to the States/UTs authorities and/or their nominees only, as per the allocation formulated by the Government of India from time to time, after their satisfaction about quantity as well as quality and a certificate to this effect is also recorded.

Necessary guidelines to ensure Good Quality Foodgrains to be supplied under Public Distribution System are also issued from time to time.

(b) Yes Sir.

Grain is stored in Scientific manner in Covered Godown and in CAP (Cover and Plinth). Due care is taken to ensure that health of the grain is maintained all the times.

(c) Following table shows accrual of damaged foodgrains in FCI during the year 2013-14 to 2016-17 (upto 1-7-16)

Year	Accrued Quantity of Damaged Foodgrains in FCI (in LMTs)
2013-14	0.25
2014-15	0.19
2015-16	0.03
2016-17 (upto 1-7-2016)	0.04

Government has drawn action plan to keep the damages and storage loss to bare minimum. Major action points in this regard are as under:-

- (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 CAP (cover and plinth).

- (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 setup at Districts/ Regional/Zonal level 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.

(d) However, foodgrain being a perishable commodity, some quantities become Non-issuable due to various reasons like:

- (i) Damage due to long storage.
- (ii) Transit damages *viz.* enroute damage in wagon/truck due to contamination, wagon roof leakage etc.
- (iii) Due to Natural Calamities like Cyclone/flood damages.
- (iv) Possibility of down gradation of grains which are procured under relaxed specifications.
- (v) In some cases due to negligence of officials/ officers, for which suitable disciplinary action against defaulters, wherever warranted are invariably taken.

Coverage under NFSA for drought affected States

3012. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people registered and benefiting from the National Food Security Act (NFSA), State-wise; and

(b) whether Government has taken any action to widen the coverage in the drought affected States under NFSA, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) State/Union Territory(UT)-wise number of persons covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) in 34 States/UTs implementing the Act is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) There is no proposal to increase the coverage under NFSA in drought affected States. The Government, however makes allocation of additional foodgrains for calamity relief, including drought relief, at the request of States/UTs.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of no. of persons identified under NFSA (in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of persons identified under NFSA (in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	268.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.21
3.	Assam	251.35
4.	Bihar	857.12
5.	Chhattisgarh	200.77
6.	Delhi	72.73
7.	Goa	5.20
8.	Gujarat	338.47
9.	Haryana	126.49
10.	Himachal Pradesh	27.74
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	74.13
12.	Jharkhand	259.41
13.	Karnataka	401.93
14.	Madhya Pradesh	529.61
15.	Maharashtra	700.17
16.	Manipur	21.19
17.	Meghalaya	21.40
18.	Mizoram	6.67
19.	Nagaland	4.33
20.	Odisha	318.92
21.	Punjab	141.45
22.	Rajasthan	446.62
23.	Sikkim	3.77
24.	Telangana	191.62

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of persons identified under NFSA (in lakh)
25.	Tripura	25.01
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1436.07
27.	Uttarakhand	61.94
28.	West Bengal	552.33
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.55
30.	Daman and Diu	1.03
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.82
32.	Lakshadweep	0.22
33.	Chandigarh	2.10
34.	Puducherry	5.82
TOTAL		7364.40

Stock of wheat in Central Pool

3013. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the Ministry's estimate of wheat export for 2016-17; and

(b) whether the fall in wheat stock in the Central Pool will affect the availability of wheat in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) There is no proposal for export of wheat on Government account in 2016-17.

(b) The position# of foodgrains stock in Central Pool, as on 01.07.2016 is as under:-

(In lakh metric tonnes)

Commodity	Stocking Norms for 1st July	Stock in Central Pool as on 01.07.2016.	Stock of foodgrains over and above stocking norms
Wheat	275.80	301.81	26.01

Source # = Food Corporation of India.

The average annual offtake of wheat has been 231.74 lakh metric tonnes during the last three years (2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) / National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). Thus there is no shortage of wheat in the Central Pool for TPDS.

Procurement of crops at fair prices

3014. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there would be direct procurement of paddy and other crops, including pulses, at fair prices (MSP) with good returns to the farmers all over the country during harvest period; and

(b) whether Government would directly start fair price mobile shops, allowing farmers to sell their produces directly to consumers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) There is a Uniform Policy for procurement by Government Agencies across the country. Under this policy, whatever wheat and paddy are offered by farmers, within the stipulated period and conforming to the specifications prescribed by Government of India are, purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI) for central pool. However, if producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market *i.e.* to private trader/ anyone. The objective of foodgrains procurement by Government agencies is to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce and do not have to resort to distress sale.

FCI alongwith National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) were mandated by Government of India to procure pulses at market price and maintain buffer stock under Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme.

(b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to start fair price mobile shops, allowing farmers to sell their produces directly to consumers is under consideration with Government of India.

Performance of Tamil Nadu in PDS

3015. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the best performance of Tamil Nadu in Public Distribution System (PDS); and

(b) if so, whether this would be extended to other States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 has been implemented in all States/UTs except two States, one of which is Tamil Nadu.

Under the scheme of End-to-End Computerization of TPDS Operations, digitization of ration cards has been completed in all States/UTs including Tamil Nadu, Online Grievance Redressal Mechanism/Toll free helpline number facility have been set up in all States/UTs including Tamil Nadu, Online allocation of foodgrains is being done in 26 States/UTs including Tamil Nadu and Supply Chain Management in 15 States/UTs including Tamil Nadu.

Across the country, Aadhaar seeding with ration cards is 62% and e-POS installation of Fair Price Shops is 1.28 lakh. For Tamil Nadu, Aadhaar seeding with ration cards is 26% and e-POS installation at Fair Price Shops is 15,217.

Identification of beneficiaries under NFSA

3016. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 49 per cent of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) are yet to be identified in all the States/UTs, if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(b) whether there are States which did not identify the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and priority household beneficiaries as per the provisions of the NFSA but used the old database of beneficiaries for extending the benefits, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is being implemented in 34 States/Union Territories (UTs) covering more than 73 crore persons, against total coverage of 81.34 crore envisaged under the Act.

(b) Coverage under NFSA is under two categories —households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority households. As per the Act, it is the responsibility of the States/UTs to identify AAY households in accordance with guidelines applicable to the scheme and the priority households in accordance with guidelines prescribed by States/UTs. AAY is an ongoing scheme and such households are already identified. For identification of priority households, States/UTs have adopted their own criteria, which differs from State to State.

Inflation of food items

3017. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

KUMARI SELJA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of inflation in food items, including vegetables, is rising sharply, causing great difficulties to common people, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is considering to take any step to bring down the food inflation, if so, 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 latest Consumer Price Index brought out by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) for the month of June, 2016, the rate of inflation in food items, including vegetables as measured by Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) rose by 2.39 % over the month and by 7.79% over the year, details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Details of the corrective steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise of food items are given in Statement-II. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Ans. to USQ No. 3010 part (b)]

Statement-I*Details of Trends in Consumer Price Index-Combined (CPI)*

Description	Weight In %	Consumer Price Index		Change in the index (in %)		
		June, 2016	May, 2016	June, 2015	Over the month	Over the year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
General Index (Combined)	100.00	130.1	128.6	123.0	1.17	5.77
Consumer Food Price Index	39.06	137.0	133.8	127.1	2.39	7.79
Cereals and Products	9.67	127.7	126.8	123.9	0.71	3.07
Meat and Fish	3.61	140.5	139.1	131.8	1.01	6.60
Egg	0.43	128.3	125.4	121.6	2.31	5.51
Milk and Products	6.61	132.6	131.7	128.2	0.68	3.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Oils and Fats	3.56	115.5	115.0	111.1	0.43	3.96
Fruits	2.89	136.3	136.0	132.8	0.22	2.64
Vegetables	6.04	159.6	145.1	139.1	9.99	14.74
Pulses and Products	2.38	174.3	171.7	137.4	1.51	26.86
Sugar and Confectionary	1.36	109.9	108.7	94.1	1.10	16.79
Spices	2.50	136.3	135.3	125.5	0.74	8.61

Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Hoarding of food items

†3018. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has provided adequate funds to State Governments in form of subsidy to control the price rise of food items during the last two years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether several State Governments have not taken adequate steps to contain hoarding of food items recently, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Central Government has introduced the Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme under which funds are made available to State Governments/ UTs as well as Central agencies for price stabilization of agri-horticultural commodities. A total allocation of ₹ 1610 crore was made towards the Price Stabilisation Fund over the last three years i.e. from 2014-15 to 2016-17.

(b) The State Governments are regularly conducting raids to check hoarding of food items. Details are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Ans. to USQ No. 3010 part (c), Statement-III]

Establishment of offices of the Ministry in Amaravati

3019. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has initiated action for setting up of offices/Departments/ Institutions that come under it, like Quality Control Cell, Grain Storage Management Institute,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Central Vigilance and Public Distribution System, Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Food Corporation Office, etc., in Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any issues relating to procurement of land and infrastructure, needed for this purpose, have been taken up with the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the status thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) There is no proposal for setting up Quality Control Cell and Grain Storage Management and Research Institute in Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh. The Quality Control Cell (QCC) Hyderabad under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution looks after the quality control work in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute (IGMRI), Hapur under this Ministry has a field station Hyderabad, which is engaged in training and applied R&D activities in storage of foodgrains in the southern States including Andhra Pradesh.

Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2015, it is the responsibility of State Governments to setup Vigilance Committees for the Public Distribution System at the State, District, Block and Fair Price Shop levels as per the provisions of the National Food Security Act to perform functions as specified in the said Act.

Similarly, under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to establish Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions at the State Level (State Commissions) and District level (District Forum). To supplement the efforts of the State Governments the Central Government provides financial assistance under a plan scheme "Strengthening Consumer Fora" for construction of buildings of consumer fora. No proposal has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for construction of any consumer forum at Amaravati.

There is no proposal from (Food Corporation of India) FCI for establishment of office in Amaravati. However, proposal regarding bifurcation of FCI Andhra Pradesh Region into two separate FCI Regions for the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana has been received from FCI. Presently, the FCI Regional Office at Hyderabad also looks after the work in both States *i.e.* Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Linking PDS with Aadhaar database

3020. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to link Public Distribution System (PDS) with Aadhaar database/cards;
- (b) if so, the details of achievement and pending numbers in this regard; and
- (c) the time by which it is proposed to be implemented in a full-fledged manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Government has decided to seed available Aadhaar numbers in PDS beneficiaries' database. As per the reports received from States/UTs, at present the Aadhaar seeding at national level stands at 61% against the total 24.00 crore (approx.) ration cards. All the States/UTs have been requested to seed the available Aadhaar number in PDS beneficiaries' database at the earliest.

Accidents at Amusement/Theme/Water parks

3021. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been several incidents of accidents at various Amusement/Theme/Water Parks across the country, including Kishkinta Park in Tamil Nadu and Imagica Adlabs in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, details of deaths or injured persons due to these accidents for the last five years;
- (c) the details of action taken against management of such Parks for each of these accidents in the last five years; and
- (d) the details of compensation paid to victims for each of these incidents and steps taken to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per information provided by the Ministry of Tourism, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, prevention of crime, including incidents of accidents across the country is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories .

The Union Ministry of Tourism along with stakeholders has adopted the "Code of conduct for Safe and Honourable Tourism" which contains a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect to basic rights like dignity, safety and

freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents, in particular women and children.

All the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and Administrators of Union Territory Administrations have been asked to take immediate effective steps for ensuring a conducive and friendly environment for all tourists and also request them to publicize the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to increase the sense of security amongst the present/prospective visitors and also to counter the negative publicity, if any.

The National Tourism Ministers' Conference was convened on 18th July, 2013 and 21st August, 2014 in New Delhi which resolved that the Departments of Tourism of all States and UTs will work for ensuring the safety and security of tourists, especially women. The State Governments/UT Administrations of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha have deployed Tourist Police, in one form or the other.

The Department of Consumer Affairs in the Government of India administers the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 under which a three tier quasi-judicial mechanism has been set up at the District, State and National levels to provide for simple, speedy and inexpensive resolution to consumer disputes against defective products, deficient services and other unfair trade practices.

Rise in price of sugar

3022. SHRIANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of sugar has registered a sharp rise due to fall in its production;
- (b) the production of sugar in 2014, 2015 and estimated production in 2016, along with State-wise breakup for Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka;
- (c) the quantity and value of sugar exports during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps Government proposes to take to meet the demand and supply gap of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The price of sugar in the domestic market depend upon a number of factors *viz.* Cost of raw material, conversion cost, production, domestic demand and supply, market sentiments, international sugar prices, etc. All India average retail price of sugar during current sugar season 2015-16 (till 8 August, 2016) is about ₹ 35 per kg. as compared to last season average of ₹ 32.43 per kg. *i.e.* an increase of about 7.6% whereas the fall in production is about 11.5%.

- (b) All India production of sugar with break-up for Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and

Karnataka during 2013-14, 2014-15 and estimated production during 2015-16 sugar season are as under:

(Figures in lakh tons)

State	Sugar Season		
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Estimates)
Uttar Pradesh	66.13	71.38	68.50
Maharashtra	77.20	105.15	85.00
Karnataka	41.60	49.89	41.00
Others	60.61	58.21	57.50
ALL INDIA	245.54	284.63	252.00

(c) As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Kolkata, the quantity and value of sugar exports during last three sugar seasons *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are as under:-

Sugar Season	Exported (in lakh MT)*	Value (₹ in lakh)*
2012-13	12.020	361387.64
2013-14	26.849	727781.50
2014-15	24.320	608108.29

*This includes exports under Open General Licence (OGL) and Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS).

(d) Taking into account 90 lac tons carry over stock of the last season and estimated production of 252 lac tons during the current season, the total availability of sugar would be about 342 lac tons which is sufficient to meet the estimated domestic demand of about 256 lac tons for current sugar season. As such, there is no gap in demand and supply. However, to avoid hoarding of sugar by unscrupulous traders, Government has imposed stock holding and turnover limits on sugar for six months. Besides, to discourage export and ensure sufficient availability of sugar in domestic market, Government has also imposed 20% basic customs duty on sugar export.

Setting up of additional procurement centres

†3023. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: 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 details of agencies procuring foodgrains at the Minimum Support Price in the country, State-wise, including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the target fixed for establishment of procurement centres during each of the last three years and the current financial year and the details of procurement centres actually established;

(c) whether some parameters have been fixed to open these procurement centres, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to set up additional procurement centres for procurement of crops during the forthcoming season and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The details of the agencies procuring foodgrains (Wheat and Rice) at the Minimum Support Price in the country, state-wise including Madhya Pradesh is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) Procurement centres are opened by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and by respective State Government Agencies with mutual consultation taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics/ infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Large number of temporary purchase centres in addition to the regular ones in existing mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points in some States for the convenience of the farmers.

Statement showing number of purchase centers operated for paddy procurement for the last three years and current year is as follows:

KMS	KMS	KMS	KMS
2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
35187	36855	44823	78054

Statement showing number of purchase centers operated for wheat procurement for the last three years and current year is as follows:

RMS	RMS	RMS	RMS
2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
21085	19911	20088	19728

Procurement centres are increased or decreased as per assessment of marketable surplus.

Statement*List of Agencies participating in procurement operations*

Sl. No. States/ UTs		Agencies	
1.	A.P.	APSCSC	
2.	Telangana	TSCSC	
3.	Assam	FCI	Assam State Agricultural Marketing Board NCCF
4.	Bihar	Bihar State Food and Civil Supplies Co-operation	Primary agriculture co-operative Credit Society/ vyapar mandal -
5.	Chhattisgarh	Marketing Federation of Chhattisgarh State	
6.	Gujarat	FCI	GSCSC
7.	H.P.	FCI	
8.	Haryana	Food Dept.	HAFED
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	FCI	
10.	Jharkhand	FCI	NCML HSWC HAIC FCI
11.	Karnataka	KFCSC	State Agency through LAMPS/ PACS KSCMF
12.	Kerala	Kerala State Civil Supplies corporation	
13.	Madhya Pradesh	MPSCSC	Madhya Pradesh State

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	Agencies
14.	Maharashtra	Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd.
15.	Odisha	Maharashtra State Marketing Federation
16.	Punjab	OSCSC
17.	Rajasthan	FCI
18.	Tamil Nadu	FCI
19.	Uttar Pradesh	TNCSC
		RFC
20.	Uttarakhand	FCI
21.	West Bengal	BENFED

Data prepared as per information provided by FCI, Regional offices

Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd.

Maharashtra State Marketing Federation

OSCSC

FCI

FCI

TNCSC

RFC

Food and Civil Supply Deptt.

CONFED

Co-operative Societies

UPSS

UP-Agro

NACOF

PUNSUP

RSWC

RSFCSC

SFC

KKN

NCCF

Multi sectoral

Co-operatives Societies

FCI

NCCF

NACOF

Financial condition of FCI

†3024. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial condition of Food Corporation of India (FCI) at present;
- (b) whether FCI is facing difficulties in generating funds from its resources for meeting its expenditure; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for making the functioning of FCI transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India requires working capital to meet its financial requirements in order to maintain day to day procurement operations and maintain buffer stocks in the country. This working capital is met through Cash Credit Limit (CCL) of ₹54,495 crores provided by a consortium of 66 banks and from sources like Equity Capital, Long term Bonds, Short Term Loan (STL) and Ways and Means Advance (WMA). The Equity Capital and working capital of FCI as on 31.03.2016 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Amount (₹ in crore)
1.	Equity Capital (a part is working capital- ₹ 1484 crores)	2,830.49
2.	Long term bonds (secured by GoI)	13,000.00
3.	Cash Credit Limit (secured by GoI)	54,495.00
4.	Short Term Loan	26,375.00
	TOTAL	96,700.49

Government of India allocates funds in the budget and releases Food Subsidy on time as per monthly/quarterly expenditure plan. Based on quarterly/monthly Plan for release of food subsidy by the Government, FCI prepares monthly cash flow statement. When funds requirement is more than the Cash Credit Limit (CCL) of ₹54,495 crore available to FCI, STL is raised by FCI from scheduled banks to mobilize funds during a financial year to meet the cash flow requirements and ensure smooth procurement operations. During financial year 2016-17, FCI has accepted offers of ₹52,945 crores through four STL tenders for mobilizing its funds requirement.

- (c) In addition to increase in the budgetary allocation for food subsidy, Government has also time-to-time taken various other steps to ensure that sufficient fund is available

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

with FCI for undertaking procurement operations. Some of these steps are sanction of Cash Credit Limit (CCL), sanction of Ways and Means Advance (WMA) and extending Government Guarantee to FCI for issue of bonds for mobilizing funds so that food procurement operations are not adversely affected.

Besides, FCI is implementing a project called "Depot Online System" to automate all the operations at the depot level and link them *via* online network. This system aims to "Transform the food supply chain management through innovative use of Technology for ensuring transparency, reliability and efficiency of procurement, storage and distribution operations". Government of India is also implementing the online procurement system through the Food Corporation of India to usher in transparency and convenience to the farmers through prior registration and monitoring of actual procurement.

For further strengthening the system of FCI, Government of India has decided to do away with the levy system of procurement with effect from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16, allowing the entire procurement to be done only by the State Agencies/FCI and payment to farmers is done through account payee cheque or electronic mode by State Agencies/FCI. For sale of foodgrain FCI is undertaking sale of wheat and rice through E-Auction under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS).

Allotment of wheat and rice to Kerala

3025. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ad-hoc allotment of rice and wheat to Kerala was only 22540 and 7898 tonnes, against a normal share of 83477 and 18740 tonnes, during April to October, 2015;

(b) whether it is a fact that since July, 2016, even *ad-hoc* share has not been released, and without it, BPL and APL card holders cannot be given their due share; and

(c) if so, whether Government would take steps to ensure release of *ad-hoc* allotment from July, 2016 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Kerala is one of the States which is yet to implement NFSA and accordingly, additional APL and BPL monthly allocation of 22540 and 7898 tonnes of foodgrains have been made available to Kerala in addition to the normal monthly allocation of 83477 and 18740 tonnes of foodgrains under TPDS, during April to October, 2015.

(b) and (c) Due to non-implementation of NFSA in Kerala, the additional APL and BPL allocation initially given till October, 2015 was extended upto March, 2016 or till implementation of NFSA. Since Government of Kerala is yet to implement NFSA, the additional APL/BPL allocation was further extended upto June, 2016 by the Government of India. No proposal for continuation of this additional allocation to the State of Kerala for the period beyond June, 2016 is under consideration, in case of non implementation of NFSA in the State of Kerala.

Buffer stock of pulses

3026. 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 has decided to increase the buffer stock of pulses to twenty lakh tonnes from the current stock of eight lakh tonnes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has decided to explore the possibility of having agreements with other pulses producing nations, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has already signed an agreement with Mozambique for import of Tur dal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The proposal for increasing the buffer stock to 20 lakh tonnes is under consideration.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government has already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mozambique for promoting production of Pigeon Peas/Tur and other pulses in Mozambique and progressive increase in trade of these pulses between the two countries.

Rise in price of foodgrains

3027. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of foodgrains are increasing very high;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to control the prices of foodgrains; and

(c) the total stock of rice, wheat and sugar available under PDS this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the latest monthly Wholesale Price Index (WPI) released by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

(DIPP), the foodgrains inflation rose by 2.36 % over the month and by 10.90% over the year. Foodgrains inflation remain elevated due to high inflation in pulses. Details are given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) Details of the corrective steps taken by the Government to contain the price rise of food items are given in Statement-II. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Ans. to USQ No. 3010 Part (b)]

(c) As on 16.7.2016, the stock of wheat and rice in Central Pool was 286.45 lakh MT and 188.29 Lakh MT respectively. However, Central Government does not maintain the stock of Sugar for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS).

Statement-I

Wholesale Price Index based Inflation rate (%) as per latest monthly release for June, 2016

Commodity Name	WPI Variation		WPI Inflation (over the year)		
	Monthly	Yearly	Current Month	Last Month	Last Year
			June,2016	May,2016	June,2015
All Commodities	1.45	1.62	1.62	0.79	-2.13
Food Articles	2.91	8.18	8.18	7.88	3.12
Food Grains (Cereals+Pulses)	2.36	10.90	10.90	11.00	6.13
Cereals	1.87	6.32	6.32	4.60	-0.39
Rice	2.34	3.37	3.37	2.22	-1.62
Wheat	1.76	6.83	6.83	3.85	1.84
Pulses	3.73	26.61	26.61	35.56	36.78
Gram	6.78	33.01	33.01	35.71	34.93
Arhar	0.38	22.79	22.79	41.16	48.20
Moong	-4.44	-6.50	-6.50	7.05	24.88
Masur	-0.78	0.82	0.82	15.35	37.06
Urad	7.52	59.12	59.12	64.92	40.86

Source: DIPP

Construction of silos

3028. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Food Corporation of India has called for bids from private firms for constructing 27 silos in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) what would be the combined storage capacity of these silos and in which States;
- (c) the module for silo operations and private firms to recover capital investment and maintenance charges; and
- (d) the total cost that would be estimated for constructing these silos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) has floated e-tenders on 25.05.2016 for setting up of silos at 27 locations across the country under Non-Viability Gap Funding (Non-VGF) mode. Pre-bid meeting in this regard was organized on 14.06.2016. Opening of the bids is scheduled on 26.08.2016.

Each silo would be of 50,000 MT capacity and the combined storage capacity of the silos would be 13.5 lakh MT. State-wise bifurcation is as under:

Sl. No.	State	Number of Locations	Total Capacity (in lakh MT)
1	Bihar	2	1
2	Gujarat	2	1
3	Haryana	6	3
4	Punjab	7	3.5
5	Uttar Pradesh	6	3
6	West Bengal	4	2
TOTAL		27	13.5

- (c) Under this tender, the prospective bidder shall quote rate for fixed storage charges per ton per year and bidder would be selected on L1 basis. In addition to fixed storage

charges the selected bidder would be paid variable charges for foodgrains actually stored in the facilities and handling charges every month. The variable charges have been stipulated in the tender as ₹ 0.57 per quintal per month for first year of commercial operation. The concession period would be 30 years for operation of silos. There is provision for escalation of the storage charges linked to the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI). Thus, the private firm would recover the investment and operational costs from the fixed and variable storage charges and the handling charges payable by FCI over the concession period.

(d) The estimated project cost including land, financing cost and pre-operative expenses for constructing one silo is approximately ₹ 46-48 crores. The total estimated project cost for 27 locations is ₹ 1270 crores.

Auditing of Government websites

3029. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate has carried out the audit of 957 Government websites and found that 920 websites failed the quality audit, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure that all Government websites follow the prescribed quality parameters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) A project titled "Strengthening Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate (STQC) IT Centres for Website Quality Testing to support e-Governance Implementation in India" under the aegis of e-Gov Division of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) was taken up by Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate. Objective of the project was to "Build National Infrastructure for Quality Assurance of Indian Government Website by instituting a system for testing and certifying Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) compliant Websites".

Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate's IT Centres have tested nearly 1000 Government websites *suo moto* under the project. The project lasted between June, 2013 and March, 2015. The list of websites and URLs were provided by National Informatics Centre (NIC) (e-Gov Division, MeitY) categorizing those into apex organizations, important ministries/departments, judiciary, attached offices, subordinate offices, other organizations and projects.

Test reports of these websites have been forwarded to almost all of respective Departments/Ministries for corrective measures. The recipient Ministry/Department now has to remove the deviations for obtaining certification. It has been observed that some of the recipients, who responded, have either removed the deviations or re-developed their websites.

Further, Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate has been operating a / Website Quality Certification scheme where certification is awarded based upon defined criteria. For certification, one of the major requirements is compliance with Guidelines for Indian Government Websites. Guidelines for Indian Government Websites has 115 mandatory requirements defined under nine headers namely Government of India identifiers, building confidence, scope of content, quality of content, design, development, website hosting, promotion and management. The website is tested and a test report is provided by Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate's IT Centres. Other requirements include audit of back end processes by certification body. The scheme is voluntary in nature with commercial terms. The Ministries/Departments have to apply formally as per norms for certification of their websites.

As per the scheme requirements, the applicant Ministries/Departments have to ensure compliance with all 115 requirements of Guidelines for Indian Government Websites including security by closing the deviations reported. For closure of deviations, the applicant may take technical advice/assistance from Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate. On compliance with scheme requirements, the certificate is issued. So far, 60 websites have been certified.

(b) During analysis of test reports it was observed that most of non-compliances are due to lack of knowledge on 'Accessibility Requirements' for these websites. To address this problem, Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate along with e-Gov Division and NIC have held one to one discussions with apex Departments/ Ministries and conducted number of meetings with their web information managers/ representatives. It is felt that as a result most of the recipients have now become more aware of their compliance status with respect to Guidelines for Indian Government Websites

Further, Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate has started another project titled 'Website Quality Evaluation to support e-Governance Implementation in India - Phase II' under the aegis of e-Gov Division, MeitY for one year from Dec, 2015. The project envisages testing of another 1000 websites as per Guidelines for Indian Government Websites. The project is on-going at present.

MeitY along with NIC has also started the project of 'Development of Common Minimum Framework for Government websites' to increase the Guidelines for Indian Government Websites compliance with in Central Ministries/Departments, in February, 2015 wherein 100 websites Central Ministries/Departments have been taken. Presently six are in advanced stage of Guidelines for Indian Government Websites compliance.

Also, Department of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also recently launched the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), as a nation-wide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in built environment, Transport System and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) eco-system. One of the objective of Accessible India Campaign is to enhance the accessibility of Government websites with target of converting 3000 Government websites into fully accessible websites by March, 2017.

MeitY along with Standardization Testing and Quality Certification Directorate and NIC has also conducted the around 34 workshops and meeting with various departments for Certification of Websites in accordance with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG's) Guidelines for Indian Government websites (GIGW).

Vacant post of chairperson of cyber appellate tribunal

†3030. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken note of the media reports that appeals before the Cyber Appellate Tribunal remain pending due to the post of the Chairperson of the Tribunal lying vacant continuously since 30 June, 2011;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken steps to appoint a Chairperson to the Tribunal;

(c) if so, the time line within which the appointment will be made; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Since 01.07.2011, continuous efforts have been made by Ministry to fill up the post by advertising it on three occasions, but the appointment could not materialise due to various reasons.

(c) and (d) No time-frame can be indicated for filling up the post of Chairperson, Cyber Appellate Tribunal.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National e-Governance plan

†3031. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had initiated the National e-Governance Plan with the objectives of containing corruption in the country through information technology, raise the standard of Government services as well as to bring transparency in them, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the achievements of the National e-Governance plan, so far, are corresponding to the targets fixed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government had approved National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) in 2006 with a vision to make all Government services accessible to the common man in his locality through common services delivery outlets and ensure efficiency, transparency and reliability of such services at affordable costs. NeGP comprises of 31 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs), which are delivering a wide range of services.

Moreover, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has implemented several core Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure projects, such as State Data Centres (SDCs), State Wide Area Networks (SWANs), Common Services Centres (CSCs), National/State Service Gateway (SSDGs), Cloud platform 'Meghraj', Mobile Seva etc.

Under Digital India programme, NeGP has been revamped to e-Kranti (NeGP 2.0) with increased portfolio of 44 MMPs. These MMPs and core ICT projects have helped the Government departments at the Centre and the States to reduce corruption through information technology, raise the standard of Government services as well as to bring transparency in them.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The achievements of the National e-Governance Plan/e-Kranti, so far, are corresponding to the targets fixed. 29 out of 44 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) are delivering 222 out of envisaged 252 services. The average e-transactions through e-Governance projects have reached to more than 63 crore per month.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Decline in job opportunities in IT sector

3032. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in job opportunities in IT sector during 2013-2015, the details thereof;

(b) if so, whether it is anticipated that there will be more decline in jobs pertaining to IT sector in near future, if so, the details of plans of Government in this regard and reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the share of IT sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country; and

(d) the measures being adopted by Government to arrest the decline in job environment of the IT sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The direct employment in Information Technology (IT) and IT Enable Services (ITES) sector has increased from 32.6 lakhs in 2013-14 to 34.8 lakhs in 2014-15 with a net addition of over 2.0 lakhs employees. Further, the total employment by IT-ITES sector is estimated to reach 36.8 lakhs in year 2015-16. The technology automation has not replaced labour, but improved productivity and provided workers the time to focus on other tasks involving complex decision making and social interactions. Rather, the adoption of new technology creates jobs, increases productivity, and increasing the demand for skilled labour. The share of IT sector in India's GDP is about 9.3%. Over the next decade, Indian IT-ITES industry would continue to create jobs.

Investment proposals for setting up FPIs in Maharashtra

3033. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several foreign and private investment proposals have been approved for setting up of food processing units in the country, particularly in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the impact of such investment on domestic food processing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Food processing units are setup in the country including

in Maharashtra, after due approvals of foreign and private investment proposals in the food processing sector.

The details of food processing units in the country including Maharashtra are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Gross Value Added by food processing units, including the units in the registered sector, grew by 5.78% in 2014-15 over 2013-14.

Statement

State-wise estimated number of factories in food processing sector for 2013-14

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Number of registered units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5,739
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5
3.	Assam	1,294
4.	Bihar	794
5.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	19
6.	Chhattisgarh	1,049
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3
8.	Daman and Diu	31
9.	Delhi	166
10.	Goa	86
11.	Gujarat	1,904
12.	Haryana	631
13.	Himachal Pradesh	172
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	144
15.	Jharkhand	198
16.	Karnataka	2,033
17.	Kerala	1,460
18.	Madhya Pradesh	672
19.	Maharashtra	3,040
20.	Manipur	21
21.	Meghalaya	18

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Number of registered units
22.	Nagaland	15
23.	Odisha	932
24.	Puducherry	69
25.	Punjab	2,786
26.	Rajasthan	862
27.	Sikkim	21
28.	Tamil Nadu	5,204
29.	Telangana	3,850
30.	Tripura	71
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2,037
32.	Uttarakhand	380
33.	West Bengal	1,739
	TOTAL	37,445

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, 2013-14

Initiative for expansion of food processing sector

3034. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by Government in food processing sector in the country since 2014-15;

(b) the details of financial assistance extended by Government to this sector, State-wise; and

(c) how far this sector has been able to utilise them in expanding production of processed food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing a number of Central Sector Schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, namely Scheme for Mega Food Parks, Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Scheme for Setting

up/Modernization of Abattoirs, Scheme for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities, Scheme for Human Resource Development and Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) was also launched *w.e.f.* 01/04/2012 for implementation through the State Governments/Union Territories. However, Government has de-linked CSS - NMFP from Central Government support with effect from 01.04.2015, except for UTs (upto 31.03.2016). Further, to provide impetus to the development of food processing Industry in the country, Government is also providing a number of fiscal incentives such as reduction in excise duty on food processing and packaging machinery from 10% to 6%, and on Refrigerated Containers from 12.5% to 6%. Basic Custom Duty on Refrigerated Containers has been reduced from 10% to 5%. Concessional 5% Basic Customs Duty as presently available under project imports for cold storage, cold room has also been extended for Cold Chain including pre-cooling unit, pack houses, sorting and grading lines and ripening chambers. In addition, 100% Foreign Direct Investment has been allowed for food processing as well as for trading of food products produced and/or manufactured in India. A Special Fund of ₹ 2000 crore has been created in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to provide affordable credit to the food processing industries in the designated food parks. Loan to food and agro-based processing units and Cold Chain have been classified under agriculture activities for Priority Sector Lending subject to aggregate sanctioned limit of ₹100 crore per borrower.

(b) and (c) State-wise details of the financial assistance extended to this sector and projects assisted for expanding production of processed food under various Central Sector Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries since 2014-15 are given in Statement-I (*See* below). The details of assistance provided to the States/UTs from 2014-15 to 2015-16 for implementation of CSS-NMFP and projects assisted for expanding production of processed food are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

Statement-I

State-wise details of the financial assistance extended for development of food processing sector and projects assisted under various Central Sector Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries since 2014-15.

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Projects Assisted	Amount	Projects Assisted	Amount	Projects Assisted	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	164	32.03	55	35.92	17	6.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	1	0.04	0	0.00
3.	Assam	10	13.04	16	6.56	0	0.00
4.	Bihar	11	0.77	4	5.59	0	0.00
5.	Chandigarh	2	0.12	0	0.00	1	0.04
6.	Chhattisgarh	59	6.94	23	2.50	5	0.51
7.	Daman and Diu	1	0.25	1	0.25	0	0.00
8.	Delhi	63	22.04	68	26.78	14	9.93
9.	Goa	6	1.05	2	1.92	2	2.66
10.	Gujarat	82	32.51	64	25.25	14	10.11
11.	Haryana	55	58.97	49	49.28	19	14.45
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18	12.75	17	25.68	3	3.16
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	5.48	20	23.88	9	6.03
14.	Jharkhand	7	16.19	6	17.05	1	0.25
15.	Karnataka	103	26.79	66	11.03	24	3.05
16.	Kerala	24	4.07	25	8.93	9	5.75
17.	Madhya Pradesh	32	24.32	22	7.21	6	3.27
18.	Maharashtra	192	51.82	142	70.02	36	33.35
19.	Manipur	2	2.46	2	0.01	1	0.08
20.	Meghalaya	4	0.85	2	0.33	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21. Mizoram		3	2.56	3	15.05	0	0.00
22. Nagaland		1	1.11	4	4.99	0	0.00
23. Odisha		24	13.26	12	2.19	4	14.22
24. Puducherry		0	0.00	1	0.25	0	0.00
25. Punjab		54	17.95	35	17.61	15	8.68
26. Rajasthan		85	15.25	94	39.95	26	7.23
27. Sikkim		1	0.19	4	1.48	0	0.00
28. Tamil Nadu		81	20.51	45	13.22	17	4.86
29. Telangana		1	0.03	2	4.00	3	5.08
30. Tripura		2	0.07	3	0.24	0	0.00
31. Uttar Pradesh		84	21.13	49	19.14	20	7.47
32. Uttarakhand		18	39.02	12	35.49	5	8.25
33. West Bengal		47	5.70	33	13.16	7	2.86
TOTAL		1246	449.23	882	485.00	258	157.60

Statement-II

*Details showing assistance provided to the States/UTs during 2014-15 to 2015-16
and no of projects assisted under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme -
National Mission on Food Processing*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014-15		2015-16	
		Projects Assisted	Amount	Projects Assisted	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0.71	1	1.12
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2	14.60	0	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0.52	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Assam	1	2.35	0	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	5.23	0	0.00
6.	Gujarat	2	8.51	0	0.00
7.	Haryana	3	12.00	0	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1.70	0	0.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0.75	0	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	1	1.53	0	0.00
11.	Karnataka	2	8.84	0	0.00
12.	Kerala	1	0.36	0	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2	7.90	0	0.00
14.	Maharashtra	2	13.71	0	0.00
15.	Manipur	3	3.84	0	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	1	0.82	0	0.00
17.	Nagaland	3	6.11	0	0.00
18.	Odisha	2	5.80	0	0.00
19.	Puducherry	0	0.00	1	0.39
20.	Punjab	1	1.94	0	0.00
21.	Rajasthan	2	11.82	0	0.00
22.	Sikkim	1	0.62	0	0.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	1	0.44	0	0.00
24.	Telangana	1	2.39	0	0.00
25.	Tripura	2	0.74	0	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2	5.51	0	0.00
27.	Uttarakhand	1	0.99	0	0.00
28.	West Bengal	2	5.58	0	0.00
TOTAL		44	125.31	2	1.51

Giving fillip to FPIs in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

3035. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that growth rate of Food Processing Industry (FPI) is sluggish in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (b) if so, the factors responsible for this state of affairs; and
- (c) the steps proposed to give a fillip to the FPIs in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVINIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To give a fillip to the FPIs in the country, including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the schemes of Mega Food Park, Cold Chain, Value addition and Preservation Infrastructure and Setting up/ Modernization of Abattoirs. The number of projects sanctioned in these two States under each of the schemes are as follows:

State	Number of Projects Sanctioned under		
	Mega Food Park	Cold Chain	Abattoirs
Andhra Pradesh	3	2	1
Telangana	3	3	1

Development of food processing units

3036. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Food Processing Units in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether there has been shortage of Food Processing Units in the country resulting in farmers not getting the right price for their produce;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to formulate any scheme for development and

promotion of various fruit and vegetable growing areas in the country to provide better raw material to food processing units, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) As per Annual Survey of Industries 2013-14, the total number of food processing units registered in the country was 37,445. The State-wise details are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to USQ No. 3033 Part (a)].

(b) and (c) As per an assessment of the extent of food processing in various food sub-sectors done in 2014 by the Institute of Economic Growth on behalf of Ministry of Agriculture, the average extent of processing of agro-products in 2010-11 was 6.76%. It implies that huge scope available for setting up food processing industries by the interested and eligible entrepreneurs of food processing sector in the country. The Schemes implemented by the Ministry Food Processing Industries have also contributed to the setting up of food processing units in the country.

(d) No, Sir. The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture is already being implemented in the States and Union Territories. Under this, the fruits and vegetables are being promoted while addressing issues of area expansion and under protected cultivation and cluster approach in order to fulfill the requirement of raw material for processing units and directly meeting the market demand. The cultivation of fruits and vegetables are also promoted on the basis of agro-climatic conditions.

Apart from that, the Government is also promoting fruits and vegetables cultivation in the States through Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana on the basis of projects submitted to States and Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Role of private sector and State Governments in development of Food Parks

3037. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Food Parks are being developed by private promoters also in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of Food Parks being developed by private sector;
- (c) the extent of incentives being given by Government to private sector in developing Food Parks; and
- (d) the role of State Governments in development of these Food Parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVINIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Ministry is implementing Mega Food Park (MFP) Scheme to create modern infrastructure for food processing. The Mega Food Parks may be set up by private promoters as well as State Government/its entities/cooperatives.

(b) Details of the Mega Food Parks sanctioned to private sector in the country is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Under the MFP Scheme, financial assistance is provided as grants-in-aid @50% of the eligible project cost in general areas and 75% of eligible project cost in difficult and hilly areas *i.e.* North East Region including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) notified areas of the States subject to a maximum ₹ 50.00 crore per project.

(d) Under the guidelines of the MFP Scheme, an important role has been envisaged of the State Government in implementation of the projects, as under:

- (i) Providing assistance to Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in procurement/purchase of suitable land.
- (ii) Providing all the requisite statutory clearances including permission for sub-leasing of land by SPV, wherever needed, for setting up the MFP and its components thereof and providing the necessary assistance for power, water, approach roads and other external infrastructure to the project.
- (iii) Providing flexible and conducive labour environment and consider special facilities like exemption of stamp duty, VAT/Sales Tax exemption etc. for the MFP and the units located in the MFP.
- (iv) Monitor the implementation of project.
- (v) Nominates a suitable officer to be appointed as Ministry's nominee Director in the SPV.
- (vi) Providing a fast track single window agency to facilitate clearances and permissions required for the project.

Statement*Details of mega food parks sanctioned to private sector*

		(₹ in crore)					
Sl. No.	Project Name	State	Date of In-principle Approval	Date of Final Approval	Project Cost	Grant approved	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	121.10	50.00	Operational & completed
2.	Godavari Mega Aqua Park Pvt. Ltd., West Godavari	Andhra Pradesh	21.09.2012	16.12.2013	122.60	50.00	Under Implementation
J.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd., Nalbari	Assam	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	80.85	50.00	Operational
4.	Pristine Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khagaria	Bihar	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	127.64	50.00	Under Implementation
5.	JVL Mega food Park Pvt. Ltd., Rohtas	Bihar	19.12.2013	10.08.2015	114.21	50.00	Under Implementation
6.	Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Raipur	Chhattisgarh	06.09.2012	04.06.2014	124.50	50.00	Under Implementation
7.	Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd., Kutch	Gujarat	31.03.2015		168.60	50.00	In-principle Approval
8.	Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.,						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Surat	Gujarat	21.09.2012	22.05.2014	117.87	50.00	Under Implementation
9.	Continental Warehousing Corporation (NhavaSeva) Limited, Panipat	Haryana	30.11.2015		157.46	50.00	In-principle Approval
10.	Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd, Una	Himachal Pradesh	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	99.70	50.00	Under Implementation
11.	RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd, Pulwama	Jammu And Kashmir	21.09.2012	19.02.2014	79.43	50.00	Under Implementation
12.	Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ranchi	Jharkhand	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	114.74	50.00	Operational
13.	Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Tumkur	Karnataka	03.08.2010	27.03.2011	144.33	50.00	Operational & completed
14.	Avantee Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Dewas	Madhya Pradesh	31.03.2015	31.12.2015	144.12	50.00	Under Implementation
15.	Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khargoan	Madhya Pradesh	10.10.2011	27.08.2012	127.70	50.00	Operational
16.	Wardha Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Wardha	Maharashtra	31.03.2015	13.01.2016	92.36	50.00	Under Implementation
17.	Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd., Aurangabad	Maharashtra	01.04.2011	08.03.2013	124.56	50.00	Under Implementation
18.	Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Satara	Maharashtra	21.09.2012	06.08.2014	139.33	50.00	Under Implementation
19.	Zoram Mega Food Park						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Pvt. Ltd., Aizawl	Mizoram	19.12.2013	10.06.2015	75.20	50.00	Under Implementation
20.	MITS Mega Food Park Ltd., Rayagada	Odisha	29.04.2011	16.04.2012	80.17	50.00	Under Implementation
21.	The Sukjhit Starch & Chemical Limited, Kapurthala	Punjab	31.03.2015	06.11.2015	123.72	50.00	Under Implementation
22.	International Mega Food Park Ltd., Fazilka	Punjab	03.08.2010	25.05.2011	130.38	50.00	Operational
23.	Greentech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Ajmer	Rajasthan	21.09.2012	19.02.2014	113.57	50.00	Under Implementation
24.	Raaga Mayuri Agrovet Pvt. Ltd., Mahboobnagar	Telangana	31.03.2015	31.12.2015	124.15	50.00	Under Implementation
25.	Smart Agro Industries Coorporation Pvt. Ltd., Nizamabad	Telangana	19.12.2013	10.06.2015	108.95	50.00	Under Implementation
26.	Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., West Tripura	Tripura	29.04.2011	30.11.2011	87.45	50.00	Under Implementation
27.	Patanjali Food & Herbal Park Pvt.Ltd., Haridwar	Uttarakhand	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	95.08	50.00	Operational & completed
28.	Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Udham Singh Nagar	Uttarakhand	21.09.2012	23.01.2014	99.96	50.00	Under Implementation
29.	Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Ltd., Murshidabad	West Bengal	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	132.70	50.00	Operational

Performance audit of Legal Aid Clinics

3038. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no performance audit of the Legal Aid Clinics has been done so far, as provided in the concerned Regulation, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the required number of such Clinics in the country along with the number of those established so far, State-wise; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed for their performance audit being not done so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Regulation 26 of the National Legal Services Authority (Legal Aid Clinics) Regulations, 2011 provides that the State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) shall conduct periodical review of the working of legal aid clinics at least once in three months or more frequently. As National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has not received inputs from SLSAs on whether such audit has been undertaken, it has written to all the SLSAs to have the performance audit of Legal Aid Clinics conducted under aforesaid Regulation.

The above Regulations provide for establishment of legal aid clinics in villages/rural areas, or for a cluster of villages, depending on the size of such villages, especially where the people face geographical, social and other barriers for access to the legal services institutions. However, these regulations do not specify the number of Legal Aid Clinics to be established. As per the information furnished by NALSA, a total number of 21647 such Legal Services Clinics have been established as on 31.01.2016 in the country. A statement showing State/UT-wise number of such clinics established is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Statement

State/UT-wise number of Legal Services Clinics established as on 31.01.2016 in the country.

Sl. No	Name of the SLSAs	Legal Services Clinics established
1.	Andhra Pradesh	860
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
3.	Assam	176

Sl. No	Name of the SLSAs	Legal Services Clinics established
4.	Bihar	337
5.	Chhattisgarh	377
6.	Goa	73
7.	Gujarat	989
8.	Haryana	461
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2734
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	183
11.	Jharkhand	488
12.	Karnataka	869
13.	Kerala	1324
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1058
15.	Maharashtra	601
16.	Manipur	22
17.	Meghalaya	125
18.	Mizoram	75
19.	Nagaland	83
20.	Odisha	551
21.	Punjab	821
22.	Rajasthan	1616
23.	Sikkim	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	673
25.	Telangana	492
26.	Tripura	254
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4826
28.	Uttarakhand	265
29.	West Bengal	1019
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	27
31.	U.T. Chandigarh	19
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13

Sl. No	Name of the SLSAs	Legal Services Clinics established
33.	Daman and Diu	11
34.	Delhi	137
35.	Lakshadweep	2
36.	Puducherry	60
TOTAL		21647

Cases of crime against women

‡3039. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crimes against women belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories and single women are increasing continuously, if so, whether Government proposes to establish separate Special Courts for hearing of such cases, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of women Judges and women Public Prosecutors appointed/under consideration in the last two years to hear the rising cases of crimes against women and provide them fast-track justice, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In accordance with Section 14 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989, the State Governments with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Courts, specify for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court for the purpose of speedy trial of offences under the Act.

Information relating to crimes against single women including women belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and number of women Judges/Public Prosecutors to hear such cases is not maintained centrally.

Alternative voting option for NRIs

3040. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the system to cast vote through alternative voting option by Non-Resident Indian (NRI) voters, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when it is likely to be implemented/notified?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (b) 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.

Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill

3041. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to do away with the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill following strong resistance and objections from Judges, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the action being taken by Government for smooth passage of the Bill; and

(c) the present status of the Bill, including the reasons for delay in its passage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 29.3.2012. The Bill could not be discussed in the Rajya Sabha and lapsed due to dissolution of 15th Lok Sabha. No decision has been taken to bring back this legislation.

Setting up of Special District Courts to award accident insurance claims

3042. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up Special District Courts to award accident insurance claims without delay to the affected families, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of courts and the time by which such courts are likely to be set up; and

(c) the number of accident insurance cases pending till 31 March, 2015?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) In terms of Section 165 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, State Government may constitute one or more Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals for such area as may be specified in the notification for the purpose of adjudicating upon claims for

compensation in respect of accidents involving the death of, or bodily injury to, persons arising out of the use of motor vehicles, or damages to any property of a third party so arising, or both. Accordingly, the State Governments have either constituted exclusive Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals or have empowered other regular courts to deal with the cases of Motor Accident Claims. The information in respect of accident insurance claims is not maintained centrally.

Courts for cases relating to women and children

3043. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of courts functioning for disposal of cases relating to crimes against children and women in the country, including number of cases pending/disposed of by these courts during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the proposals under consideration of Government for setting up of more such courts along with present status thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up dedicated courts to deal with cases relating to crimes against women and for disposal of cases of women by appointing women judges/ prosecutors in such courts; and

(d) if so, the details and present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Number of courts functioning for disposal of cases relating to crimes against children and women in the country, number of cases pending/disposed of by these courts during 2012-2014, State-wise are given in the Statement-I, Statement-II and Statement-III respectively. State Governments are competent to set up special courts in consultation with their respective High Courts from their own resources for speedy trial of such cases. Information relating to appointment of women judges/prosecutors to deal with such cases is not maintained centrally.

The 14th Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, etc. The 14th Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

Statement-I

Special Courts set up/designated for cases of crimes against women and for cases of crimes against children under POCSO Act, 2012

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Courts for cases of	
		Crimes against women	Crimes against children under POCSO Act, 2012
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh/Telangana	24	23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	*	5
3.	Assam	3	27
4.	Bihar	*	38
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	16
6.	Chandigarh	1	*
7.	Goa	*	1
8.	Gujarat	*	33
9.	Haryana	21	21
10.	Himachal Pradesh	*	12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	*
12.	Jharkhand	11	24
13.	Karnataka	10	30
14.	Kerala	1	14
15.	Maharashtra	27	33
16.	Meghalaya	1	4
17.	Manipur	*	9
18.	Madhya Pradesh	50	50
19.	Mizoram	*	2
20.	Nagaland	*	11

1	2	3	4
21.	Odisha	30	30
22.	Punjab	20	22
23.	Rajasthan	9	33
24.	Sikkim	1	4
25.	Tamil Nadu	32	32
26.	Tripura	2	8
27.	Uttarakhand	*	13
28.	Uttar Pradesh	80	75
29.	West Bengal	48	20
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	*	1
31.	Chandigarh	*	1
32.	Daman and Diu	*	*
33.	Delhi	6	11
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	*	1
35.	Lakshadweep	*	1
36.	Pondicherry	*	*
TOTAL		398	605

*Not available

Statement-II*Details of pending and disposal of cases of crime against children*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2012		2013		2014	
		Cases Disposed	PT*	Cases Disposed	PT*	Cases Disposed	PT*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1471	3070	1138	3783	680	2281
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	181	0	232	4	116

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	45	519	228	627	88	914
4.	Bihar	867	3290	513	4101	497	4564
5.	Chhattisgarh	1222	4068	1240	5318	1670	6045
6.	Goa	11	261	9	352	16	491
7.	Gujarat	466	5596	524	6577	450	7250
8.	Haryana	221	803	612	1146	1157	1505
9.	Himachal Pradesh	97	542	179	630	126	748
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	181	125	108	54	353
11.	Jharkhand	86	64	47	76	327	604
12.	Karnataka	253	887	383	1158	331	3026
13.	Kerala	387	3596	423	4593	431	6238
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3086	12159	4063	13866	5345	18080
15.	Maharashtra	1033	18007	994	21255	1319	25302
16.	Manipur	0	5	0	9	0	27
17.	Meghalaya	5	231	15	333	7	478
18.	Mizoram	42	101	37	121	53	146
19.	Nagaland	16	7	12	0	5	7
20.	Odisha	99	1144	192	1711	207	2840
21.	Punjab	289	875	632	969	495	864
22.	Rajasthan	770	3200	609	4065	786	5329
23.	Sikkim	38	87	99	27	34	61
24.	Tamil Nadu	299	1421	542	1700	961	2449
25.	Telangana	0	0	0	0	633	2507
26.	Tripura	36	328	22	409	65	460
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1911	11115	2040	16024	2751	25011
28.	Uttarakhand	57	171	82	215	83	417

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29.	West Bengal	194	2466	222	3539	557	6315
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8	198	19	250	26	254
31.	Chandigarh	44	105	69	111	113	127
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	39	6	39	0	44
33.	Daman and Diu	3	14	7	12	3	11
34.	Delhi UT	788	3520	803	4153	823	6021
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	1
36.	Puducherry	17	91	4	103	0	39

* Cases Pending for Trial

Statement-III

Details of pending and disposal of cases of crime against women

Sl. No.	State/UT	2012		2013		2014	
		Cases Disposed	PT*	Cases Disposed	PT*	Cases Disposed	PT*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15543	45403	13187	53818	8801	31016
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	95	1473	31	1624	14	1580
3.	Assam	4153	22750	6289	25453	5719	29464
4.	Bihar	3835	30970	4020	35939	3944	40849
5.	Chhattisgarh	3466	18407	4217	19183	4494	17268
6.	Goa	47	413	65	587	85	809
7.	Gujarat	4445	64255	4903	70386	4509	63319
8.	Haryana	4204	12283	4921	13714	5128	14293
9.	Himachal Pradesh	533	3900	627	4210	479	4949
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2178	12251	3179	11111	1614	11200

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Jharkhand	2566	6388	3334	7483	2515	9051
12.	Karnataka	5820	23389	5746	26936	5382	31602
13.	Kerala	4649	43720	4922	48521	5582	52310
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10275	51907	13146	53676	14114	60459
15.	Maharashtra	10808	120102	10479	128224	10445	140696
16.	Manipur	2	121	8	141	13	200
17.	Meghalaya	26	1022	25	1291	25	1532
18.	Mizoram	154	214	146	227	168	296
19.	Nagaland	26	59	47	59	27	47
20.	Odisha	5698	45576	4877	52793	6421	57848
21.	Punjab	1330	6789	2202	7527	2115	7333
22.	Rajasthan	7197	49535	8013	54265	9004	59143
23.	Sikkim	26	169	165	104	81	125
24.	Tamil Nadu	3671	14367	5365	15084	4566	14628
25.	Telangana	0	0.0	0	0.0	5825	25879
26.	Tripura	1839	3363	1064	3705	608	3523
27.	Uttar Pradesh	10953	47979	10635	58363	10454	72957
28.	Uttarakhand	867	3080	728	3359	650	3301
29.	West Bengal	7737	154989	6998	178063	8660	205770
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21	471	39	543	126	504
31.	Chandigarh	127	529	237	548	237	549
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19	102	7	107	6	101
33.	Daman and Diu	9	39	4	53	11	25
34.	Delhi UT	3047	12493	2768	16056	3140	19725
35.	Lakshadweep	1	0	0	1	0	4
36.	Puducherry	57	512	34	535	8	161

* Cases Pending for Trial

Family courts

3044. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REODY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the performance of family courts in the country;
- (b) the details of family courts in the country;
- (c) the details of cases pending in family courts, State-wise;
- (d) whether it is a fact that more than 25000 cases are pending in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;
- (e) if so, the cases pending for 3, 5 and 7 years, respectively, and efforts being made to resolve the disputes at an early date; and
- (f) the status of vacancy position in family courts, State-wise and court-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (f) 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. The details of Family Courts and the cases pending thereof State-wise/UT-wise is given in Annexure. The number of cases pending in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, as on 31st December, 2015 are 7177 and 9308 respectively. The information relating to cases pending for 3, 5 and 7 years and the status of vacancy position in family courts, State-wise and court-wise is not maintained centrally.

Statement

Number of Family Courts functional and cases pending, as on date, State/UT-wise

Sl. No.	State	Cases Pending (as on)	Number of court Functional
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7177 as on 31.12.15	14
2.	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram	5858 as on 29.2.16	4
3.	Bihar	50847 as on 31.12.15	39

1	2	3	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	10464 as on 31.3.16	20
5.	Delhi	29079 as on 31.3.16	15
6.	Goa	-	-
7.	Gujarat	29445 as on 29.2.16	19
8.	Haryana	15256 as on 31.03.16	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1490 as on 31.3.16	1
11.	Jharkhand	14261	21
12.	Karnataka	24612 as on 1.3.16	27
13.	Kerala	52446 as on 31.12.15	28
14.	Madhya Pradesh	34165 as on 1.10.15	50
15.	Maharashtra	32854 as on 30.4.16	25
16.	Manipur	434	5
17.	Meghalaya	-	0
18.	Odisha	22035 as on 31.3.16	17
19.	Punjab	4533 as on 31.3.16	5
20.	Puducherry	862 as on 31.12.15	1
21.	Rajasthan	21974 as on 31.12.15	28
22.	Sikkim	130 as on 31.3.16	4
23.	Tamil Nadu	20592 as on 31.12.15	20
24.	Telangana	9308 as on 31.12.15	12
25.	Tripura	1799 as on 31.3.16	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	263682 as 31.3.16	76
27.	Uttarakhand	8048 as on 31.3.16	8
28.	West Bengal	1091 as on 31.12.15	2

Fast Track Courts

†3045. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fast Track Courts (FTCs) were started across the country to bring speedy justice to victims of rape and other serious crimes, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether most of the FTCs set up for this purpose have closed down, if so, the details thereof, so far;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to long pendency of cases of rape victims in courts the hope for justice diminishes; and

(d) if so, whether Government would set-up FTCs immediately to improve this condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The 11th Finance Commission had recommended a scheme for creation of 1734 Fast Track Courts in the country for disposal of long pending cases and the cases involving undertrial prisoners. The scheme recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission was for a period of five years upto 2004-05. The Government accorded its approval for the continuation of central funding of 1562 Fast Track Courts that were operational as on 31.3.2005 for a further period of five years *i.e.* up to 31st March, 2010. The scheme was continued for another one year *i.e.* upto 31st March, 2011, and central funding for these FTCs has been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2011.

The fourteenth Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing 1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc. at a cost of ₹4144 crore. The fourteenth Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

Pending court cases and shortage of judges

3046. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in the courts in the country, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of Judges in various courts of the country, resulting in delay in clearance of pending cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information available, 60,946 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 03.08.2016. As per information made available by the High Courts, details of pendency of cases in various High Courts and District/Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015 are given in the Statements-I and II respectively (*See* below).

Some of the main factors responsible for pendency of cases in courts are increased impact of State and Central legislations, accumulation of first appeals, continuation of ordinary civil jurisdiction in some of the High Courts, vacancies of Judges, appeals against orders of quasi-judicial forums going to High Courts, number of revisions/appeals, frequent adjournments, indiscriminate use of writ jurisdiction, lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

The sanctioned strength of High Court Judges has increased from 906 in June, 2014 to 1079 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/Judges of District and Subordinate Courts has increased from 17,715 at the end of 2012 to 20,502 in December, 2015.

The Supreme Court, in the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed versus State of Uttar Pradesh and Others, inter-alia*, asked the Law Commission of India to evolve a method for scientific assessment of the number of additional courts to clear the backlog of cases. The Law Commission in its 245th Report recommended 'Rate of Disposal Method' for calculating adequate judge strength for District and Subordinate Courts. The matter is *sub-judice* before the Supreme Court, at present.

Statement-I*Pending cases in High Courts as on 31.12.2015*

Sl. No.	High Court	Pending cases in High courts as on 31.12.2015
1.	Allahabad	9,18,829
2.	Punjab and Haryana	2,88,351
3.	Madras	2,84,428
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2,73,827
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2,70,272
6.	Bombay	2,46,441
7.	Rajasthan	2,44,866
8.	Karnataka	2,37,454
9.	Calcutta	2,21,282
10.	Odisha	1,69,453
11.	Kerala	1,57,369
12.	Patna	1,28,738
13.	Gujarat	87,072
14.	Jharkhand	80,419
15.	Delhi	68,784
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	56,453
17.	Chhattisgarh	50,111
18.	Uttarakhand	26,680
19.	Himachal Pradesh	26,533
20.	Gauhati	25,948
21.	Manipur	3,315
22.	Tripura	3,037
23.	Meghalaya	597
24.	Sikkim	114
TOTAL		38,70,373

Statement-II*Pending cases in District / Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Pending cases in District/ Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015
1	2	3
1.	Uttar Pradesh	55,74,490
2.	Maharashtra	29,94,074
3.	West Bengal	26,18,813
4.	Gujarat	21,42,011
5.	Bihar	20,73,303
6.	Rajasthan	14,79,173
7.	Kerala	13,45,127
8.	Karnataka	12,68,966
9.	Madhya Pradesh	11,91,799
10.	Tamil Nadu	10,82,793
11.	Odisha	10,64,039
12.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	10,31,515
13.	Delhi	5,39,601
14.	Haryana	5,24,281
15.	Punjab	5,04,028
16.	Jharkhand	3,24,357
17.	Chhattisgarh	2,85,962
18.	Assam	2,42,503
19.	Uttarakhand	1,66,618
20.	Himachal Pradesh	1,62,553
21.	Tripura	1,29,789
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,24,763
23.	Goa	39,615
24.	Chandigarh	36,322
25.	Pondicherry	24,973

1	2	3
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9,495
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	8,776
28.	Meghalaya	7,493
29.	Manipur	6,885
30.	Mizoram	4,671
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,903
32.	Nagaland	3,862
33.	Daman and Diu	1,723
34.	Sikkim	1,299
35.	Lakshadweep	380
TOTAL		2,70,19,955

Implementation of Anti-defection Law

3047. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of the Anti-defection Law is very weak in the country and representatives elected from one party join another party without any fear, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to curb defections of representatives from the party they are elected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Tenth Schedule of the Constitution provides for the prevention of defection of the elected/nominated members from their political party. Paragraph 6 of the said Schedule provides that where a question arises as to whether a member of a House has become subject to disqualification, such a question shall be referred for the decision of the Chairman or, as the case may be, the speaker of such House and his decision shall be final. However, it is stated that no such specific instance has come to the notice of the Government reporting the shortcoming of existing Anti-defection Law in meeting out its goal. The Anti-defection Law do contain stringent provisions for curbing the menace of switching over of legislators.

Central Regulatory Authorities

3048. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Central Regulatory Authorities in the country, at present;
- (b) the judicial and non-judicial powers enjoyed by these Regulatory Authorities; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal to bring in a law to regulate the regulators to create a uniform national framework for orderly development of infrastructure and protection of consumers' interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Creation of All India Judicial Service

3049. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering setting up of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) on the lines of IAS and IPS;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when, it would be set up; and
- (c) if not, how Government is going to meet the demand of maintaining the required strength in District Courts and High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and amongst High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service.

The proposal for constitution of All India Judicial Service with views from the High Courts and State Governments received thereon was included in the agenda for the Joint

Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 05th April, 2015. However, no progress was made on the subject. The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges/judicial officers at all level was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015. During the Conference of the Chief Justices of the High Courts, it was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously.

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. 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. 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 filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among Constitutional Authorities to select suitable candidates for higher judiciary and is time consuming. 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 the Judge strength of High Courts.

Doubling and tripling of railway lines

3050. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved railway projects worth ₹10,736 crore for doubling and tripling of railway lines in various States of the country, if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the funds sanctioned/spent for each project, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Government has approved 5 Doubling/Tripling projects worth ₹10739 crore on 25.05.2016. As most of the Railway lines straddle across one or more States, State-wise data is not maintained; Zone-wise details are as under:

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	Name of Project	Length (Km)	Cost (₹ in cr.)	Outlay 16-17 (₹ in cr.)
1.	North Eastern	Rosa-Sitapur Cantt-Burwal	180.77	1295.42	175
2.	Western	Surendranagar-Rajkot doubling with electrification	116.17	1002.39	240
3.	Central	Pune-Miraj-Londa doubling	467	3627.47	325
4.	East Coast	Vizianagaram-Sambhalpur (Titlagarh) 3rd line	264.6	2335.68	225
5.	West Central	Bina-Katni 3rd line	278.70	2478.23	363

As these projects have recently been sanctioned, no expenditure has been incurred.

Insurance for railway passengers

3051. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide insurance for railway passengers, if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be introduced; and

(b) the details of premium to be paid by passengers in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to provide Optional Travel Insurance to e-ticket passengers on pilot basis. The proposed insurance scheme will provide financial support to the family/legal heir in case of death/injury of reserved passengers booked through e-ticketing system excluding sub-urban passengers due to train accident/untoward incidents as defined in the Railways Act, 1989, subject to certain stipulations. The Optional Travel Insurance scheme is likely to roll out shortly and the modalities of the premium are being worked out.

State-wise construction of new railway lines

3052. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new railway lines being considered for construction by Railways at present, State-wise;

(b) the time by which the construction works of these railway lines is likely to be started; and

(c) whether any new project is proposed to be undertaken in Kerala in the near future, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Consideration of construction of new lines is a continuous process. Based on demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives or Railways' own requirement, a survey is taken up. As per outcome of the survey, a project is considered on the basis of remunerativeness, socio-economic considerations, throwforward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands. After a considered decision, a project is either sanctioned or shelved.

(c) In anticipation of Government of Kerala coming forward to take up projects through Joint Venture, two New Line projects *viz.* Kannur-Mattannur (23 Km) and Nanjangod-Nilambur (236 Km) falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala have been included in Railway Budget 2016-17 under Capital Investment Programme.

Vacancies under Railways

3053. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have nearly 1,20,000 job vacancies presently;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this huge vacancy backlog has had severe impact on rail safety issues;
- (c) the details of job vacancies in South Central Railway;
- (d) how does Government propose to prevent rail accidents and take care of rail safety issues with such a serious manpower shortage; and
- (e) the steps proposed to assess the situation and take appropriate action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There are 217369 (Provisional) vacancies in Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' on Zonal Railways, as on 01.04.2016.

(b) Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. No safety issues have occurred due to large scale vacancies.

(c) There are 12814 (Provisional) vacancies in Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' on South Central Railway, as on 01.04.2016. Out of these, the safety category vacancies are 8422.

(d) and (e) Rail accidents and rail safety issues are not attributed to vacancies.

Provision of confirmed tickets for all passengers

†3054. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has planned to add extra coaches in trains in view of huge crowd in general coaches, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the provisions regarding waitlisted passengers for travelling in sleeper and AC coaches; and

(c) whether Government is mulling over any scheme to provide confirmed tickets to all passengers, if so, the details thereof and how much time would be taken for implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways, as a matter of policy, has already decided that all the Mail/Express trains (except fully reserved trains like Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, etc.) introduced after 2007-08, shall have at least 6 general class coaches in their standard composition as per feasibility. Besides, to cater to the travelling needs of General Class passengers, Indian Railways operate fully unreserved services like Jan Sadharan, Janseva, Jan Nayak Express and also operate Passenger trains and Intercity services for short distance travel. With this end in view, Indian Railways in the Railway Budget 2016-17, has announced to introduce the Antyodaya Express, a long-distance, fully unreserved, superfast train service, and also to add two to four Deen Dayalu coaches in some long distance trains for unreserved travel to enhance the carrying capacity for the general public. Further, about 87 General Class coaches have been augmented in existing trains during the period 2016-17 (up to July, 2016).

(b) Passengers holding waiting list ticket are not permitted to board reserved coaches without the permission of on-board ticket checking staff. Waiting list passengers, if found travelling in reserved coaches, are taken up as per relevant provisions of Indian Railways Act, 1989.

(c) With a view to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers of reserved class and also to ensure optimal utilization of available accommodation, the Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme known as 'VIKALP' was introduced as a pilot project on Delhi-Lucknow and Delhi-Jammu sectors. This scheme has been further extended to Delhi-Howrah, Delhi-Mumbai, Delhi-Chennai, Delhi-Bengaluru and Delhi-Secunderabad sectors also. The trains are also augmented by attaching additional coaches to clear

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

waitlisted passengers, subject to feasibility and extra trains, over and above the normal time tabled trains are run, to cater to the demand.

Funds raised through EBR-IF

3055. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has raised any funds through Extra Budgetary Resources-Institutional Finance (EBR-IF) to augment pending railway projects;
- (b) if so, the details of funds raised so far during the current financial year; and
- (c) the details of projects on which the funds, so raised, have been spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of ₹1,500 crore drawn from Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has been availed as Extra Budgetary Resources (Institutional Finance) (EBR-IF) for financing of projects in the current financial year 2016-17.

(c) EBR-IF funds have been deployed to meet capital expenditure on new and ongoing railway projects mainly under plan heads of doubling, electrification and gauge conversion.

Diamond quadrilateral network

3056. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have undertaken a Diamond Quadrilateral network of high-speed rail connecting major metros and growth centres; and
- (b) if so, the metro cities and growth centres identified for this purpose and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Six corridors on Diamond Quadrilateral connecting metropolitan cities and growth centers of the country (Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata) have been identified for feasibility studies for high speed rail connectivity *viz.* (i) Delhi-Mumbai, (ii) Mumbai-Chennai, (iii) Chennai-Kolkata, (iv) Kolkata-Delhi and both diagonals *i.e.* (v) Delhi-Chennai and (vi) Mumbai-Kolkata routes.

Feasibility studies for Delhi-Mumbai, Delhi-Kolkata and Mumbai-Chennai have been awarded in September, 2015. Feasibility studies for Delhi-Nagpur portion of Delhi-Chennai corridor and Mumbai-Nagpur portion of Mumbai-Kolkata corridor are being undertaken through Government to Government cooperation, with China and Spain respectively.

Complaints received by Railways on social websites

†3057. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of complaints received by Railways on the social websites during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16, respectively, regarding railways services/amenities and the number of complaints addressed out of those;

(b) the zones from which maximum number of complaints were received through social websites during the said years, zone-wise; and

(c) whether Railways are planning to create a separate cell in this regard in view of the increasing trend of social websites in the society, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Large number of tweets and posts, including complaints on railway services/amenities, are received on the twitter handle (@RailMinIndia) and facebook page (Ministry of Railways - India) of the Ministry every day. Such tweets and posts are forwarded to the concerned authorities for effective and speedy resolution. A 24x7 Customer Complaint Management Cell is being set up in Railway Board to organise handling of large number of tweets and posts received through social media.

Completion of ongoing railway projects in Punjab

3058. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of ongoing railway projects in Punjab; and

(b) by when they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The status of ongoing railway projects falling partly/fully in Punjab is as under:

1. New Line Projects:

Sl. No.	Project Name	Latest Cost (₹ in crores)	Expenditure as on 31.03.2016 (₹ in crores)	Outlay for 2016-17 (₹ in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Nangal Dam-Talwara (83.74 km) and taking over siding of Mukerian-Talwara (29.16 km)	2100	484	100

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Qadian-Beas (39.68 km)	205	16	10
3.	Ferozpur-Patti (25 km)	147	Nil	25
4.	Rajpura-Mohali (24 km)	406	Nil	00.001

2. Doubling Projects:

Sl. No.	Project Name	Anticipated Cost (₹ in crores)	Expenditure as on 31.03.2016 (₹ in crores)	Outlay for 2016-17 (₹ in crores)
1.	Jalanadhar-Pathankot-Jammu Tawi (211.26 km)	850	841.57	2.50
2.	Ambala Cantt.-Dhappar Phase-I (22.71 km) with Material Modification of Doubling of Dhappar-Chandigarh (22.45 km)	362	212.64	190.00
3.	Jakhal-Mansa (45.2 km)	163	153.31	2.50
4.	Mansa-Bhatinda Doubling (Phase-I) with Material Modification of Rama Mandi (Raman) - Sadasinghwala <i>via</i> Talwandi Saboo (29.11 km) New Line	369	186.27	10.00
5.	Rajpura-Bhatinda (172 km)	1720	NIL	440.00

(b) Railways have a large shelf of ongoing new line projects and limited overall availability of funds for their completion. Therefore, it is not possible to provide adequate funds for all the projects and fix their timelines.

Battery-operated car service at railway stations

3059. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to start battery-operated car service at all major railway stations across the country to facilitate movement of passengers, especially disabled, ailing and elderly at platforms;

(b) whether this facility to the ailing, disabled and elderly passengers will be on the lines of airports or on chargeable basis; and

(c) a detailed note on the total number of stations to be provided with this facility in the first phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Zonal Railways have been authorized to introduce Battery Operated Vehicles (BOVs) at major railway stations for disabled, elderly and ailing passengers on 'first come first served' basis through sponsorship from individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable institutions, Corporates and PSUs/Corporate Houses under their Corporate Social Responsibility free of charge to passenger or to the Railway. 70 BOVs have already been provided at 48 major railway stations. Further, instructions have also been issued to Zonal Railways to invite Expression of Interest for providing the facility of Battery Operated Car service on payment basis initially at 75 major stations which falls in A-1 category of stations.

(b) At present, this facility to disabled, old age and sick passengers is available at 48 stations on free of cost basis. However, this service has been proposed to be provided on payment basis at all A-1 category stations keeping in view the financial sustainability of the service. This facility can be availed by passengers on 'first come first served' basis, however, preference shall be given to Sr. Citizens, physically challenged, pregnant women and medically sick passengers.

(c) Battery Operated Car service is already available at 48 major railway stations (including 36 A-1 category stations) over Indian Railways. Further, instructions have been issued to zonal railways to provide the said facility at 39 remaining A-1 category stations. Details of the same are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of 48 stations where Battery operated car service is available are as under:

Agra Cantt., Ambala Cantt. Jn., Amritsar, Bangalore City, Bangalore Cantt., Bhatapara, Bhubaneswar, Bilaspur, Chandigarh, Chennai Central, Chennai Egmore, Coimbatore Jn., CST Mumbai, Darbhanga Jn., Dhanbad, Durg, Gaya Jn., Ghazipur City, Gwalior, H. Nizamuddin, Haridwar, Howrah, Jabalpur, Jhansi, Jodhpur cantt., Kota, Kozhikkode, Lucknow, Lucknow Jn., Madurai Jn., Manduadih, Mughalsarai Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn., Mysore Jn., Nagpur, New Delhi, Patna Jn., Raipur, Raigarh, Ranchi, Salem, Sealdah, Solapur, SSP Nilayam, Surat, Tiruchirapalli, Visakhapatnam and Yesvantpur.

The details of remaining 39 railway stations are as under:

Ahmedabad, Ajmer, Allahabad, Anand Vihar Terminal, Bandra Terminus, Bareilly, Bhagalpur, Bhopal, Chhapra Jn., Dadar, Dehradun, Delhi Jn., Ernakulam Jn., Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu Tawi, Kacheguda, Kalyan, Kanpur Central, Kharagpur, Lokmanya Tilak (T), Ludhiana, Mathura Jn., Mumbai Central main, New Jalpaiguri, Pune, Puri, Rajkot,

Secunderabad Jn., Tatanagar, Thane, Thrisur, Tirupati, Tiruvananthapuram Central, Vadodara, Varanasi and Vijayawada.

Workers not getting minimum wages in textile mills

3060. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in various private sector textile mills, the workers are not being paid minimum wages;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in various such mills there is widespread agitation among workers on this issue; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to ensure that workers in textile mills are paid minimum wages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (c) The nodal Ministry for implementation of the Minimum Wages Act is Ministry of Labour and Employment. As per the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both the State and Central Government are the appropriate governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages under their jurisdiction.

The enforcement of the provisions of the Minimum wages Act is secured by the Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) at the Central level and the State enforcement machinery at the State level.

In case of nonpayment or less payment than the due Wages, prosecution cases are launched against the erring employer for violation of the provision of the Act.

Completion of Ranchi to Tori rail route

3061. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when Ranchi-Lohardaga-Tori route will be completed as it is under construction for a long time and trains starting from Ranchi reach Tori after four hours or more and if this route is ready, time to reach Tori from Ranchi will be less than two hours for Delhi-bound trains; and

(b) by when the work of overbridge at Nagri near Ranchi in Jharkhand will be completed as the work has been stopped for a long time and traffic is facing a major problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Ranchi-Lohardaga (67 Km) Gauge Conversion has been completed and commissioned. Lohardaga-Barkichampi section (14.5 Km) of Lohardaga-Tori (44 Km) new line has also been completed and commissioned. Track-linking of remaining section of Barkichampi-Tori (29.5 Km) has been completed and is targeted for commissioning in 2016-17.

Sub-structure of railway portion of ROB at Nagri near Ranchi has been completed. Work has been stopped due to non-finalisation of plan of approaches by the NH Wing of State Government of Jharkhand.

Upgrading the speed of Delhi-Ranchi and Delhi-Raipur Rajdhani trains

3062. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when the speed of Rajdhani trains, especially Delhi-Ranchi Rajdhani and Delhi-Raipur Rajdhani will be upgraded as it will save a lot of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): At present, there is no proposal of upgrading the speed of Rajdhani Express trains running over Indian Railways including Ranchi and Raipur bound Rajdhani Express trains. However, speeding up of trains including Rajdhani Express is a constant endeavour and continuous process on Indian Railways and is dependent on constant optimization of the investments made by Railways in modernization of technology, high powered locos, modern coaches and better tracks.

Installing CCTV cameras at railway stations

3063. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry proposes to install CCTV cameras at railway stations to ensure safety of women passengers;
- (b) if so, the details of stations where such cameras are proposed to be installed;
- (c) whether the CCTVs installed will also be used for monitoring station's cleanliness, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether all stations, right down to category 'C' stations, have been included in this project;
- (e) if so, the details of small stations and category 'C' stations identified for this purpose, State-wise; and
- (f) by when this exercise will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Railway has proposed to install Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras at 983 stations under Nirbhaya Fund to ensure safety of women passengers. In addition, CCTV cameras have been provided at 344 railway stations over Indian Railways. Instructions have been issued to zonal Railways for extending the use of CCTVs for monitoring cleanliness activities performed by the cleaning staff.

(d) A total of 983 railway stations right down to category 'C' stations have been included in the proposal for provision of CCTV cameras under Nirbhaya Fund.

(e) State-wise details of category 'C' stations are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(f) The exercise will be taken up as per availability of fund.

Statement

Details of Station-wise Category 'C' stations are as follows:

Maharashtra- Dombivli, Ghatkopar, Mulund, Ambernath, Bhandup, Ulhasnagar, Mumbra, Badlapur, Vikhroli, Byculla, Sion, Mankhurd, Masjid, Kalva, Vashi, Chembur, Kanjurmarg, Nerul, Vadala Rd., Shahad, Diwa, Vithalwadi, Govandi, Belapur, Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar, Vidyavihar, Sandhurst Road, Tilaknagar, Sewri, Sanpada, Khargar, Karjat, Airoli, Currey Road, Thakurli, Khandeshwar, Seawood Dharave, Mansarovar, Titwala, Matunga, Pimpri, Nahur, Juinagar, Kopar, Chinchpokli, Chinchwad, Talegaon, Cotton Green, Parel, Dock Yard Rd., King's Circle, Ambivli, Ghansoli, Koparkhairane, Reay Road, Neral, Asangaon, Kasara, Chunnabhatti, Shivajinagar, Rabale, Akurdi, Turbhe, Vasind, Dehu Road, Khopoli, Khadki, Vangani, Dapodi, Khadavli, Kasarwadi, Kamshet, Bhivpuri Road, Vadgaon, Khardi, Atgaon, Ghorawadi, Malavali, Shelu, Begdewadi, Lowji, Dolavli, Kelavli, Palasdhari, Boisar, Dahanu Road, Palghar, Saphale, Vangaon, Kelwe Road, Vaitarna Road.

West Bengal- Budge Budge, Bagula, Krishnanagar City, Barrackpore, Sonarpur, Ranaghat, Tarakeswar, Srirampur, Canning, Sodpur, Baruipur Jn., Barasat Jn., Kanchrapara, Chakdaha, Nabadwipdham, Shyamnagar, Sheoraphuli, Habra, Belgharia, Rishra, Sodepur, Bangaon Jn., Chandannagar, Konnagar, Katwa, Bally, Kalyani, Garia, Maslandapur, Lilluah, Chuchura, Madhyamgram, Joynagar Mojilpur, Jadavpur, Dumdum Cant., Belur, Kankinara, Uttarpara, Dankuni, Memari, Mathurapur Rd., Parkcircus, Subhasgram, Khardah, Bhadreswar, Shantipur, Agarpara, Lakshmi Kantapur, Ichhapur, Panduah, Ambikakalna, Diamond Harbour Road, Birati, Baidyabati, Gobordanga, Santoshpur, Duttapukur, Halisahar, Baghajatin, Titagarh, Hindmotor, Basirhat, Haripal, Asokenagar, Mallikpur, Mogra, Madanpur, Mankundu, Nungi, Champahati, Dhakuria, Dakhineswar, Taldi, Chandpara, Payradanga, Singur, Durganagar, Simurali, Majhdia, Palta, Hooghly, Thakurnagar,

Ghutiarisharif, Baruipara, Badkulla, Hasnabad, Newbarakpore, Hridaypur, Dhamuah, Gocharan, Nalikul, Tollygange, Janai Road, Jagaddal, Phulia, Akra, Boinchi, Aranghata, Hooghlyghat, Guma, Begampur, Kakdwip, Bira, Gurap, Belmuri, Sangrampur, Bamangachi, Brace-Bridge, Majerhat, Garifa, Baharu, Taherpur, Tribeni, Palpara, Bisorepara Kodalia, Masagram, Ballyghat, Gobra, Hotor, Kalyani Ghoshpara, Birnagar, Jaugram, Purbasthali, Piali, Gangnapur, Harua Road, Samudragarh, Deula, Debipur, Namkhana, Khanyan, Guptipara, Dainhat, Saktigarh, Jirat, Adisaptagram, New Alipore, Malatipur, Shibaichandi, Bansbaria, Gopal Nagar, Kuntighat, Kalyanpur, Kalinarayanpur Jn., Habibpur, Kalyani Simanta, Balarambati, BBD Bag, Loknath, Chandanpur, Rasulpur, Bidyadharpur, Dearah, Patuli, Dhatrigram, Nasibpur, Majhergram, Champa Pukur, Kalikapur, Shashan Road, Dhaphdhopi, Mirzapur Bankipur, Madhusudhanpur, Lake Garden, Bagnapara, Baranagar, Takiroad, Simlagarh, Dakshin Durgapur, Bhasila, Bahirkhanda, Agradwip, Belanagar, Netra, Burrabazar, Khamargachi, Surjyapur, Balagarh, Porabazar, Kalyani Silpanchal, Banpur, Sondalia, Somrabazar, Gangpur, Belerhat, Kaikala, Bainchigram, Basuldanga, Behula, Pallaroad, Jhapandanga, Nabagram, Laxkshipur, Bhandertikuri, Talandoo, Eden Garden, Bagila, Hazigarh, Palsit, Dakshin Barasat, Gurudasnagar, Tala, Patipukur, Dumurdaha, Gede, Princep Ghat, Bagbazar, Kashinagar Halt, Belur Math, Kalinagar, Nischindipur, Biman Bandar, Balgona, Arambagh, Kamarkundu, Kamarkundu Flag, Gokulnagar Jaipur, Mecheda, Panskura, Santragachi, Bagnan, Uluberia, Balichak, Kolaghat, Bauria, Sankrail, Kulgachia, Andul, Mourigram, Dasnagar, Nalpur, Ramrajatala, Tikiapara, Deulti, Haur, Birshibpur, Chengail, Fuleswar, Bhogpur, Radhamohanpur, Ghoraghata, Narayan Pakuria Murail, Nandaigajan, Khirai, Abada

Tamil Nadu- Avadi, Moore Market Complex, Guindy, St. Thomas Mount, Ambattur, Chennai Park, Pallavaram, Velacheri, Villivakkam, Nungambakkam (flag), Chrompet(flag), Saidapet, Thirunintravur, Minjur, Pazhavanthangal (flag), Ponneri, Kodambakkam, Tiruvanmiyur, Gummidipundi, Tambaram Sanitorium (flag), Pattabiram (flag), Chennai Fort (flag), Tiruvottiyur, Korattur (flag), Veppambattu (flag), Vyasarpadi Jeeva (flag), Chennai Chetpet (flag), Wimco Nagar (flag), Korukkupet, Tirumayilai, Ennore, Kadambattur, Annanur (Halt), Meenambakkam, Patravakkam (flag), Tirusulam (flag), Perambur Loco Works (flag), Park Town (flag), Hindu College (Halt), Thirumullaivoil (Halt), Chepauk, Attipattupudunagar (Halt), Atthipattu (flag), Kasturibanagar (flag), Taramani, Tondiarpet (flag), Sewapet Road, Kavaripttai, Light House (flag), E-Depot, Perambur Carriage Works (flag), Tiruvalangadu, Kathivakkam (flag), Mandaiveli (flag), Kotturpuram (flag), Perungudi, Washermanpet, Anuppampattu (flag), Putlur(Halt),Tiruvallikeni (flag), Greenways Road(flag), Indiranagar(flag), Chintaripet, Manavur (flag), Nandiyambakkam (Halt), Nemilicherry (Halt), Voc Nagar (halt), Pattabiram Military Siding (flag), Senjipanampakkam (Halt), Mosur (Halt), Royapuram (Halt), Puliamanagalam (Halt), Egattur (Halt).

Andhra Pradesh- Bharath Nagar, Hafizpeta, Hi-tech City, Malakpet, Fathenagar Bridge, Borabanda, Falaknuma, Chanda Nagar, Huppuguda, Nature Cure Hospital, Vidya Nagar, Yakutpura, Sitaphalmandi, Khairatabad, Arts College, James Street, Jamai Osmania, Lakdikapul, Necklace Road, Sanjeevaiah Park, Dabirpura.

Leasing out vacant railway lands

†3064. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is contemplating leasing out the vacant railway lands in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether railway lands have been leased out in the past also; and
- (c) if so, the details of companies and persons, besides Public Sector Undertakings to whom railway lands have been leased out in the country, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Vacant Railway land is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks and is essential for servicing and maintenance of track and other infrastructure. The vacant railway land is utilized for execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways and include projects like doubling/tripling, traffic facilities works, Rail Coach and Component factories, etc. The vacant land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs, is leased out to Government Departments/ Government Undertakings for public utility works and also for commercial development, wherever feasible, in order to mobilize additional financial resources/through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), set up through the Railway (Amendment) Act, 2005.

In the past, RLDA had leased out some land parcels to private companies but the Development Agreement of all such parcels has been terminated. At present, no land parcel is leased for commercial development to private companies/persons.

Multi-functional complexes

3065. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the time-line for commissioning of eight Multi-Functional Complexes at Cuttack, Brahmapur, Jharsuguda, Rayagada, Banspani, Balasore and Bhubaneswar with Budget hotel at Sambalpur, as these proposals are yet to be taken up by Rail Land Development Authority, a Railway Undertaking entrusted with these works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Multi Functional Complex (MFC) building has been completed at Banspani.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Valuation of MFC site at Sambalpur has been done. Further, finalisation of alternate sites has been undertaken at Balasore, Berhampur, Jharsuguda and Rayagada.

Process of development of Multi Functional Complexes (MFCs) involves clearances from local bodies, construction of building and their leasing/licensing largely through private sector participation which is done after conducting feasibility studies, bidding process, etc. It may, therefore, not be possible to give any fixed time-frame for development of MFCs and making them operational.

Creation of another railway division at Rayagada under East Coast Railway

3066. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether keeping in view the public demand, Railways are considering to create another Railway Division at Rayagada under the jurisdiction of East Coast Railway with five railway lines - Nuapada-Gunupur, Rayagada-Titlagarh-Raipur, Koraput-Rayagada, Koraput-Jeypore-Jagdarpur, and Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): No, Sir.

Late running of trains

†3067. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swatantrata Senani Express, Bihar Sampark Kranti-Express, Vaishali Express and Jai Nagar Garib Rath trains, that ply in and out of Bihar, are never able to reach their destinations in time;

(b) whether passengers having wait-listed tickets get into the sleeper coaches and deprive the passengers having confirmed tickets from sitting and even going to bathrooms/toilets; and

(c) whether Government is considering running the Jai Nagar Garib Rath, everyday, in order to rid of this inconvenience, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. The punctuality performance of 12561/12562 Swatantrata Senani Express, 12565/12566 Bihar S.K. Express, 12553/12554 Barauni-New Delhi-Barauni Vaishali Express and 12569/12570 Jaynagar Anand Vihar-Jaynagar Garib Rath Express have not been satisfactory in the past few months.

The above trains run *via* following routes/corridors:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (i) Jaynagar Garibrath Exp. *via* Mughalsarai-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad,
- (ii) Swatantrata Senani Exp. *via* Varanasi-Allahabad-Kanpur-Ghaziabad,
- (iii) Vaishali Exp. *via* Barabanki-Lucknow-Kanpur-Ghaziabad, and
- (iv) Bihar Sampark Kranti Exp. *via* Barabanki-Lucknow-Kanpur-Ghaziabad.

The above routes are facing severe capacity constraints (140% or above utilization) on account of increasing passenger and freight traffic. Any delay on these corridors on account of even a small failure/unusual results in cascading effect on train operations leading to delay in all trains following the affected train. Apart from the above, punctuality of these trains have also been affected by accidents, planned blocks for executing capacity enhancement works and construction of low height subway, ROBs, RUBs etc. Factors external to Railway working, too have adversely impacted the running of trains on these sectors such as adverse weather conditions (fog, rains, breaches), intermittent natural calamities such as floods, heavy rains, heavy road traffic at level crossing gates, multi faceted law and order problems etc.

Various measures are being taken to augment sectional capacity on the above routes and all efforts are being made to ensure punctual running of the above trains.

(b) Some instances of passengers having waiting list tickets entering reserved compartments do come to notice. Periodical drives are conducted to check this menace. Regular joint drives are also conducted by Commercial, Vigilance and Railway Protection Force. These checks are intensified during peak rush/festival periods and action as per provisions of Railway Act 1989 is taken against the unauthorized persons found in reserved coaches.

(c) At present, increase in frequency of 12569/12570 Jaynagar-Anand Vihar (T) Garib Rath Express from bi-weekly to daily is not feasible, due to operational and resources constraints.

Completion of Tarakeswar-Bishnupur rail route

3068. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present targeted date of completion of Tarakeswar-Bishnupur railway line which was inaugurated in 2012; and

(b) the present targeted, date of completion of Bagnan-Amta railway line which was inaugurated in 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Execution of Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur (82 km) new line project has been taken up from both ends. So far, Bishnupur - Mayonapur (22 km) and Tarakeshwar - Arambagh-Goghat (34 km) sections have been completed and commissioned. Bridge-work and earthwork have been taken up in Goghat-Kamarpukur (6 km) section. In remaining Kamarpukur-Mayonapur (20 Km) section, execution of work has not been taken up due to non acquisition of requisite land by the State Government. Hence target date of completion of whole project is not fixed.

(b) Execution of Bagnan-Amta New Line project is held up due to non-availability of requisite land from State Government of West Bengal. Hence target date of completion of the project is not fixed.

Signing of MoU with SNCF

3069. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway had signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SNCF during last year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that feasibility/implementation study for raising the speed of passenger trains to 200 kmph on some routes has commenced; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the feasibility study was awarded on 50:50 cost sharing basis divided into three phases, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways had signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SNCF (French Railway) in February, 2013 wherein high speed, semi-high speed rail, station renovation and operations, modernization of current operations and infrastructure and suburban trains were identified areas cooperation. a Protocol between Ministry of Railways and SNCF (French Railway) was also signed in April, 2015 for carrying out technical and execution study on 50:50 cost sharing basis for upgrading the speed of Delhi-Chandigarh Section to 200 kmph and for a study on renovation of Ludhiana and Ambala Stations.

The technical and execution study for speed raising on existing tracks on Delhi-Chandigarh section to 200 kmph has commenced and is divided in three Phases as (i) Phase-I - Technical solutions with options and related costs, (ii) Phase-II- Operational and economic impact and (iii) Phase-III - Execution plan including design specifications and tender document preparation.

Pending and under-construction railway projects in Rajasthan

†3070. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the under-construction and pending railway projects in Rajasthan as on date;

(b) the status of each of such projects; and

(c) the details of project cost, sources of funds and the time-limit for completion of projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) The details of the ongoing new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects falling fully/partly in Rajasthan are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project (km)	Latest Anticipated Cost	Sources of funding	Status including target of completion, if any
1	2	3	4	5
New Line				
1.	Ajmer (Nasirabad)-Swai Madhopur (Chauth ka Barwara) via Tonk (165)	873.71	Gross Budgetary Support Government of Rajasthan	Final Location Survey has been taken up.
2.	Dausa-Gangapur City (93)	656	Gross Budgetary Support.	Track Linking for 30 kms completed. Ballast supply, S & T work and building work have been taken up.
3.	Delhi-Sohna-Nuh-Ferozpur-Jhirka-Alwar (104)	1872	Gross Budgetary Support.	Preliminary activities have been taken up.
4.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal (262)	2348	Gross Budgetary Support .Institutional Financing	Ramganjmandi - Jhalawar completed and commissioned. Earthwork, bridgework on balance section have been taken up.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara (176)	3450	Gross Budgetary Support. Government of Rajasthan.	Work has been taken up.
6.	Thiyat Hamira-Sanu (59)	262	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals limited .	Work has been taken up.
Gauge Conversion				
7.	Ahmedabad- Himmatnagar- Udaipur inclu. Modasa-Shamlaji Road (322)	1662	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing	Work has been taken up.
8.	Ajmer-Chittaurgarh- Udaipur incl. MM for extension from Udaipur-Umra with Mavali-Badi Saadri and Nathadwara- New Nathdwara (404)	865.16	Railways Internal Funding. Gross Budgetary Support.	Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur gauge conversion work completed and commissioned. For mavli-Badi Sadri, contract for civil engineering work awarded. For Nathadwara-New Nathadwara Final Location Survey has been completed.
9.	Dholpur-Sirmuttra with extension to Gangapur City (145)	2530	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Railways Internal Funding.	Work has been stopped on request of Government of Rajasthan.
10.	Gwalior-Sheopurkalan with extension to Kota (284)	3845	Gross Budgetary Support.	Final Location Survey completed. Land acquisition process has been taken up.
11.	Jaipur-Ringus-Churu and Sikar-Loharu (320)	915	Gross Budgetary Support.	Sikar-Loharu completed and commissioned. Work on Jaipur-Sikar-Churu section has been taken up.
12.	Sadulpur-Bikaner and Ratangarh-Degana with Ratangarh- Sardarshahar as MM (438)	886	Gross Budgetary Support.	Sadulpur - Bikaner and Ratangarh-Degana completed and commissioned. Work on Ratangarh-Sardarsahar has been taken up.
Doubling				
13.	Abu Road-Sarotra Road (23)	161	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Market Borrowing	Earthwork bridgework, ballast supply taken up. Track Linking between Moval- Sarotra RD (13.6 kms) completed.

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Ajmer-Bangurgram (48)	262	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Market Borrowing	Work has been taken up.
15.	Alwar-Bandikui (60)	242	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing.	Work has been taken up.
16.	Bangurgram-Guriya (47)	295	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing.	Final Location Survey taken up.
17.	Bina-Kota (283)	1623	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Market Borrowing	Track Linking for 8 kms completed. 65 kms targeted for completion during 2016-17.
18.	Guriya-Marwar (44) and Karjoda-Palanpur (5)	247	Gross Budgetary Support.	Work of Palanpur-Karjoda completed. Track linking of 37 km out of 43.50 kms of Guriya-Marwar completed. Balance of Guriya-Marwar is targeted for 2016-17.
19.	Nimuch-Chittaurgarh (56)	259.68	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing	Work has been taken up.
20.	Phulera-Degana (109)	600	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing	Preliminary activities have been taken up.
21.	Rani-Keshavganj (60)	318	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing	Mori Bera-Kothar-Keshavganj (21.32 kms) completed & commissioned. Rani-Falna (14 kms) and Biroliya-Jawari Bandh (8 kms) completed. Work is in progress on balance section.
22.	Pvani-Marwar Jn (55)	336	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing	Work has been taken up.
23.	Swaroopganj - Abu Road (25)	165	Gross Budgetary Support. Institutional Financing. Market Borrowing.	Track linking between Swarupganj-Bhimana (8.59 kms) completed. Work on balance section is in progress.

Execution of projects requires acquisition of land, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of utilities, construction of RoB/RUB by road maintaining departments, etc. in addition to allotment of adequate funds. As many of these items are not within control of Railways, time line for completion of projects cannot be decided.

Comparison of average passenger fare amongst Bullet, Talgo and other trains

3071. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to run Bullet trains, if so, the details of the routes being planned and finalized so far;
- (b) whether any comparison has been done regarding the average passenger fare amongst Bullet, Talgo and prevailing trains, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether study of cost comparison of Bullet train tracks with that of prevailing train tracks has been made, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether estimated time-line has been formulated for the Bullet train project, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail corridor has been sanctioned for implementation at an estimated cost of ₹ 97,636 crore with technical and financial assistance from Government of Japan.

(b) As per Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) report, estimated average fare of high speed train services has 1.5 times the 1st AC fare of existing train services. Comparison with fare for Talgo trains is not possible at this stage in the absence of any plan of study in this regard.

(c) While cost of constructing a double line conventional track ranges between ₹ 15 to 25 crore per kilometre, the high speed track has been estimated to cost ₹ 140-200 crore per kilometre as per the JICA study.

(d) Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail project is targeted for commissioning in 2023-24.

Cost sharing railway projects with Telangana

3072. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some of the projects have been undertaken by Railways on cost sharing basis with the respective State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects in Telangana;
- (c) the share between Railways and the State Government; and

(d) by when each of the identified projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. 42 railway projects have been undertaken by Railways on cost sharing with respective State Governments. Some of the State Governments are either giving land free only or are giving land free in addition to sharing cost of the project. The shares of State Governments are varying from 25% to 66%.

Details of projects, wherein Government of Telangana is sharing the cost of the projects along with its share are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Length (in Km)	Cost (₹Crores)	Share of Government of Telangana
1.	Akkanapet-Medak	17.2	127	Land free & sharing 50% of the cost.
2.	Manoharabad-Kotipalli	148.9	1160	Land free & sharing 1/3rd cost of the project alongwith bearing operational losses for first 5 years.

Every railway project requires a number of clearances from various Ministries and Departments of State/Central Governments. These, *inter-alia*, include clearances inherent to land acquisition, forestry clearance and permission for crossing from departments like National Highway Authority of India, Public Works Department, Irrigation canals etc.; and also clearances of Archeological Survey of India if the alignment passes in vicinity of a protected monument, local bodies for projects passing through urban areas, etc. which are part of project execution. Process of seeking the approvals/clearances causes delay in completion of the projects. Further, Budget allotments for the projects are done on yearly basis. Therefore it is not feasible to fix timelines for completion of railway projects.

Electrification of railway lines in Rajasthan

†3073. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway lines in Rajasthan which are being electrified currently;
- (b) the scheme of electrification for the rest of the railway lines, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the scheme of electrification of railway line from Jaipur railway station to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Jodhpur railway station is included in the budget of this year, if so, by when the work on the same will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Details of railway lines on which railway electrification work is in progress and fall fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan are as under:—

Name of the Project	Total Route Kilo-metres (RKM)	RKM in Rajasthan	Status
Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Rewari-Palanpur-Ahmedabad including Kalol-Gandhinagar-Khodiya and Alwar-Bandikui-Jaipur-Phulera	1087	752	Electrification work on Rani-Palanpur section has been entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and the work of balance section has been entrusted to Central Organization for Railway Electrification (CORE), Allahabad.
Ajmer-Berach-Mavli-Udaipur	294	294	Electrification work has been entrusted to Central Organization for Railway Electrification (CORE), Allahabad.
Idgah-Achnera-Mathura and Achnera-Bharatpur	87	18	
Ratlam-Nimach-Chandaria -Kota	348	188	
Hissar-Bhatinda-Suratgarh - Phalodi-Jodhpur-Bhildi including Phalodi-Jaisalmer	1230	966	Included in Railway Budget 2015-16 subject to obtaining requisite statutory clearances.
Ringas-Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur	188	188	Included in Railway Budget 2016-17 subject to obtaining requisite statutory clearances.

(b) and (c) Electrification of railway tracks is decided based on financial viability, traffic volumes and operational flexibility. As regards electrification of Jaipur to Jodhpur railway line, Jaipur-Phulera is a part of Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Rewari- Palanpur-Ahmedabad including Kalol-Gandhinagar-Khodiya and Alwar-Bandikui-Jaipur-Phulera Railway Electrification project. At present, there is no proposal for electrification of Phulera-Degana-Pipar Road-Jodhpur section.

Electrocution of Patna-Gaya railway line

†3074. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether twelve people were killed and many got injured after an electrical wire fell on a railway track on Patna-Gaya railway line in East-Central Railway near Neema halt, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has got this accident investigated;

(c) if so, the action taken against the Chief Electrical Engineer of East Central Railway; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to take appropriate action against guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The electric wire did not fall on railway track on Patna-Gaya railway line. However, on 14.07.2016, the Overhead equipments got broken when some passengers who were travelling on the roof of motor coach got up while trying to get down near Neema Halt station. In the incident, four passengers succumbed to death and six others sustained injury who were shifted immediately to the hospital for treatment.

On 15.07.2016, a detailed enquiry was conducted jointly by Senior Officers of Electric Engineering, Operating, Safety and Security departments of Railways. Government Railway Police/Taregana had also registered a case *vide* crime No. 40/2016 dated 15.07.2016 under Sections 119, 287, 337, 338, 304 & 34 of IPC and Sections 154 & 175 of the Railways Act, 1989.

(c) and (d) As no lapse on the part of Railways has been made out in the enquiry conducted by Railways as well as in the investigation by Government Railway Police/Taregana till date, no action is warranted against any officer.

Refund on cancellation of confirmed ticket

†3075. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no amount can be recovered from the cancellation of confirmed ticket less than four hours of departure of the train;

(b) if so, the details of the passengers who could not travel on the confirmed tickets from the date of implementation of this scheme and whether such vacant seats are reserved for other passengers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the justification behind limiting the cancellation of confirmed tickets upto four hours at such a time when high-tech technology is available and wait-listed passengers are also available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Refund of fare on confirmed ticket is permissible only upto 4 hours before the scheduled departure of the train. No refund is permissible beyond prescribed time limit.

(b) No such data is maintained. The berths falling vacant on account of non-turned up passengers are allotted to RAC passengers in the train as per prescribed guidelines.

(c) With effect from 12.11.2015, certain provisions of Railway Passengers (Cancellation of tickets and refund of fare) Rules have been amended and comprehensive Railway Passengers (Cancellation of tickets and refund of fare) Rules 2015 have been notified through Gazette Notification G.S.R. 836(E) dated 04.11.2015.

The reasons for making the changes are to provide benefit to the passengers as well as check misuse of refund rules by unscrupulous elements as detailed below:

(A) Benefits to Passengers:

- (i) Passengers are able to know the final status of their ticket at least 4 hours in advance of the scheduled train departure time.
- (ii) In case there is no RAC/Waitlist in the train the berths released due to cancellation now become available for booking to passengers before the actual departure of the train through internet as well as on the PRS counters at the station.
- (iii) Passengers at enroute stations can get available accommodation through the system even after departure of the train from the originating station.
- (iv) Automatic refund of e-tickets for cancelled trains has been provided without requirement for filing of ticket deposit receipt.
- (v) The revised rules will catalyse facility of Mobile ticketing (for PRS tickets) as well as issue of paperless tickets.
- (vi) Touting activities/speculative booking by selling of berths at a premium at last minute to gullible passengers has been discouraged since no refund on confirmed ticket is permissible after four hours in advance of the scheduled departure of the train.

(B) Benefits to Railway:

- (i) Berths going vacant on account of last minute cancellations and after departure of the train are now eliminated.
- (ii) Vacant berths generated on account of cancellations are allotted through the system in a transparent manner.
- (iii) Bogus claims for refunds after travel get eliminated since refund after departure of the train are not permissible.

CCTV cameras in trains for women safety

3076. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CCTV cameras would be fitted in local and other peak hour trains since indecent behaviour towards women is rampant;

(b) whether such cameras will first be fitted in northern and adjacent sectors; and

(c) whether Government will see to it that such cameras are fitted in crowded local trains as well in Southern States which have been totally neglected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Provision of CCTV cameras in 500 coaches has been sanctioned by Indian Railways to ensure safety and security of passengers including women passengers.

(b) No, Sir. Presently, there is no such decision for fitment of CCTV in coaches, prioritizing Northern and adjacent sectors.

(c) Provision of CCTV cameras on coaches is a recent initiative of Indian Railways. Two coaches on Southern Railway have also been provided with CCTV for gaining experience and obtaining feedback. Provision of CCTV cameras in sub-urban and mainline trains is being done in a progressive manner as per budgetary provisions without any bias towards any State.

Withdrawal of concessions in train tickets

3077. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to withdraw concessions given in train ticket fares to senior citizens, journalists, freedom fighters etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

**Train accident at unmanned railway level
crossing in Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh**

3078. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons died/injured in train accident at unmanned railway level crossing on 25 July, 2016 in Bhadohi district, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for the accident;

(c) the details of ex-gratia/ compensation announced and paid to the injured/kin of deceased victims, so far;

(d) the details of inquiry initiated and outcome thereof along with the action taken against the guilty; and

(e) the details of ex-gratia announced during 2014, 2015 and 2016 so far and paid till date, accident-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Eight persons died and nine were injured (five grievous and four simple) in the train accident at Unmanned Level Crossing (UMLC) between Katka and Madhosingh stations on 25 July, 2016 in Bhadohi district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The accident was caused due to negligent driving by the Tata Magic driver.

(c) An enhanced *Ex-gratia* at the scale of ₹2,00,000/-, ₹1,00,000/- and ₹20,000/- for each of dead, grievous and simple injury respectively was announced to the next of kin of victims of collision of Train No. 55125 with Tata Magic at UMLC and an amount of ₹21,80,000/- has been paid by Railways.

(d) The accident has been enquired into by Junior Administrative Grade (JAG) Departmental Inquiry Committee of North Eastern Railway. As per the finding of inquiry committee, the accident has been caused due to negligent driving by the Tata Magic driver. No railway staff has been held responsible for the accident.

(e) An amount of ₹54,00,000/- has been paid at the scale of ₹2,00,000/- and ₹1,00,000/- for each of dead and grievously injured in the UMLC between Wadiaram and Maisaipet Halt on 24.07.2014.

An amount of ₹19,40,000/- has been paid at the scale of ₹2,00,000/-, ₹1,00,000/- and ₹20,000/- for each of dead, grievously and simple injured in the dashing of Train No. 55135 with road vehicle at UMLC between Khurhat and Mau on 04.12.2014.

An amount of ₹21,80,000/- has been paid at the scale of ₹2,00,000/-, ₹1,00,000/- and ₹20,000/- for each of dead, grievous and for simple injured in the dashing of Train No. 55125 with Tata Magic at UMLC between Katka and Madhosingh stations on 25.07.2016.

Exclusive goods wagons for transporting coal

3079. SHRIANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of goods wagons for transporting coal within the country;
- (b) the total number of goods wagons actually required for transporting the coal;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of goods wagons for transporting coal; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to keep goods wagons exclusively for transportation of coal to ensure that transportation of coal is not delayed to its destinations due to shortage of goods wagons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Transportation of coal is predominantly done in BOXN and BOBR type of open wagons. As on 30th June 2016, around 1.09 lakh BOXN wagons and 0.15 lakh BOBR wagons were available with Indian Railways.

(b) The availability of wagons for loading and transportation of coal has been adequate for meeting the current demand.

(c) Wagon production is planned yearly by Indian Railways on the basis of the expected demand for transportation of commodities. During 2016-17, production of 5922 number of BOXN wagons and 652 number of BOBR wagons is targeted.

(d) General purpose wagons like BOXN wagons are utilized for transportation of bulk commodities like minerals and ores, including coal. The prevalent arrangement in which general purpose wagons are not being reserved for transportation of any particular commodity has worked satisfactorily over the years. Given the critical importance of coal in the national economy, this traffic segment is normally accorded a relatively higher priority in supply of rakes over other bulk commodities. Further, BOBR wagons are generally dedicated for loading and transportation of coal traffic only.

Reforms in functioning of Railways

3080. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reforms/changes effected in the functioning of Railways recently;
- (b) whether the efforts are for more passenger facilities to convenience their rail commuting; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of suggestions received from public committees and experts for the overall improvement in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) In order to provide greater focus in key areas, new cross-functional directorates have been created in the Ministry of Railways and areas of work allocated to Members in the Railway Board have been distributed and re-designated on business lines/functional lines. These changes have been made to bring about overall improvement in functioning in identified mission areas including in the areas pertaining to passenger facilities in areas such as mobility of trains, cleanliness and environment. Conceptualization of the schemes reforms/changes in existing systems and processes for providing improved facilities to passengers and its implementation is a continuous and ongoing process. Certain facilities are provided at the time of construction of new stations based on anticipated traffic. The facilities are further augmented from time to time with growth in passenger traffic at stations, based on the needs and expectations of the travelling public and the availability of funds and suggestion received from various committees, expert and public etc. In recent past Indian Railways have taken various steps to improve the services and facilitate the passengers, some of which are as under:—

- (i) Introduction of the Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme known as 'VIKALP' to give option to waitlisted passengers to shift to alternate train having vacant accommodation.
- (ii) Provision of facility to physically handicapped persons to book reserved tickets online.
- (iii) Introduction of paperless unreserved ticket booking through mobile phone.
- (iv) Automatic refund of confirmed/ Reservation Against Cancellation(RAC)/e-tickets on cancellation of trains.
- (v) Enhancement of Senior Citizen Quota as well as quota earmarked for physically handicapped persons.

- (vi) Making provision in the system for automatic preparation of reservation charts at least four hours before the scheduled departure of train.
- (vii) Provision of facility to book available accommodation after preparation of first reservation chart through internet as well as across any computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counter upto preparation of second reservation chart.
- (viii) Acceptance of all International Credit/Debit cards for booking of e-tickets through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website.
- (ix) The passengers having confirmed/RAC/Waitlisted PRS counter tickets may cancel the same through IRCTC website (www.irctc.co.in) or through 139 within the prescribed time limit and the refund amount maybe collected across PRS counter on surrendering the original ticket.
- (x) In order to facilitate cancellation of PRS counter tickets at relatively smaller stations, one of the Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) cum PRS counters (wherever PRS booking facility is available) has been earmarked for granting refund beyond the working hours of PRS counters/Current counters. This facility is available in respect of PRS counter tickets for those trains whose scheduled departure time is within the next 24 hours.
- (xi) Establishment of Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendras for issuing of tickets through public private partnership for establishment and operation of computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS)-cum Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) terminals.
- (xii) Introduction of facility for booking unreserved ticket through mobile phone was introduced in the suburban sections over Mumbai and Chennai to facilitate passengers to book unreserved ticket through mobile phones.
- (xiii) Introduction of paperless Unreserved tickets on Mobile introduced as a part of "Operation 5 Minutes" in Chennai suburban section of Tambaram-Egmore on Southern Railway.
- (xiv) Commencement of concierge services with facility for online booking of wheelchairs through IRCTC website at New Delhi and 23 other stations.
- (xv) Provision of currency Operated Automatic Ticket Vending Machine (CoVTM) in Delhi and Mumbai to facilitate purchase of unreserved journey tickets.
- (xvi) Launch of facility for paperless MST on Mobile phones in sub-urban sectors of Mumbai in Western Railway and Central Railway and in the Delhi-Palwal section of Northern Railway.

- (xvii) Launch of platform ticket on Mobile for Western Railway, Central Railway and Northern Railway (New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway stations).
- (xviii) Extension of e-ticketing facility to foreign debit/credit cards for foreign tourists and NRIs.
- (xix) Commissioning of online booking of retiring room at 488 Railway stations.
- (xx) Customer commitment charter to commit to our customer the service level targets of Railways, is process.

Suggestions received from various quarters including Committees for improving in passenger facilities are examined and wherever found feasible, action is initiated subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of works.

Erecting high wall on both sides of tracks from Ghaziabad to Kanpur

†3081. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government, in view of increasing the speed of trains/introduction of high speed trains and the possibilities of accidents occurring due to stray animals coming on railway tracks, is planning to erect high walls on both sides of the tracks from Ghaziabad to Kanpur;

(b) whether Government would consider to erect high walls on both sides of the tracks wherever such trains will be running; and

(c) if so, the places where it is proposed and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Indian Railways has decided provision of fencing of proper design along the track to prevent instances of stray animals getting run over on sections identified for running of trains at speed of 160 kmph. Ghaziabad-Kanpur section has been identified for raising of speed of train upto 160 kmph.

MoU for Khurda Road-Bolangir railway project

3082. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways and Government of Odisha have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Khurda Road-Bolangir railway project, to complete it in a time-bound manner;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the share of the project cost, to be borne by Railways and the State Government, respectively;

(c) the present status of the project and the funds allocated by Railways for the project during the current financial year; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The total length of the Khurda Road-Bolangir New Line project is 289 Km. Khurda Road -Rajsunakhala (41.5 km) section of Khurda Road-Bolangir new line has been commissioned. Rajsunakhala-Bolagarh (12 Km) section has also been completed. Work has been taken up from Bolagarh (54.3 Km) to Km.90. Land acquisition from Km. 90 to Bhainsapalli has been taken up.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Government of Odisha and Ministry of Railways on 20.07.2015 for construction of Dasapalla -Bolangir section (from Km. 112-289). As per MoU, 50% cost of construction will be borne by the State Government and 50% by the Ministry of Railways. In addition State Government will provide land free of cost for this section.

Work has also been taken up from Bolangir end. ₹240 crore has been allocated to this project during the current financial year.

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 date for completion of this project has not been fixed.

Demotion of persons appointed initially on higher posts

3083. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that persons appointed in Railways on higher posts initially, were later on made as safaiwalas;

(b) whether any such incident has been brought to the notice of Railways in the recent past; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Railways for such a serious lapse, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There were some reports in the media alleging that certain visually impaired persons were recruited for desk job but were later on appointed as safaiwalas, which is factually incorrect. In fact, 23 such persons were erroneously offered letter for the post of Khalasi/Cleaner which was against the laid down guidelines for the recruitment of such persons and as such the same was withdrawn and they were instead offered the appointment as Safaiwala where such persons can be appointed. Khalasi/Cleaner and Safaiwala are both field posts and are in same Grade Pay of ₹ 1800/-.

(c) Discipline and Appeal Rules action has been taken against the responsible officials who gave erroneous appointments initially.

Projects in the North Eastern region

3084. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether special efforts are being made by Railways towards completion of projects for development of rail network in North Eastern region after declaring them as National Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) 11 National Projects of railway lines having aggregate length of 1687 km at a cost of ₹41873 crore have been taken up in North Eastern Region. An expenditure of ₹23094 crore has been incurred on these projects upto March, 2016. An outlay of ₹4213 crore has been provided for 2016-17 for these projects.

To expedite completion of National Projects, various steps taken/being taken by the Railways are (i) substantial increase in allocation of funds, (ii) delegation of powers at field level, (iii) nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Governments etc. This has resulted in substantial increase in pace of execution of projects in last two/three years.

In 2014-15, 42 km New Line and 572 km Gauge Conversion and in 2015-16, 153 km New Line and 252 km Gauge Conversion have been completed in North Eastern Region.

Details of National Projects are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Length (km)	Latest Anticipated Cost	Expenditure upto 31.03.2016	Outlay for 2016-17
New Lines					
1.	Kumarghat-Agartala	109	1242	1192	150
2.	Bogibeel Bridge with linking lines	73	4996	4129	598
3.	Agartala-Sabroom	110	2720	1529	500
4.	Tetelia-Byrnihat <i>in lieu</i> of Azra-Byrnihat	22	496	325	160
5.	Jiribam-Imphal (Tupul)	125	6571	4891	1000
6.	Bhairabi-Sairang	51	2820	544	500
7.	Sivok-Rangpo	44	4085	281	250
8.	Dimapur-Kohima	123	2973	150	350
9.	Byrnihat-Shillong	108	5308	21	300
Gauge Conversion					
10.	Lumding-Silchar, Badarpur-Kumarghat incl. branch lines and MMs	412	6500	5995	280
11.	Rangiya-Murkongselek and linked fingers	510	4162	4037	125
TOTAL		1687	41873	23094	4213

Complaints against private catering companies

3085. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many complaints have been received by Railways against private catering companies for over-charging passengers and flouting directions, the year-wise details of the last three years;

(b) whether any investigation is going on against catering firms running contracts in Indian Railways for over-charging passengers and flouting directions of the Ministry; and

(c) if so, names of the companies against whom such investigations are going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Details of complaints received by Railways including private catering companies for over-charging passengers and flouting directions during the last three years and current year are as under:

Head	Year-wise No. of Complaints related to catering services over Indian Railways			
	2013	2014	2015	2016
	(01.01.2013	(01.01.2014	(01.01.2015	(01.01.2016
	to	to	to	to
	31.12.2013)	31.12.2014)	31.12.2015)	30.06.2016)
Over Charging	955	1162	2333	1686
Quality	2724	2986	1957	1125
Quantity	524	381	218	106
Misbehaviour	148	202	181	80
Hygiene	113	107	106	93
Miscellaneous	1387	1469	1360	994
TOTAL	5851	6307	6155	4084

(b) and (c) Complaints of overcharging and other complaints are investigated and suitable action is taken, details of which are given below:

Head	Year-wise No. of Complaints related to catering services over Indian Railways			
	2013	2014	2015	2016
	(01.01.2013	(01.01.2014	(01.01.2015	(01.01.2016
	to	to	to	to
	31.12.2013)	31.12.2014)	31.12.2015)	30.06.2016)
Fined	1976	2480	3028	1922
Warned	2194	2190	1445	1068
Termination	1	3	2	0
Suitably Advised	528	579	777	302
Not Substantiated	680	405	445	221
D & AR Action	58	107	26	17
Any Other	414	543	432	554
TOTAL	5851	6307	6155	4084

Proposal for working of Non-Fare Revenue Directorate

3086. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have created a separate Directorate, Non-Fare Revenue Directorate, in the Railway Board;

(b) if so, the purpose and idea behind it;

(c) whether proposals came from waste management group to collect garbage, solid waste generated at railway stations at a price, which can be recycled for generating energy and manure;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the status of the proposals; and

(e) why big railway stations could not set up biomethanation plant for processing solid wastes and to generate electricity, the reasons therefor with details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) A separate Non-Fare Revenue Directorate has been formed in Railway Board to focus on increasing revenue from non-tariff revenue sources which include, *inter-alia*, Station development, Monetizing land along tracks, Monetizing soft assets and Advertising.

(c) to (e) Proposals have been received for disposal of garbage collected at major stations which include purchase of garbage and conversion of part of the garbage to energy. Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generated at Railway Stations in an environment friendly manner, including conversion of waste to energy through Bio-Methanation Process, has been taken on hand. A pilot project has been recently commissioned at Jaipur Station.

Amenities at Ujjain-Ratlam railway route

†3087. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the passenger amenities and public conveniences available at each station on Ujjain-Nagda-Ratlam and Nagda-Kota railway routes, along with details of arrangement for light system on lamp/light posts, working or otherwise, on up/down platforms and measures taken to run them smoothly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): Provision, improvement and maintenance of amenities at railway stations on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Indian Railways is a continuous process and is undertaken as per requirement and availability of funds. It is Railways' endeavour to provide passenger amenities *viz.* waiting hall/rooms, platform shelter, taps for drinking water, lavatories and urinals, seats, Foot Over Bridges etc. at stations including those situated on Ujjain-Nagda-Ratlam and Nagda-Kota railway routes commensurate with their category and essential passenger amenities are available at these stations as per norms.

Adequate lighting arrangements have been provided at platforms and station buildings between Ratlam-Nagda-Ujjain and Nagda-Kota Railway route, and lamps/lights are in working condition.

Regular inspection and maintenance of all equipments is ensured and complaints are attended promptly.

User-friendly railway stations for physically challenged and senior citizens

3088. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many new stations have been constructed that would enable ease of access for the physically challenged/senior citizens with access ramps, escalators and/or elevators;
- (b) how many existing stations have been modified for their ease of access;
- (c) how many railway stations have been identified for modification in future to make it user-friendly for physically challenged and senior citizens; and
- (d) the time-frame for such upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Improvement/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for differently-abled passengers is a continuous process. In order to provide better accessibility to passengers with disabilities, short term facilities which, *inter-alia*, include provision of standard ramp for barrier free entry have been planned depending upon categories of the stations, beginning with 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations. Presently, standard ramps at entry have been provided at about 1690 railway stations.

Further, as per the existing guidelines, escalators/elevators are to be provided progressively at 'A-1' category and escalators at 'A' category, 'C' category and stations of tourist importance, based on techno commercial feasibility and availability of funds.

So far, 300 no. of escalators at 120 stations and 146 no. of lifts at 57 stations have been provided across Indian Railways. Provision of lifts and escalators at stations is a continuous process and is done as per need, priority of work and availability of funds.

Platform raising exercise for Mumbai suburban network

3089. SHRI SACHIN RAMESH TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an update on the platform-raising exercise for the Mumbai suburban network;
- (b) the number of stations where work has been completed and the time-line for its full completion; and
- (c) whether Railways have identified high-density stations which have only one single bridge like Mumbra, Parel in CR and others in WR, for additional bridge construction to enhance safety during peak hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) 62 railway stations in Mumbai suburban area have been identified for work of raising of platforms.

Work of raising of all identified platforms has been completed at 44 railway stations. The works of raising of platforms at remaining stations have been targeted for completion by June, 2017.

The need for provision of additional Foot Over Bridge (FOB) at stations on Mumbai sub-urban section is regularly examined and if found justified and feasible, suitable action is taken. Accordingly, works of provision of five new FOBs, one each at Bhayandar, Elphinstone Road, Kaandivali, Khar Road and Virar railway stations on Western Railway have been sanctioned in 2016-17.

Two FOBs are already operational at Mumbra and Parel stations. Construction of one additional *i.e.* third FOB has been taken up at Mumbra station in connection with 5th and 6th lines.

Railway projects in Andhra Pradesh

3090. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. is planning to introduce high-speed trains between Amaravati and Bengaluru as well as Chennai and Kolkata, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the progress made in the implementation of North-South and East-South corridors and whether any meeting was held with State Governments recently in this regard;
- (c) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh and Railways propose to float Special

Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for expediting pending projects and re-development of railway stations in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and budgetary allocations made or to be made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Feasibility study for Delhi-Nagpur portion of Delhi-Chennai high speed corridor has been taken up under Government to Government cooperation, with China. Inception report has been received. Feasibility study of Chennai-Kolkata high speed corridor has not been awarded. No specific meeting with concerned State Governments for these high speed corridors has been held recently.

(c) and (d) Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to sign the Joint Venture (JV) agreement with the Railways for identification, financing and implementation of railway projects in the State.

No budgetary allocation has been made for the proposed Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).

Steps to rescue powerloom weavers from financial crisis

3091. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether imposition of anti-dumping duty on purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) and sudden sky rocketing of raw cotton and cotton yarn prices due to shortage and lesser sowing of cotton seeds, have adversely affected the most employment generating decentralized powerloom sector of Malegaon, Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji, Sholapur, Surat, Varanasi, Erode and other centres in the country;

(b) whether thousands of micro scale powerloom employer-cum-employee weavers have become jobless and have faced severe financial crisis in the last one year; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to rescue the affected class of labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) The powerlooms in Malegaon, Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji, Solapur, Surat, Varanasi, Erode, and other centres in the country are working at sub-optimal capacities due to high input costs and reduced off-take of fabrics. The low off-take has resulted in partial stoppage of powerlooms in some clusters.

(b) On account of input costs and lower demand, there has been some impact on

decentralized powerloom industry which has resulted in the reduction of operational shifts in some clusters.

(c) In order to overcome the problems faced by powerloom weavers and for the development of the decentralised Powerloom Sector, Government has been implementing various schemes such as (i) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for upgradation of technology; (ii) In-situ Upgradation Scheme for upgrading plain powerlooms; (iii) Group Workshed Scheme for giving assistance for constructing workshed for powerloom sector; (iv) Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development (ISPSD) for extending support in the form of Buyer Seller Meets, Yarn Banks, setting up of Common Facility Centres, organising Seminar/ Workshops; (v) Group Insurance Scheme for social security, and (vi) Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) for skill upgradation.

Women Self Help Group

3092. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Women Self Help Groups in the Textile sector that are presently operating in the country, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government plans to increase them, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) and (b) State-wise details of the number of Women Self Help Groups supported / benefited under the Textile sector Schemes in the country are given below:

State	Total Number of Women SHGs	State	Total Number of Women SHGs
Andhra Pradesh	1221	Jharkhand	9691
Arunachal Pradesh	77	Karnataka	65
Assam	467	Kerala	36
Bihar	286	Madhya Pradesh	287
Chhattisgarh	1806	Maharashtra	1774
Delhi	66	Manipur	131
Goa	57	Meghalaya	84
Gujarat	308	Mizoram	128
Haryana	225	Nagaland	65
Himachal Pradesh	119	Odisha	2381
Jammu and Kashmir	194	Punjab	159

State	Total Numbers of Women SHGs	State	Total Numbers of Women SHGs
Rajasthan	143	Tripura	69
Sikkim	10	Uttar Pradesh	461
Telangana	2884	Uttarakhand	202
Tamil Nadu and Puducherry (UT)	59	West Bengal	2785
		TOTAL	26240

As a component of Intensive Bivoltine Sericulture Development Project implemented in North East States (Except Manipur), 320 Women Self Help Groups are planned to be formed during 2016-17 and 2017-18 as per details given below:

States	No. of Women SHGs proposed in 2016-17	No. of Women SHGs proposed in 2017-18
Assam	40	40
Arunachal Pradesh	20	20
Meghalaya	20	20
Mizoram	20	20
Nagaland	20	20
Sikkim	20	20
Tripura	20	20
TOTAL	160	160

Concession to handloom weavers

3093. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government on the representations received, requesting more concessions to cooperative societies and other organisations of handloom weavers in the country, during the last two years;

(b) the details of concessions provided at present to handloom weavers; and

(c) the total number of handloom weavers from backward regions benefited from such concessions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) The Government of India in November, 2011 had approved Revival, Reform and

Restructuring (RRR) Package, to waive off the overdue loans and interest of primary weavers cooperatives, other weavers organizations and individual weavers and to subsidized institutional credit. The said RRR package aimed at waiving the overdue loans (100% principal and 25% interest to be borne by the Government of India and 75% interest and penal interest, if any, by the banks) to eligible handloom cooperative societies and individual weavers as on 31.3.2010, and providing of fresh credit with interest subsidy of 3% for 3 years with credit guarantee to the societies and weavers which are being benefited under the RRR package. Based on the representations/recommendations received from the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttrakhand and Maharashtra, particularly seeking relaxation of eligibility norms for potentially viable societies were duly considered by the Government and a revised proposal of RRR package with concessional credit component was formulated and approved by the Government on 27.09.2013 in the form of Modified RRR package.

(b) and (c) Presently, loan is being provided at 6% interest by way of interest subvention, under the Concessional Credit Component of National Handloom Development Programme, where, the Government of India interest subvention is capped at 7%. Apart from this, margin money assistance @ ₹ 10,000/- per weaver will be provided to the individual weavers, their self-help group and Joint liability groups with credit guarantee for 3 years by Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) for which the guarantee fee and annual fee will be paid by the Government of India. Status of Weavers Credit Card (WCC) and the amount sanctioned/disbursed during the last few years is given, as under-

		(Amount ₹ in lakh)			
Sl. No.	Particulars	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Nos. of WCC issued	53,629	71,643	79,210	51,095
2.	Loan amount sanctioned	17140.96	19428.80	23353.15	15905.31
3.	Loan amount disbursed	7983.13	14679.51	10068.80	11654.49

The coverage of beneficiaries under the RRR Package, have been completed on 28.02.2014. A total of 39 Apex Weavers Coop. Societies, 9642 Primary Weavers Coop. Societies, 6310 Self Help Groups (SHGs) and 54226 individual weavers have been benefited of the scheme from across the country (including from backward region), with financial implication of ₹ 1089.90 crore.

Employment generation in textile sector/industry

†3094. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment opportunities generated in the last two years and the number of employment opportunities likely to be generated in the next three years in the Textile sector/industry;

(b) the plan to ensure availability of skilled human resources to meet the requirements of employment generation in the Textile industry in future; and

(c) whether the requirement of human resources in Textile industry would be fulfilled by the existing resources in the country, if not, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIAJAY TAMTA):

(a) to (c) As per the quarterly surveys on employment carried out by the Labour Bureau, M/O Labour and Employment, the employment that was generated in Textiles and Handloom and Powerloom over the quarter period Sept.-Dec. 2013 to Sept.-Dec. 2015 was 2.89 lacs.

The Ministry of Textiles launched the Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) in the year 2011 to meet the requirements of the Textile Sector for skilled manpower by developing a cohesive and integrated framework of training based on the industry needs.

Export of Jute

3095. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of jute produced, exported and foreign exchange earned during the last three years along with the country's position in the world jute market;

(b) the criteria/ parameters laid down for maintaining minimum quality of jute for export;

(c) whether Government is aware that manufacturers are facing a lot of difficulties in selling jute in international markets on account of multiple documentation and Government certification required for export consignments;

(d) if so, the steps taken to solve this matter; and

(e) the efforts made by Government to promote jute export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIAJAY TAMTA):

(a) The year-wise jute production, exports and foreign exchange earned during the last three years are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Particulars	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Production of Raw Jute (lakh bales)	110.83	106.18	99.38
Production of Jute Goods in lakh tonnes	15.27	12.67	12.17
Total Export of Raw Jute and Jute Goods (Value: ` Million)	24284.42	22418.40	38012.97
Export of Jute Goods (Value: US\$ Million)	402	367	581

India is the world's largest producer of jute and jute allied fibres in terms of area coverage and production with its share in the world jute production as 52% in 2013-14. India is second largest exporter of jute and jute products after Bangladesh with a share of 24% of the world exports.

(b) There are no fixed criteria/parameters for maintaining minimum quality of Indian jute products for export. However, exports of Food Grade Quality jute cloth/ bags are regulated as per specification laid down by IJO 98/01 which conforms to processing of jute cloth/ bags in Rice Bran Oil (II) having unsaponifiable content of less than 1250 mg/kg.

(c) and (d) For exporting jute and jute products, exporters are required to obtain Import Export Code (IEC) from Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) from Export Promotion Council(s). There are no specific reports of exporters facing difficulty in obtaining these certificates.

(e) In order to promote jute export, Government is implementing Export Market Development Assistance (EMDA) Scheme for jute diversified products (JDPs) to reimburse the part of the travel expenditure and stall rent including decoration for participation in international trade fairs/ exhibitions by jute exporters. Under the Market Development Assistance Scheme, Government provides assistance of 50% of maximum cost of participation in an international event with a ceiling of ₹ 3.75 lakhs to cover rent, decoration, air travel and boarding expenses for promotion of export in any country. The Government also facilitates independent participation by the manufacturer-exporters in established gift fairs and exhibitions for marketing gift items and specialized fairs for products like floor coverings. In addition, a Jute Design Cell has been set up at the Innovative Centre for Natural Fibres (ICNF) of National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad for development of Jute Shopping Bags and Lifestyle Accessories. Jute Products Development and Export Promotion Council (JPDEPC), Kolkata is liaising with NID in this regard to promote the newly developed designs and jute products in national as well as international markets through their member industry houses.

Shortage of raw jute

3096. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that severe shortage of raw jute is affecting the production and supply of finished jute from mills in West Bengal, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to resolve the issue;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to discourage import of jute to protect jute growers and mill workers; and
- (d) the details of revenue earned through jute industry and funds allocated and spent on the jute industry in last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) and (b) As per the estimate of the Jute Advisory Board (JAB), the estimated crop size for 2015-16 jute year was 80 lakh bales. However, the production of raw jute has been affected in South Bengal and Assam due to decline in the area of cultivation and early onset of rains and also due to floods.

Government had taken the following steps to address the crisis in jute sector:-

- (i) It was made mandatory for all raw jute traders to register their units and submit raw jute stock position at regular intervals.
- (ii) Orders were issued under clause 5(A)(1) (iii) of the Jute and Jute Textiles Control (Amendment) Order, 2005, prohibiting all traders or dealers or agencies from stocking more than 900 quintals of raw jute on their own account and/or on account of third parties.
- (iii) Jute mills were also directed not to hold more than four weeks' consumption requirement of raw jute.
- (iv) The officials of Enforcement Branch of Government of West Bengal were empowered under Section 7 of the Jute and Jute Textiles Control Order, 2000 to inspect, search and seize raw jute beyond the specified limit.

The Government, through the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, has also been implementing jute development programme under the National Food Security Mission- Commercial Crops (NFSM-CC) for enhancing the production and productivity *w.e.f.* 2014-15 in 9 States including West Bengal.

- (c) The Government, has made it mandatory for the entire chain from importers and

traders to the level before the end-users, to register with the Office of Jute Commissioner, and furnish monthly reports on the imported goods. The Government has also directed all manufacturers, importers processors and traders to mark/print/brand the words "Made in-Country of Origin" on imported bags. Customs have also been requested to maintain a strict vigil so that no unregistered importers/ traders can import jute and no unbranded jute goods can enter India.

(d) The data of revenue earned by the Jute industry including the Mills and SSI units are not maintained by the Government. However, a cess of 1% on all jute manufactures is collected through Central Excise under Jute Manufactures Cess Act 1983 and deposited in the consolidated fund of India. These funds are utilized by National Jute Board centrally for development and promotion of jute sector. The details of funds utilized by the National Jute Board (NJB) during the last three years for development and promotion of jute sector are given below:

(In ₹ lakhs)

Year	Grants released to and utilized by NJB
2012-13	3551.00
2013-14	3551.00
2014-15	4510.00
2015-16	5369.00

Improving the skills of textile workers

3097. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched a new scheme to improve the skills of workers in various segments of the Textile industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to target training of 100 lakh textile workers by 2022, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) The Ministry of Textiles is implementing Integrated Skill Development Scheme with a view to address the skilled manpower needs of various segments in textile industry. The scheme launched on pilot basis in 2010-11, has been up-scaled during Twelfth Five Year Plan to train 15 lakh persons. Textile sector is also covered under various skilling schemes implemented under Skill India campaign of the Government including Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikash Yojna (PMKVY).

(b) No proposal is under consideration to train 100 lakh textile workers by 2022. However, Ministry of Textiles has announced a special package for textiles and apparel sector which targets to generate 100 lakh employment over next three years thereby creating the needs of demand driven skill development in the sector.

Exemption for use of jute packaging material bag

3098. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has exempted the mandatory rules for use of jute packaging material bag replacing with polypropylene fibre;
- (b) whether Government has taken clearance from the concerned Department on eco-friendly norms therefor, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the experts' report on purview of 'JPM Act' thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) to (c) No Sir. The Schedule of Notification No. S.O. 126(E) dated 14.1.2016 issued under the JPM Act, stipulates that a minimum of 90% of foodgrains and a minimum of 20% of sugar are to be mandatorily packed in jute packaging material manufactured in India and raw jute produced in India. A dilution upto 30% is allowed in case jute mills are unable to meet the government demand. These norms are valid upto 30th September, 2016.

The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987 (JPM Act) has been enacted in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material, and of persons engaged in the production thereof. Under the provisions of the JPM Act, a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) is constituted to make recommendations to the Government on the jute packaging norms. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, or his representative, is a member of this Committee; which recommends the norms for packaging food grains and sugar for the current jute year. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, the Government stipulates the jute packaging norms.

The report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), recommended that compulsory packaging for jute sacking in foodgrains should be reduced to the level of 75% and sugar sector should be totally exempted from such mandatory reservation. Similarly, the Competition Commission of India has recommended to protect the interest of jute industry by imposing restriction on Polypropylene (PP)/High density polyethylene pipe (HDPE), if the latter affects the competitiveness of jute sacking. Department of Expenditure is of the view that reservation for jute sacking should be reduced to the level of 70% and a roadmap for gradual reduction of extent of reservation should be prepared.

The views of all these bodies are considered by the SAC while arriving at a decision regarding fixing norms for jute packaging material.

Production of raw jute

3099. SHRI SUKHENDU SHEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of raw jute production during the current season in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Jute Corporation of India has sufficient manpower to launch Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation through its Departmental Purchasing Centres (DPCs) in the event of fall in price below the MSP; and

(d) if so, the details of present manpower, DPC-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) and (b) As per the projection of the Jute Advisory Board (JAB), estimated production of raw jute for the current season is expected to be 90 lakh Bales (1 bale= 180 kgs) as per details given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of State	Production
1.	West Bengal	73 lakhs bales
2.	Bihar	11 lakhs bales
3.	Assam	05 lakhs bales
4.	Odisha	0.6 lakhs bales
5.	Andhra Pradesh	0.4 lakhs bales
6.	Tripura	0.03 lakhs bales

(c) and (d) Jute Corporation of India (JCI) has optimum manpower to manage the Minimum Support Price operation through its Departmental Purchasing Centres (DPCs) in the event of fall in price below the MSP. The details of present manpower with JCI, DPC-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of present manpower with JCI as per departmental purchase centres*

The Jute Corporation of India Ltd.

Centre-wise manning position as on 01-08-2016

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
West Bengal: Sheoraphulli RO	1. Ballychak DPC	3
	2. Champadanga DPC	4
	3. Jirat DPC	4
	4. Haripal DPC	3
	5. Masat DPC	2
	6. Kolaghat DPC	3
	7. Jangipara DPC	3
	8. Goura DPC	3
	9. Khanakul DPC	2
	10. Tarakeswar DPC	2
	11. Dudhkumrohat DPC	3
TOTAL		32
Barasat RO	1. Gaighata DPC	5
	2. Baduria DPC	3
	3. Basirhat DPC	4
	4. Nahata DPC	3
	5. Berachampa DPC	4
	6. Bongaon DPC	2
	7. Charghat DPC	4
	8. Golabari DPC	3
	9. Polerhat DPC	2
	10. Duttapukur DPC	2
	11. Bagda DPC	2
	12. Bagjola DPC	3
	13. Ganrapota DPC	2

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
	14. Bithari SC	2
	15. Benki SC	3
	16. Gobardanga SC	3
TOTAL		47
Krishnagar RO	1. Aranghata DPC	5
	2. Santipur DPC	2
	3. Bangaljhi DPC	3
	4. Baraandulia DPC	3
	5. Bhimpur DPC	2
	6. Chakdaha DPC	5
	7. Dainhat DPC	2
	8. Katwa DPC	5
	9. Majdia DPC	3
	10. Nabadwip DPC	6
	11. Patuli DPC	2
	12. Sulantu DPC	3
	13. Kalna JTM	2
	14. Gangnapur SC	4
	15. Nagarukhra SC	2
TOTAL		49
Bethuadahari RO	1. Amtala DPC	2
	2. Kalitala DPC	2
	3. Bethuadahari DPC	2
	4. Debagram DPC	2
	5. Karimpur DPC	2
	6. Nazirpur DPC	2
	7. Rezinagar DPC	2
	8. Palashipara DPC	2
	9. Trimohini DPC	2
	10. Patikabari DPC	2

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
	11. Bhabta	2
TOTAL		22
Berhampur RO	1. Aurangabad DPC	3
	2. Cossimbazar DPC	4
	3. Domkal DPC	4
	4. Hariharpara DPC	2
	5. Kaliganj DPC	4
	6. Jiaganj DPC	4
	7. Lalgola DPC	4
	8. Najirpur DPC	3
	9. Bhagirathpur DPC	3
	10. Jalangi DPC	2
	11. Saktipur DPC	4
	12. Jangipur SC	3
	13. Kaladanga JTM	2
TOTAL		42
Malda RO	1. Chandol DPC	3
	2. Hili DPC	2
	3. Rampur DPC (Bolla)	2
	4. Samsi DPC	2
	5. Tulsihata DPC	2
	6. Kanki DPC	3
	7. Karnajhora JTM	3
	8. Harirampur DPC	2
	9. Chanchal DPC	2
	10. Gazole SC	2
	11. Bulbulchandi	2
TOTAL		25
Siliguri RO	1. Belacoba DPC	4
	2. Bhotpatty DPC	3
	3. Changrabandha DPC	2

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
	4. Dhupguri DPC	2
	5. Haldibari DPC	3
	6. Islampur DPC	6
	7. Moinaguri DPC	4
	8. Panjipara DPC	2
	9. Siliguri/Talma JTM	4
	10. Ambari-Falakata DPC	2
	11. Jamaladah SC	2
TOTAL		34
Coochbehar RO	1. Alipurduar DPC	2
	2. Baxirhat DPC	3
	3. Dinhata DPC	2
	4. Falakata DPC	2
	5. Kamakhyaguri DPC	2
	6. Mathabhanga DPC	2
	7. Tufangunje DPC	2
	8. Coochbehar DPC	2
	9. Vetaguri DPC	2
	10. Barovisa DPC	2
	11. Choudhuryhat SC	2
	12. Dinhata RMC	3
	13. Sitai SC	2
TOTAL		28
Assam:	1. Abhayapuri DPC	3
Dhubri RO	2. Patildah DPC	5
	3. Lakhigunj DPC	
	4. Gouripore DPC	
	5. Dhubri DPC	
	6. Kaldoba	5
TOTAL		24
Guwahati RO	1. Bechimari	4

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
	2. Kharupetia DPC	3
	3. Uperhali DPC	4
	4. Goalpara DPC	5
	5. Lakhipur DPC	3
	6. Guagachi JTM	7
	7. Garobandha	3
	8. Baharihat DPC	5
TOTAL		34
Nagaon RO	1. Ambagan DPC	3
	2. Bhuragaon DPC	4
	3. Dhing DPC	4
	4. Juria DPC	4
	5. Kaliabor / Jakhlbandha DPC	3
	6. Lanka DPC	2
	7. Moirabari DPC / Nijdhing	4
	8. Nagaon DPC	3
	9. Rupahi DPC	3
	10. Raha DPC	3
	11. Dumdumia DPC	3
	12. Biswanathghat SC	2
TOTAL		38
Bihar:	1. Araria Court DPC	3
Purnea RO	2. Durgagunj DPC	2
	3. Forbesgunj DPC	3
	4. Gulabbagh DPC	3
	5. Kishangunj DPC	3
	6. Kishangunj APMC	2
	7. Katihar DPC	2
	8. Garbanaili DPC	2
	9. Salmari DPC	2

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)		No. of Employee
	10.	Bahadurgunj DPC	2
	11.	Thakurgunj DPC	2
TOTAL			26
Saharsa RO	1.	Behariganj DPC	4
	2.	Muraliganj DPC	3
	3.	Pratapganj DPC	2
	4.	Supaul DPC	3
	5.	Triveniganj DPC	3
	6.	Chattarpur DPC	4
	7.	Jadia SC	2
	8.	Simrahi SC	3
	9.	Singheswarthan S/C	3
TOTAL			27
Tripura:	1.	Agartala DPC	2
Agartala RO	2.	Kalyanpur DPC	5
	3.	Udaipur DPC	3
	4.	Teliamurah DPC	4
	5.	Ranirbazar S/C	2
TOTAL			16
Odisha:	1.	Kendupatna DPC	3
Cuttack RO	2.	Danpur DPC	3
	3.	Marshaghai DPC	2
	4.	Dhanmandal DPC	4
	5.	Sailong DPC	2
	6.	Baliapal / Bhadrak	2
TOTAL			16
Andhra Pradesh:	1.	Gajapatinagaram DPC	2
Vizianagaram RO	2.	Bobilli DPC	2
	3.	Donkinavalasa DPC	2
	4.	Parvatipuram DPC	2
	5.	Baljipeta DPC	2

Regional Office	Departmental Purchase Centre (DPC)	No. of Employee
	6. Rajam DPC	2
	7. Amadalavalasa DPC	2
	8. Hiramandalam S/C	2
	9. Chipurapalli DPC	2
	10. Makkuva S/C	2
	11. Ponduru S/C	2
	12. Vizianagram	2
	13. Kotabommali	2
TOTAL		26
GRAND TOTAL		486

N.B.: Staff strength at DPCs including Regular and supporting Temporary Staff.

Textile projects in Himachal Pradesh

3100. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Textile projects undergoing/proposed to be started soon in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether some of these projects have been delayed and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to expedite the work on new Textile projects, undergoing/proposed to be started, in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) to (c) Ministry of Textiles has sanctioned a Textiles Park namely Himachal Textile Park Limited at Una with a total project cost of ₹ 96.90 crores and Government of India share of ₹ 38.80 crores. So far, Government has released 90% of its share in this project. The Textiles Park envisages 11 Technical Textile Units out of which 5 units have been constructed and production has commenced in 2 units.

Under the "Catalytic Development Programme (CDP)" for development of Sericulture sector, an amount of ₹ 10.31 crores has been released for the State of Himachal Pradesh during the years 2012-13 to 2014-15. The CDP scheme has been discontinued from the year 2015-16. At present the restructured CDP scheme titled "Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry" is under implementation. For the year 2016-17 an amount of ₹ 53.33 lakhs has been released under this restructured Central Sector Scheme in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

Under the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), three Block Level Clusters have been sanctioned under Block Level Cluster Development Programme at Suma Development Block in Kullu, Seraj Development Block in Mandi and Inner Seraj Development Block in Mandi. A sum of ₹ 101.83 lakhs has been released so far.

Production and import of yarn

3101. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production of yarn in the country has declined during the last three years, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the details of policy for importing yarn;
- (c) the names of countries from which yarn is imported; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any steps to enhance the production of yarn in the country, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Goods including yarn are imported into the country as per import policy laid down in Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System) [ITC (HS)] Classification of Export and Import Items, 2012. Further, any domestic concern arising out of imports are addressed by appropriate trade defense measures like anti - dumping duty, counter - veiling duty and safeguard duty. Whenever Indian industry is affected by cheaper imports, it can seek remedies from the Government under the above provisions. To protect and eliminate threat to domestic industry caused by unfair trade practices of dumping of goods into the country, Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) conducts anti-dumping investigations, on the basis of duly substantiated petition filed by the domestic industry.

(c) India is importing yarn from China, Hongkong, Italy, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, France, Vietnam, Japan and Republic of Korea.

(d) The Government has been implementing various policy initiatives and schemes like Schemes for the development of the Power-loom Sector, Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), etc. Further, the Government has also recently launched a ₹ 6000 crore Scheme for Production and Employment Linked Support for Garmenting Units (SPELSGU) under ATUFS to incentivize production and employment generation in the garmenting Sector. These initiatives and schemes will help in the development of the downstream value added segments which in turn will create increased demand for yarn and thereby lead to increased production of yarn.

RE. DEMAND FOR ZERO HOUR SUBMISSION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I will go to the Zero Hour Submissions.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the discussion yesterday on Education Policy is not over.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not over. ...(Interruptions)... I know there are some Members who have to speak. The Minister also has to reply. But, today, there is no time. But the House can decide that the discussion should continue. So, we can continue the discussion later. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, you see what the sense of the House is.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am on the same issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will listen to you also. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, some Members are yet to speak. They want to express their opinion. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, what about Zero Hour?
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, I will take up the Zero Hour.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, this is an important issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, let me dispose of this. Now, if the House.
...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is the Minister's view on that? What is your view? ...(Interruptions)... No; let me take his view also. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, if you say, the discussion can be taken afterwards; I am with you on whatever you decide.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: But the only point which was raised and which needs explanation immediately is कुछ लोगों को लगा था कि यह हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Yes, I can lay it on the Table this also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak, I am listening. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am listening. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: But the only explanation which I want to give is, we are not tinkering with any provision of the Constitution either in regard to reservation or in regard to minority educational institutions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, let me listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has the right to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is replying to your point.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: But, in between the two intervening Sessions, the message should not go that we have put up these policy inputs for discussion and we want and, ...*(Interruptions)*... I will extend it from 16th August to 15th September; anybody can give more suggestions and that is basically. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, I have already readied this explanation which I can lay it on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मंत्री जी जवाब दे रहे हैं, अभी जवाब कैसे हो सकता है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, unless this debate is concluded with all speakers, the House ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, it is not concluded. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen, I have already said that it is not concluded. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Sir, the Minister ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; let me say. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, let me say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kanimozhiji, you raised it and I said it is not concluded. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the House wants, we will continue it whenever time is available. That may be in the next Session. ...*(Interruptions)*... You want now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: We want a reply in this Session now....*(Interruptions)*... Allow us to speak now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; what is Shri Naresh Agrawal saying? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Sir, Zero Hour ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Ram Gopalji, ...*(Interruptions)*... Ram Gopalji, what do you have to say? ...*(Interruptions)*... Ram Gopalji, yes and after that, Sharad Yadavji will speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Ram Gopalji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to Ram Gopalji. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन्, मैंने जीरो ऑवर के लिए नोटिस दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, Kanimozhiji, ...*(Interruptions)*... Ram Gopalji always listens to everybody with perfect discipline and silence. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Zero Hour Submissions.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Inadequate salary and allowances of Members of Parliament

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन्, सेवेथ पे कमीशन की रिपोर्ट सरकार ने लागू कर दी है। आज स्थिति यह हो गई है कि संसद सदस्यों का जो वेतन है, वह सबसे कम हो गया है। आज जो हमारी कमेटी का पी.ए. है, उससे हमारी तनखाह कम है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a different matter.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: यह सभी जानते हैं कि कोई ऐसा एम.पी. नहीं है, जिसके यहाँ सैंकड़ों लोग रोजाना न आते हों। उनको चाय-वाय भी पिलानी पड़ती है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have given Zero Hour Notice on this.
...(Interruptions)... All right. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, यह मेरा जीरो ऑवर है, मैंने इसी का नोटिस दिया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: तो कई राज्यों में, बल्कि अधिकांश राज्यों में, यहीं दिल्ली की विधान सभा में जितना एम.एल.ए. का वेतन है, उससे कम वेतन एम.पी. का है। अभी दो दिन पहले महाराष्ट्र की विधान सभा ने अपने विधायकों का जो वेतन निर्धारित किया है, हमारा वेतन उसका आधा भी नहीं है। एमपीज का वेतन तेलंगाना की विधान सभा के विधायकों के वेतन का एक-तिहाई भी नहीं है, ऐसा ही पेंशन के मामले में भी है। तो स्थिति यह है कि हम लोगों को बिल्कुल दयनीय बना दिया गया है और हमें यह कहा जाता है कि अपना खर्च कम करिए। हम खर्च कैसे कम करें? हमारे दरवाजे पर यदि कोई आ जाए, तो उसे बिना कुछ खिलाए-पिलाए ही लौटा दें? कोई एमपी ऐसा नहीं है, जिसके यहाँ ऐसे कुछ लोग नहीं आ जाते हैं कि हमारे पास किराये का पैसा खत्म हो गया है, तो उसे पैसा भी देना पड़ता है। हम लोग पब्लिक से जुड़े हुए हैं और जिन लोगों की तनखाह बढ़ी है, उनको पब्लिक से कोई मतलब नहीं होता है, उनका कोई एक्स्ट्रा खर्च नहीं होता है। हम लोगों को अपने घर से एक्स्ट्रा खर्च करना पड़ता है। लोगों को चाय पिलाने के लिए, जिन मरीजों के पास पैसा नहीं होता है, उनको पैसा देने के लिए और जब वे दिल्ली में आ जाते हैं, तो उनको किराया देने के लिए, यह सब करना पड़ता है। हम सब भुक्तभोगी हैं और सब इससे सहमत हैं। लेकिन मुझे समझ में नहीं आता है कि हम लोगों को एक तरीके से यह बताया गया था, डायरेक्ट-इनडायरेक्ट रूप से, कि संसद के सत्र के आखिरी दिन तक संसद सदस्यों के वेतन में वृद्धि की घोषणा कर दी जाएगी। महँगाई कम नहीं कर रहे हैं, अन्य सभी लोगों का वेतन बढ़ा रहे हैं, जजेज का वेतन भी बढ़ा देंगे। राष्ट्रपति-उपराष्ट्रपति जी ने तनखाह लेने से मना कर दिया कि हमारे जूनियर लोगों को ज्यादा तनखाह मिल रही है, तो मैं यह तनखाह लूँ?
...(समय की घंटी)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: उनकी दोगुनी हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि संसद सदस्यों का वेतन भी जल्दी बढ़ा दिया जाए और कम से कम कैबिनेट सेक्रेटरी से ज्यादा वेतन संसद सदस्यों का होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान): सर, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we associate ourselves with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Shri Husain Dalwai to associate.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर, राम गोपाल यादव जी ने अभी जो बात उठाई है, इस पर सदन में पहले भी चर्चा हुई है। पार्लियामेंट की एक कमेटी है। वह कमेटी इस पर चर्चा करती है और

तय करती है कि क्या वेतन होना चाहिए और क्या पेंशन होनी चाहिए। उस कमेटी की रिकमंडेशन सरकार के पास गई, कैबिनेट के पास गई। आज से पहले यह नहीं हुआ कि पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी की सिफारिश पर, पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी की एक unanimous recommendation पर सरकार की चुप्पी है। आज यह एक बुनियादी प्रश्न है। या तो जो कहा जाता है, उसको हम सत्य मान लें कि यहाँ पर जितने सदस्यगण हैं, वे जनता के प्रतिनिधि नहीं हैं, या तो वे सामंतवादी हैं, पूँजीपति हैं, व्यापारी हैं और अगर ये जनता के प्रतिनिधि हैं, तो आपका यह पाखंड नहीं होना चाहिए, hypocrisy नहीं होनी चाहिए कि सांसदों का वेतन न बढ़े, विधायकों का बढ़े, अधिकारियों का बढ़े और कर्मचारियों का बढ़े। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... इसमें शर्म आती है कि सरकार की चुप्पी क्यों है, प्रधान मंत्री की ओर से? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: उनके पास कागज़ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: हो गया, हो गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: वह प्रधान मंत्री के पास है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Husain Dalwai to associate. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: वे इस पर जवाब दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हजारों करोड़ रुपये विदेश के दौरों पर प्रधान मंत्री इस्तेमाल करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: हजारों करोड़ रुपये। ...**(व्यवधान)**... और एमपीज़ को कहते हैं कि खर्चा कम करो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, Now, Shri Husain Dalwai to associate.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करते हुए यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र में एमएलएज़ का वेतन बढ़ गया है, तेलंगाना में भी बढ़ गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरा कहना है कि एक तो आपको एमपीज़ की सैलरी बढ़ानी चाहिए और ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Only associate, Mr. Dalwai. ...**(Interruptions)**... That is enough. Shri Mukul Roy. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I told you the discussion is not over. It would continue. I told you already. ...**(Interruptions)**... Not today. Now, it is Zero Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, you tell us when it would be taken up. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whenever the time is available.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: No next Session, Sir. You tell us when it would be over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can't leave the discussion halfway like this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is Zero Hour. Mr. Mukul Roy. I have to dispose of the Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, it is over. Now, sit down. Kanimozhiji, I told you already that, the Short Duration Discussion is not yet over. Whenever time, is available, we would take it up. If not in this Session, we would take it up in the next Session. I told you already. Sit down.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, there are so many agitations taking place in Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, I have already explained that we are not tinkering with the Constitution, either pertaining to minorities or pertaining to reservation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, what you are saying is already on record.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: We want suggestions from everybody. And, therefore, I am extending the time-limit up to the 15th of September. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Mukul Roy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी ...*(व्यवधान)*... सरकार से जवाब दिलवा दीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति: मैं क्या करूँ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सरकार से जवाब दिलवा दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Mukul Roy. ...*(Interruptions)*... Zero Hour, Shri Mukul Roy. ...*(Interruptions)*... Zero Hour, Shri Mukul Roy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, everybody wants answer from me. I am ready to give because we believe in democracy. We believe that education is... ...*(Interruptions)*... We believe that education must give whatever is required to live the life successfully. और इसलिए जीवन के संबंध में यही शिक्षा होती है और इस शिक्षा के लिए जो प्रधान मंत्री जी का नारा है 'सबका साथ, सबका विकास' ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, राम गोपाल जी ने जो मुद्दा उठाया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government is reacting... *(Interruptions)*... I cannot do anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, you sit down.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: इसलिए हमारा भी नारा है, 'सबको शिक्षा और अच्छी शिक्षा'। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उस अच्छी शिक्षा के लिए हमने देश भर में काम किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उनके साथ हमने काम किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Kanimozhi, you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kanimozhi, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: मैंने इस पर सजेशन देने के लिए सबको आमंत्रित किया है और मैं सबके साथ चर्चा करूंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is Zero Hour. You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else will go on record. Only what Shri Mukul Roy says will go on record. Nothing else will go on record.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... What Shri Mukul Roy says will go on record; nothing else will go on record.

SHRI MUKUL ROY (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; I have replied to your point. Sit down, Kanimozhi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Mukul Roy. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kanimozhi, you are my sister; sit down. It is not going on record.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: *

Demand for discussion on the role of Election Commission

SHRI MUKUL ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to speak on such an important issue ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: *

SHRI MUKUL ROY: Sir, in India, general elections to Parliament and State Assemblies are considered to be festivals of democracy. But the way the Election Commission is functioning, the festivals are all but evaporating. Under Articles 324, 325 and 326 of the Constitution, all powers for holding elections are vested in the Election Commission of India. I am compelled to say that the way elections are being conducted requires review for ensuring fair and judicious election process. It is high time to examine if the role of the Election Commission is impartial. The procedure for appointment of Election Commissioners is done by the Government. Now, the Election Commission is run by the Government officials. Now, the time has come to review the process of appointment of Election Commissioners. It might be mentioned that Articles 324, 325 and 326 are applicable where law does not exist. But no situation of lawlessness was found in West Bengal during the entire election process as evident. Erratic transfer of 76 officers in West Bengal, including the Police Commissioner of Kolkata, without any valid reason, raised doubts whether the Election Commission of India was carrying out some political vendetta or not. Please note that the Election Commissioners are appointed by the Government. But throughout their tenure and during polls, they seem to act in an autocratic way. During Assembly Elections, 2016, the directives of the Election Commission were completely against the ruling party in West Bengal. Through their concocted power, which was undoubtedly anti-Constitutional, they tried to ring the death knell of democracy in West Bengal. While they tried to choke the smooth functioning of administration, people defied their motives and came out in large numbers to vote for the Trinamool Congress. Sir, they have used the CRPF there. Of course, this is the power which lies with the Section Commission to send the CRPF in those places. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; time is over. Now, Shri Shwait Malik.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

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

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

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान): सर ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, the names of all the Members who are associating themselves with it may be noted. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Shwait Malik.

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया: सर ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You associate yourself with it. That is enough.

**Discrepancies at the international check post at Attari affecting
business and revenue collection**

श्री श्वेत मलिक (पंजाब): ऑनरेबल सर, मैं आभारी हूँ कि आपने आज मुझे एक बड़े महत्वपूर्ण इश्यू पर बोलने का मौका दिया। वह इश्यू है Lapses in security at Indo-Pak border trade at Attari". ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please sit down, ...(Interruptions)... It is not going on record. Only what Shri Malik says will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान): *

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Budania, sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Don't do that. ...(Interruptions)... It is his Zero Hour issue. ...(Interruptions)... Digvijayaji, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, it is a very important issue. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री श्वेत मलिक: वहां जो इंडो-पाक बॉर्डर है, वहां पर बहुत बड़ा security lapse है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो इंडो-पाक बॉर्डर ट्रेड शुरू किया गया था वह सेंट्रल एशिया के साथ केवल अटारी में एक जगह है जहां पर जो सेंट्रल एशियन कन्ट्रीज़ हैं, चाहे वह पाकिस्तान हो, ईरान हो, उज्बेकिस्तान हो, तुर्कमेनिस्तान हो, उनके साथ ट्रेड होता है। तो आज वहां पर सिक्योरिटी के नाम पर जहां हमारे जवान हजारों किलोमीटर सीमा की सुरक्षा कर रहे हैं, जहां पर फेंसिंग के ऊपर हजारों, करोड़ों रुपए खर्च हुए हैं, वहां जो आज सुरक्षा है वह केवल कुत्तों के ऊपर छोड़ी हुई है। जो इण्डो-पाक पर इंटरनेशनल चैक पोस्ट है, एनिमल चैकिंग के कारण वहां से कई बार हथियार आए हैं, वहां से कई बार अनवांटेड जो आइटम्स हैं, वह इण्डो-पाक बॉर्डर से आए हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Budania, please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri Ansari, please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri Budania, please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री श्वेत मलिक: तो मैं आपके ध्यान में ला रहा हूँ कि यह कैसे भी हमारे लिए बड़ा pricking है कि पाकिस्तान की साइड पर स्कैनर लगा रखे हैं और हमारी साइड पर कुत्ते खड़े हैं कि जो आप किसी पशु पर विश्वास नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए जो इण्डो पाक पोस्ट है, इंटरनेशनल चैक पोस्ट अटारी, वहां से कई बार हथियार और कई चीज़ें आई हैं, मैंने माननीय गृह राज्य मंत्री श्री किरन रिजिजू को निवेदन किया था और उन्होंने स्कैनर सेंक्शन कर दिए हैं। मैं धन्यवाद दूंगा एन0डी0ए0 सरकार को कि सालों से लम्बित जो योजना थी, उसको पूरा किया है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करूंगा कि उसको जल्दी करवाया जाए।

दूसरा, मैंने बॉर्डर पर विजिट किया था। मैं वहां की सुरक्षा देखकर हैरान हो गया कि वहां पर 231 सी0सी0टी0वी0 लगे हुए हैं, उनमें से केवल 13 कैमरे काम कर रहे थे, बाकी 218 कैमरे बंद थे। उसके अलावा वहां पर 18 बूम बैरियर थे। अगर कोई ट्रक भागेगा तो उसको रोका जाएगा। 18 के 18 बूम बैरियर बंद थे। तो मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ कि सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA (Punjab): Sir, ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why are you troubling? I will give you time. You sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Serious situation in North Tamil Nadu due to building of more check dams on Palar river

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is a very important issue regarding northern parts of Tamil Nadu. It is a very important issue. Palar is one of the important rivers. It originates ...**(Interruptions)**... Excuse me, Sir, this is my Zero Hour submission ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, this is a very important issue which I want to raise in the Zero Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... I was waiting for the last one week.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, does the Minister want to reply on the Education Policy? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, her mike is not on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, Palar is a river which originates in Nandi hills in Karnataka. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is already permitted. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me listen to her. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is permitted by the hon. Chairman. Let her speak ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: The river flows in 33 kilometres in Andhra Pradesh and again it flows to Kancheepuram and again, it flows through the Vellore district of Northern Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*... Actually, there was a pact between Madras and Mysore. ...*(Interruptions)*... As per the Madras-Mysore Agreement, the upstream State should not, without the previous consent of the downstream State of Tamil Nadu, build any structure, divert or store water of the River across any part of the fifteen rivers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her complete. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Andhra Pradesh is constructing a dam and it is increasing the height of the check dam from five feet to twelve feet. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Tiruchi Siva, what are you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you doing, Shrimati Kanimozhi? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: According to this pact, they should not increase the height and they should not construct any more check dams, but they are constructing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Andhra Pradesh is constructing it on the fifteen rivers. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is against the pact, and the second thing that I wanted to say is, Palar is already deficit in water supply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, 4.20 lakh acres of ayacut is dependant on this.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I need the protection of the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: These many farmers are dependent on this river for their irrigation. So, I wanted to urge the Government; and another point is ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, why are they obstructing like this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, according to people from Tiruvannamalai, Vellore and Chennai, they are travelling to Andhra Pradesh by a train to Chittoor district, but ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I have a point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*... Muthukaruppan, you sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: As a Member, I have a right to raise a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: It was reported that they were travelling in a train from Chennai to Tirupati. But, unfortunately, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tiruchi Siva ...*(Interruptions)*... Muthukaruppan, you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you doing? You also want to create trouble? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Siva, what is your point of order? Tell me ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: But, unfortunately ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time is over ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing more will go on record ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Vijila, sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vijila, sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Your time is over ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will not go on record ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Your time is over...*(Interruptions)*... Time is over. Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: *

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Muthukaruppan, ask her to sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Your time is over ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Your time is over ...*(Interruptions)*... Vijila, I am asking you to sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you ready to sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*... You resume your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... You see, you have completed your allotted time. After that you cannot speak ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Siva, what is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, yesterday, I gave a notice for making a Special Mention to constitute Cauvery Management Board.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I will tell you. I am coming to that. The notice was not accepted saying that the similar issue was raised earlier in this session. The same issue: I had raised during the Zero Hour. How has it been permitted now? I need a ruling on this from you. That is all ...*(Interruptions)*... Rule has to be applied equally to all ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vijila, sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Navaneethakrisnan, you rein in your lady Member ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I need your ruling, ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't deny anything ...*(Interruptions)*... I am just asking about the privilege of a Member. ...*(Interruptions)*... My notice was not accepted yesterday ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiruchi Siva, you are a Member of the Panel of Vice-Chairman. It is the prerogative of the hon. Chairman either to allow or disallow a notice. This is allowed by the hon. Chairman. It is my duty to implement it. That is all ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: But, again, Sir ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing more. You cannot comment on the decision of the hon. Chairman ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you doing? ...*(Interruptions)*... He has not given notice. What do I do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

*Not recorded.

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, the point is ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Nath Thakur ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, what about the discussion on the National Education Policy? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is an important discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... It seems, no one is interested in the Education Policy. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is encroaching, upon the rights of the State. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Nath Thakur ...*(Interruptions)*...

**Allegedly preventing a dalit girl from drinking water in temple
in Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh**

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, संविधान ने लगभग 70 वर्ष पूर्व हमारे यहां छुआछूत, भेदभाव वगैरह खत्म कर, सामाजिक समता और बंधुत्व का नारा दिया, लेकिन आज सूचना क्रांति, कम्प्यूटर क्रांति और मोबाइल क्रांति के दौर में भी हम मध्य युग की बर्बरता झेल और भुगत रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If this is the way, Vijila, I will take action against you ...*(Interruptions)*... I will take action against you, Vijila ...*(Interruptions)*... I will take action against you. Don't do like this ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you one thing ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: देश के कोने-कोने से दलितों पर अत्याचार की खबरें आ रही हैं। यह उत्तर प्रदेश के संभल जनपद में गुनौर कोतवाली इलाके के गंगगुरा गांव की घटना है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am informing the House that the House is going to adjourn sine die at 11.45 a.m. ...*(Interruptions)*... If this is the way you behave, I will adjourn the House till 11.45 a.m. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: गंगगुरा गांव के एक दलित की 13 साल की बेटी अपने पिता के साथ जंगल में घास काटने गई। इसी बीच छोटी बच्ची को प्यास लगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... वह पास में बने एक मंदिर में पानी पीने लगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: सूचना है कि वहां मौजूद पुजारी ने उसे पानी पीने से रोका। इतना ही नहीं, बच्ची के साथ मारपीट भी की गयी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब बच्ची के पिता ने रोती हुई बेटी को देखकर पूछा कि क्या बात है तो बच्ची ने पूरी घटना सुनाई। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: पिता मंदिर में पूछने गए तो पुजारी ने उनके हाथ पर भाले से हमला किया और वे घायल होकर वहीं गिर गए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA (Punjab): Sir, I also have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you also on point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*... First, let me allow Mr. Bajwa, because he asked first. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA (Punjab): Thank you, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, my point of order is: Since last night, all national TV channels are showing the conduct of a Minister...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not a point of order ...*(Interruptions)*... You give notice ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Sir, it is an important point. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has gone to Brazil ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not a point of order ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: ...along with his team ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. It is an allegation, not a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BAJWA: We, therefore, request the hon. Prime Minister to recall him ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Bajwaji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BAJWA: It is a question of prestige. ...*(Interruptions)*... The prestige, of the nation is involved ...*(Interruptions)*... You should sack the Sports Minister ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen, Bajwaji ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. This is not a point of order. This is an allegation...*(Interruptions)*... This is an allegation ...*(Interruptions)*... There is a procedure to do that. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... Naresh Agrawalji, what is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, this is an important issue. He is a Minister of our country ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. There is no point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: The Minister should be recalled and removed from the Government ...(Interruptions)... It is unbecoming of a Minister. ...(Interruptions)... The hon. Prime Minister should sack him. ...(Interruptions)... The Sports Minister has embarrassed this country. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Nath Thakur, you start, speaking.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: आज भी हमारे समाज का बड़ा हिस्सा किस तरह कठिन, अमानवीय तथा दुखद भेदभाव का शिकार है। ...(व्यवधान)... आज जरूरत है कि देश में ऐसे अमानवीय काम करने वाले लोगों के खिलाफ सख्त कानूनी कार्यवाही तो हो ही, साथ ही इनको समाज में अलग-थलग करने के लिए बड़ा सामाजिक आन्दोलन हो। ...(व्यवधान)...

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

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, हाउस को ऑर्डर में लाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर: उन पर जो अत्याचार हो रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... उनके खिलाफ सख्त कानूनी कार्यवाही हो। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, what is your point of order? ...(Interruptions)...

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

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

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please, take your seats ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Sir, a Minister of this country has gone to Brazil ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down ...(Interruptions)... No. This is not to be raised ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, a Minister of this country has gone to Rio ...(Interruptions)... The Olympic Organizers threatened to

de-recognize IOA ...(Interruptions)... I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister to sack him.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...(व्यवधान)...

Alleged exploitation of a dalit woman in AIIMS

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया सर। एक तरफ तो संसद में डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर की 125वीं जयंती मनाई गई। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: साथ ही दलितों के हितों/अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए सख्त कानून पास किया गया, परंतु दुर्भाग्य से संसद से महज कुछ किलोमीटर की दूरी पर स्थित देश का प्रतिष्ठित मेडिकल संस्थान एवं गरीबों का मंदिर "एम्स" नई दिल्ली में ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nareshji, I will call you after Kahkashan Perween
...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: दलित की बेटी शशि मावर, संकाय सदस्य का "एम्स" प्रशासन के डायरेक्टर, डिप्टी डायरेक्टर तथा प्राचार्या द्वारा लगातार मानसिक उत्पीड़न किया जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only what Kahkashan Perween says will go on record
...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: अभी-अभी स्वास्थ्य मंत्री श्री जे.पी. नड्डा द्वारा एक पत्र कुछ सांसदों को भेजा गया है, जिसमें कहा गया है कि शशि मावर को "एम्स" की जाँच समिति ने नर्सिंग से बाहर रखने की अनुशंसा की थी, जो सरासर गलत जवाब है। जाँच समिति की विस्तृत रिपोर्ट में कहीं भी ऐसा नहीं कहा गया है। इस रिपोर्ट में केवल शशि मावर को कुछ अवधि के लिए B.Sc. कोर्स से अलग कर अन्य कोर्स या कॉलेजों के अंदर ही अन्य कार्य देने की बात कही गई थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग ने भी जातिगत उत्पीड़न मानते हुए दलित की बेटी शशि मावर को तुरंत उसके पद पर बहाल करने का निर्देश दिया था। "एम्स" प्रशासन ने आयोग के इस फैसले को लागू करने के बजाय तीन सदस्यों की एक नई कमेटी नवम्बर, 2015 में गठित करते हुए 30 दिनों के अंदर ही रिपोर्ट, रोड मैप देने के लिए कमेटी को कहा था। ...(व्यवधान)...

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I have a point to make ...(Interruptions)... I have given notice for Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your notice is not here ...(Interruptions)... Oh! Next is your Zero Hour ...(Interruptions)... You are allowed by the Chairman.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, the point is ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't disturb. Allow her ...*(Interruptions)*... If you disturb her, then you are surrendering your own right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: लेकिन कमेटी ने छह महीने के बाद ...*(व्यवधान)*... 13 मई, 2016 को फाइनल रिपोर्ट "एम्स" प्रशासन को सौंपी। रिपोर्ट देने में 30 दिनों के बजाय छह महीने से अधिक का समय लगाना क्या यह जातिगत भेदभाव नहीं है? जब शशि मावर को नर्सिंग कॉलेज में फिर से तैनात किया गया, तो वहां उसके साथ पुनः नर्सिंग कॉलेज की प्राचार्या तथा "एम्स" प्रशासन द्वारा भेदभाव किया जाने लगा।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं बड़े ही दुख के साथ सदन को सूचित करते हुए बता रही हूँ कि दलित की बेटी शशि मावर के साथ आज भी जातिगत उत्पीड़न हो रहा है। इस दलित की बेटी के आचरण का मूल्यांकन एक दो सदस्यीय कमेटी द्वारा किया जा रहा है। यह कमेटी हर 14 दिनों पर "एम्स" प्रशासन को रिपोर्ट देगी। क्या यह जातिगत अत्याचार नहीं है? क्या यह किसी महिला के साथ न्यायपूर्ण है? क्या यह महिलाओं का अपमान नहीं है?

उपसभापति जी, मैं इसके बारे में सरकार से जवाब चाहूंगी। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आज फिर इस सवाल को आपके सामने उठा रही हूँ। मंत्री जी को "एम्स" प्रशासन गलत जानकारी मुहैया करा रहा है। मैं सदन के माध्यम से यह मांग करती हूँ कि मंत्री जी को गलत जानकारी देने वाले "एम्स" के अधिकारियों पर तुरंत कार्रवाई की जाए और जो शशि मावर के साथ जातिगत भेदभाव हो रहा है, उसे तुरंत रोका जाए। साथ ही साथ जो लोग इस तरह के उत्पीड़न में शामिल हैं, उन पर सख्त कार्रवाई की जाए।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है और इस पर सख्त कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री मो. नदीमुल हक (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

†جناب محمد تديم الحق (مغربی بنگال): مہودے میں مائے سلسلہ کے وکٹوے سے خود کو سمبندھ

کرتا ہوں۔

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

†جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش): مہودے میں مائے سلسلہ کے وکٹوے سے خود کو سمبندھ

کرتا ہوں۔

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

कुमारी शैलजा: महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री शमशेर सिंह डुलो (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by the hon. Member ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission of Mrs. Perween ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Agrawalji, what is your problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर यह है कि पिछले एक हफ्ते से कार्यसूची में Appropriation Bill को छापा जा रहा है। श्रीमन्, Appropriation Bill मनी बिल है। हम सब जानते हैं कि संविधान के अनुच्छेद 110 के अंतर्गत उनको मनी बिल माना गया है। सरकार जान-बूझकर Appropriation Bill को अब तक सदन में नहीं लाई कि अगर हम उसको नहीं भी लाएंगे, तो 14 दिन के बाद वह automatic पास मान लिया जाएगा और एक नया precedent इस सदन में बनने जा रहा है। किसी मनी बिल को ये लोग जान-बूझकर मनी बिल बनाते हैं, जिससे कि मनी बिल को न लाएं और उस पर चर्चा न हो।

श्री उपसभापति: सरकार बिल को लिस्ट में लाई है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, Appropriation Bill एक important बिल है।

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, हमने लगातार कार्यसूची में Appropriation Bill को लगाया है। अगर हम उसको कार्यसूची में न लगाते, तब आप कह सकते थे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: आपने जान-बूझकर नहीं लिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपने इतने बिल पास कराए हैं, लेकिन इसको नहीं लिया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: हमने बार-बार सदस्यों से अनुरोध किया कि आप सदन में देर तक बैठकर सारे बिलों को पास करवा दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसमें हमारी कोई गलती नहीं है। हमने तो हर दिन इसको कार्यसूची में लगाया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nareshji, okay. You raised it ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot do anything about it ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I would, once again, like to inform you that after this, the hon. Chairman will come for valedictory remarks and adjourning the House *sine die*. Kumari Selja.

Anguish among farmers due to poor implementation of crop insurance scheme

कुमारी शैलजा (हरियाणा): सर, मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगी। सर, हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगी कि आज के दिन जो प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना है, उसके नाम से, हमारे देश के और मेरे अपने प्रदेश हरियाणा के किसानों का किस तरह से उत्पीड़न किया जा रहा है। सर, प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा जारी योजना का नाम "फसल बीमा योजना" रख दिया है, तो मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि इसमें केन्द्र का कितना रोल है, जो उसका नाम प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा जारी योजना "प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना" रख दिया है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

दूसरी बात यह है कि इसमें हमारे यहां ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, किसानों से जबरन premium जमा करवाया जा रहा है। सर, किसानों ने को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज़ से ऋण लिया हुआ है और उनसे जबरन उनका premium जमा करवाया जा रहा है। इससे Corporate sector को फायदा पहुंचाना है और किसान के लिए कोई काम नहीं हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, फसल के लिए आप एक गांव को यूनिट क्यों लेते हैं, किसान को यूनिट क्यों नहीं लेते? सर, एक individual को यूनिट लेना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, फसल की भी कई कीमतें हैं, जैसे धान है, बासमती है ...*(व्यवधान)*... तो केवल धान का ही बीमा क्यों होता है, बासमती का क्यों नहीं होता? ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, आग लग जाती है, जैसे गेहूं की फसल में आग लगती है, तो उसका बीमा नहीं होता है ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब पाला पड़ता है, तो उसका बीमा नहीं होता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह किसान के साथ धोखा किया जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप पोलिसी मैटर को जीरो ऑवर में डिस्कस नहीं कर सकते। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. आप लोग बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सरकार को शोर नहीं मचाना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

कुमारी शैलजा: तो वह कहाँ जाएगा? ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर किसान है, तो वह अपनी शिकायत लेकर कहाँ जाएगा? ...*(व्यवधान)*... केवल कॉरपोरेट सेक्टर को फायदा दिया जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... किसान का उत्पीड़न किया जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हरियाणा में चाहे किसान यूनियन हो ...*(व्यवधान)*... या किसान हो, उसका जिस तरह से उत्पीड़न हो रहा है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह किसान विरोधी सरकार है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... किसान का कोई फायदा नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you worry? ...*(Interruptions)*... उनको बोलने दो। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

कुमारी शैलजा: केवल स्कीमों के नाम बदलना, केवल प्रधान मंत्री का नाम जोड़ना, यही इनका मकसद है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कोई फायदा नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, जब किसान की फसल नष्ट होती है, तो उसका पूरा खेत भी नष्ट हो सकता है, लेकिन जब पूरे गांव का सर्वे होगा, तो उस किसान को क्या मिलेगा? यह गरीब किसान के बिल्कुल हित में नहीं है और खासकर मेरे राज्य में। सर, किसानों का बहुत ज्यादा उत्पीड़न किया जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... किसान का सारे हिन्दुस्तान में उत्पीड़न किया जा रहा है, धन्यवाद।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान): महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने जो विषय उठाया है, हम भी अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Rajani Patil. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Budania, you are crossing all the limits. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Budania always crosses the limits. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have given floor to Shrimati Rajani Patil. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Reported involvement of some hospitals in kidney racket

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से पूरे सभागृह को उजागर करना चाहती हूँ कि राज्य सरकार ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल चाहे कितने ही छोटे हों ...**(व्यवधान)**... ब्रीच कैंडी या अंबानी जैसे बड़े हों, वहाँ FSI, Electricity, water ...**(व्यवधान)**... octroi, customs, sales tax आदि में सहूलियतें देती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नियमानुसार 10 per cent beds और 2 per cent profit गरीब लोगों को देना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, जब कोई भी पेशेंट हॉस्पिटल में आता है, तो वह बेबस और मजबूर होकर आता है। चाहे एंजियोग्राफी हो, पैथ टेस्ट हो, स्टेंट डालना हो, हर्निया यह सब सुनकर पेशेंट हैरान हो जाता है। ये बड़ी pharmaceutical कम्पनियाँ अपनी दवाइयाँ बेचने के लिए बड़े-बड़े डॉक्टरों को फॉरेन ट्रिप पर भेजती हैं और फॉरेन कॉन्फ्रेंसेज़ करवाती है। जिस मेडिसिन को लेने में 50 रुपए लगते हैं, उसको 500 रुपए में बेचा जाता है।

सर, मैं मुम्बई के हीरानन्दानी हॉस्पिटल की बात करना चाहती हूँ। वहाँ पर किडनी का बहुत बड़ा भ्रष्टाचार हुआ है। पांच बड़े डॉक्टरों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। इनमें CEO, न्यूरोलॉजिस्ट और नेफ्रोलॉजिस्ट शामिल हैं और उन गरीब पेशेंट को फंसाकर यह बताया गया है कि अगर आप किडनी दोगे, तो दूसरी किडनीज़ अपने आप आ जाएगी। दिल्ली में अपोलो हॉस्पिटल में इसी तरह के मसले सामने आए हैं।

सर, पांच साल में हीरानन्दानी हॉस्पिटल में 130 किडनी ट्रांसप्लांट की गईं। एक किडनी पचास लाख रुपए में बिकती है। इसमें पांच सौ से एक सौ करोड़ का घपला इन्होंने कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, यह मसला राजस्थान, गुजरात और श्रीलंका में हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is already 11.40. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल: मेरा इतना ही कहना है कि CBI इन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए। ऐसे हॉस्पिटल्स बंद होने चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subbarami Reddy, there is only one more minute left. What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल: सर, यह सब गुजरात में भी हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, ऐसे हॉस्पिटल्स बन्द करने चाहिए और ऐसे हॉस्पिटल्स पर पाबंदी लगानी चाहिए। इसके साथ-साथ, इसकी सीबीआई इन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए और डॉक्टरों को सख्त से सख्त सज़ा मिलनी चाहिए, धन्यवाद ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: At 11.45 a.m., hon. Chairman will resume the Chair for Valedictory remarks. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: On 18th of July, the 240th Session commenced with high expectations. I am glad to say that the Session was highly productive. There were debates of national concern and discussions on many subjects. Various procedural devices were effectively used to raise issues, reflect public sentiments and legislate through constructive debates.

The House had 20 sittings during which it deliberated for more than 112 hours.

During this Session, 59 elected, re-elected and Nominated Members joined the House.

Some interesting facets have emerged, in this Session. While 300 Starred Questions were raised, 333 Supplementaries were also taken up. It is heartening to note that almost all parties got opportunities to raise Supplementaries and participate in the Question Hour.

Apart from the Questions, individual Members raised urgent public issues during the Zero Hour. During the Session, 120 Zero Hour submissions were made, of which 21 were instantly responded to by the Ministers. Besides, Members also expressed their concerns on matters, of public interest through 91 Special Mentions.

In all, 14 Government Bills pertaining to Ministries of Finance, Labour & Employment, Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Health & Family Welfare, Human Resource Development, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Social Justice and Empowerment, Science and Technology were passed. The House held an f& animated debate while considering and passing the Constitution (One Hundred And Twenty Second Amendment) Bill, 2014.

The incidents of violence in Kashmir Valley engaged the undivided attention of the House. The debate took ten hours of the House in two separate days. The House passed a unanimous Resolution on prevailing situation in Kashmir Valley; it earnestly appealed to all sections of the society in Jammu & Kashmir, to work for the early restoration of normalcy and harmony and unanimously resolved to restore confidence amongst the people, in general, and youth, in particular.

Issues regarding atrocities on *Dalits*, price rise, status of implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, the role of Governors in the light of developments that took place in Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh and Draft National Education Policy were deliberated in the form of Short Duration Discussions. By common consent, the quality of debates was of a high order.

During the Session, the Members got opportunities to seek clarifications on four Calling Attentions on matters of public importance and also on Statements made by Ministers regarding missing Indian Air Force operated AN-32 courier and the Home Minister's visit to Pakistan to attend the Seventh Meeting of SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home.

Fourteen Private Members' Bills were introduced and some important issues were discussed through Bills and Resolutions initiated by some of the hon. Members of this House.

I have asked the Secretary-General to make available the statistical information relating to the Session.

I take this opportunity to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various parties and groups and the hon. Members for the cooperation extended by them in the overall functioning of the House.

I also thank the Deputy Chairman, the Members on the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their help and cooperation.

Now, before we adjourn the House *sine die*, we will have the National Song.

(The National Song, "*Vande Mataram*" was then played.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I adjourn the House *sine die*.

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