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Friday

2 February, 2018

13 Magha, 1939 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 2nd February, 2018/13th Magha, 1939 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you might be aware, 42 persons, including two children, reportedly lost their lives and many others were injured, when a State Transport bus accidentally fell over the Balirghat Bridge in Murshidabad District of West Bengal on the 29th of January, 2018.

The loss of precious lives in this tragic incident is indeed painful and unfortunate.

The House joins me in expressing our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved families and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of those, who lost their lives in this tragedy.

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

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Statement showing Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I rise to lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the following Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Two Hundred and Forty-fourth Session of the Rajya Sabha and assented to by the President:—

1. The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2017.
2. The Indian Institutes of Management Bill, 2017.
3. The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2017.
4. The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2017.
5. The Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy Bill, 2017.

6. The Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2017.
7. The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2017.
8. The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2017.
9. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Amendment) Bill, 2018.
10. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2018.
11. The Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Amendment Bill, 2017.
12. The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2018.
13. The Appropriation Bill, 2018.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8799/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2015-16) of HAL, Pune and related papers

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): महोदय, मैं श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (a) Sixty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2015-16, 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) 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. 8695/16/18]

Reports and Accounts (1997-98 to 2000-01) of J&KHPMC, Srinagar and related papers

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (i) (a) Twentieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited

(J&KHPMC), Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 1997-98, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

(ii) (a) Twenty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&KHPMC), Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 1998-99, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

(iii) (a) Twenty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&KHPMC), Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 1999-2000, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

(iv) (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&KHPMC), Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2000-01, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

(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. 8697/16/18]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members,... *...(Interruptions)...*

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, *...(व्यवधान)...* यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Let me complete. *...(Interruptions)...* Let me finish the formal work.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 29th January, 2018 has allotted time for

Government Business as follows:

1. Discussion on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address 12 hours
2. General Discussion on the Union Budget 2018-19 12 hours

The Committee also recommended that the House may sit up to 8.00 p.m. from 5th to 8th February, 2018 for the transaction of Government, legislative and other Business.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri Digvijaya Singh, Member stating that due to personal reasons, he is unable to attend the sittings of the 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence for the entire 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 29th January, 2018 to 6th April, 2018 during the 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No hon. Member dissented)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the House agrees. Permission to remain absent is granted.

I have also to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri K.G. Kenye, Member stating that due to election in his home State, Nagaland, he is unable to attend the sittings of the current Session. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence from the sittings of the 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 1st February, 2018 to 6th April, 2018 during the 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No hon. Member dissented)

I hope the House agrees. Permission to remain absent is granted.

REGARDING LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN KASGUNJ, UTTAR PRADESH

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, matters permitted by the Chair. *...(Interruptions)...*
Zero Hour submissions. *...(Interruptions)...*

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, यह एक बहुत गंभीर मुद्दा है। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य के कासगंज में minority के लोगों के साथ ज्यादाती हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why all of you stand up? ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: शासन और पुलिस के माध्यम से लोगों के दरवाजों को तोड़कर उन पर हमले किए जा रहे हैं, उन्हें गिरफ्तार किया जा रहा है, उन्हें मारा जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why all of you stand up? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): सर, दिल्ली में व्यापारियों पर अत्याचार हो रहा है ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, इस बात का पूरा प्रमाण है। सारा देश जानता है कि जिस व्यक्ति की हत्या हुई है, वह हत्या करने वाला नॉन-मुस्लिम है। ..(व्यवधान)..

श्री उपसभापति: राम गोपाल जी, आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है, so you have to give notice. ...(Interruptions)... Ram Gopalji, you have not given any notice. You have to give notice. ...(Interruptions)... So, I am not allowing you. ...(Interruptions)... आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है। Minority के लोगों के साथ सरकार ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): यह मामला नोटिस देने वाला नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: अधिकारियों की मदद से minority के लोगों को दबाया जा रहा है, उन्हें गिरफ्तार किया जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: कासगंज का मुद्दा एक बड़ा मुद्दा है। ...(व्यवधान)... पूरे उत्तर प्रदेश में कानून और व्यवस्था ..(व्यवधान)..

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: इससे गंभीर मामला और क्या हो सकता है? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...(Interruptions)... Ram Gopalji, they are shouting. ...(Interruptions)... Nobody can hear what you say. ...(Interruptions)... Your own Members are shouting when you are speaking. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: लोग मारे जा रहे हैं और उन्हें बचाने के लिए ...(व्यवधान)... लोग मारे जा रहे हैं, उनके घर तोड़े जा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: नोटिस की जरूरत नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: देश में आग लग जाए तो आप नोटिस का इंतज़ार करेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)... सारा video है। ...(व्यवधान)... सारा video पुलिस के पास है, जनता के पास है।

[प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव]

मारने वाला व्यक्ति कौन है, यह सब है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके बावजूद निर्दोष लोगों को फंसाया जा रहा है, लोगों को मारा जा रहा है। गवर्नमेंट इस पर जवाब दे। आप गवर्नमेंट को directions दीजिए कि वह जवाब दे कि ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है?...**(व्यवधान)**..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao. ...**(Interruptions)**... One second. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao, what happened to you? ...**(Interruptions)**... What happened to you? ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri Ghulam Nabi Azadji, hon. Leader of the Opposition, look at this Member. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is he doing? ...**(Interruptions)**... What is he doing? He could have given notice. ...**(Interruptions)**... If he wants to raise a subject, he could have given notice. ...**(Interruptions)**... Without giving any notice, can somebody do like this? ...**(Interruptions)**... What happened to him? ...**(Interruptions)**... Has he become * ...**(Interruptions)**... ये तो * हो गए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: आप उन्हें खड़ा रहने दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will take action. ...**(Interruptions)**... I will have to take action. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao, please...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao. ...**(Interruptions)**..

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): बड़े पैमाने पर अपराध बढ़े हैं। 26 जनवरी को वहां के अधिकारी अगर समय रहते ध्यान देते तो उस दिन कासगंज में यह सांप्रदायिक दंगा नहीं होता। वहां के लोग बड़े परेशान हैं। इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए, इस पर हमें सुना जाना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao. ...**(Interruptions)**... He can't hear. ...**(Interruptions)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: श्रीमन्, मैं यह कह रहा था कि जब सब कुछ तय है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब सब देख लिया गया है, TV और video पर सब कुछ देख लिया गया है कि मारने वाला व्यक्ति कौन है, इसके बावजूद minority के लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): सर, Leader of Opposition से कहिए कि सदन को चलने दें। इस तरह से सदन कैसे चलेगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**... पब्लिक हमें देख रही है। आज पहला दिन है और सदन को चलने नहीं दे रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... फिर कहते हैं कि प्राइवेट मेंबर्स बिज़नेस नहीं होता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What happened?... ये * हो गए हैं। Mr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao, you are blocking ...**(Interruptions)**... This I can't allow. ...**(Interruptions)**... Ghulam Nabiji, I can't allow this. You have to rein in this Member. Why does he do like this? ...**(Interruptions)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: ये * के लोग सारे देश में, खास तौर से जिन-जिन राज्यों में चुनाव होने वाले हैं, उन राज्यों में सांप्रदायिक सद्भाव खत्म करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। लोगों को communal line पर बांटने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और सत्ता के बल पर लोगों को उत्पीड़ित करने का काम कर रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं आपसे मांग करता हूं कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: उपसभापति महोदय, हम लोग भी इनसे रिवेस्ट करते हैं कि वे अपनी सीट पर वापस जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can take action against him. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, आज प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिजनेस है। ...(व्यवधान)... लोगों ने बहुत महत्वपूर्ण क्वेश्चन्स उठाने हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. ...(Interruptions)... I think you should take action against Dr. Ramachandra Rao. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: उपसभापति महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में कानून व्यवस्था नाम की कोई चीज नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you not take action against Dr. Ramachandra Rao? ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: आप इस कासगंज वाले मामले पर ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you not take action against him? ...(Interruptions)... No displaying of placard. ...(Interruptions)... I heard. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, उत्तर प्रदेश के कासगंज में सरकार के संरक्षण में जिस तरह से वारदात हुई है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैंने बोला कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: * के लोगों ने वहां पर जिस तरह से सांप्रदायिकता फैलायी है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(Interruptions)... I cannot give direction. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: वहां पर तिरंगा यात्रा के नाम पर धर्म और जातियों को भड़का दिया, वहां पर सरकार एक तरफा कार्रवाई कर रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप इसके बारे में नोटिस दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप लोग नोटिस दे दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं डिस्कस करूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, इनको वापस भेजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members, please. ...(Interruptions)... आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... प्रोफेसर साहब ने जो बोला है, मैंने उसको पूरा सुन लिया। ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने बोला कि नोटिस नहीं है, तो मैं क्या करूँ ? ...(व्यवधान)... आपका नोटिस नहीं आया। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(Interruptions)... I cannot direct the Government. ...(Interruptions)... It is for the Government. ...(Interruptions)... It is up to them. ...(Interruptions)... If you do not go back, I will adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions)... I will adjourn. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन: सर, कासगंज में जो दंगा हुआ है, वह सरकार के ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री वीर सिंह: सर, अगर 26 जनवरी को वहाँ के अधिकारी सचेत होते, तो यह दंगा नहीं होता। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Fifteen Members have got their Zero Hour submissions. ...(Interruptions)... I will be forced to adjourn the House unless you go back. ...(Interruptions)... Then, I will have to adjourn. ...(Interruptions)... I will have to adjourn. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members, I have got Zero Hour notices of fifteen hon. Members. ...(Interruptions)... I want to allow that. ...(Interruptions)... But if these Members are shouting slogans, I cannot do that. ...(Interruptions)... I will be forced to adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions)... I will adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, कासगंज में दंगे हो रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions)... I have no other way. ...(Interruptions)... No. ...(Interruptions)... Fifteen notices for Zero Hour are there. ...(Interruptions)... No, please. ...(Interruptions)... I will adjourn. ...(Interruptions)... I have no other go than adjourning the House if Members behave like this. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... This is unbecoming of Members to come and shout slogans instead of giving notice. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, हाउस adjourn कर दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is for the Government, not for me, to decide. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. ...(Interruptions)... I cannot direct the Government. ...(Interruptions)... If the Government wants, the Government can always reply. ...(Interruptions)... No one can intervene. I have no objection. ...(Interruptions)...

The House is adjourned up to 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at fourteen minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

REGARDING NOTICE FOR ZERO HOUR DISCUSSION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No.1, Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is the problem? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, before the House was adjourned...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, this is Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I want to know whether the word * is parliamentary or unparliamentary. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record and if there is anything unparliamentary, I will expunge it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said that I will go through the record and if there is anything unparliamentary, I will expunge. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, it is time for the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati, put the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): सर, पहले इन्होंने दिल्ली को उजाड़ दिया, अब सदन को उजाड़ रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इन्हें अभी सदस्य बने तीन दिन हुए हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are new Members. मेरी बात सुनिए, You are new Members, I will tell you the procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*... You give notice and we will consider it. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; for Monday. ...*(Interruptions)*... आपने Zero Hour adjourn कराया ..*(व्यवधान)*.. सुनिए, Shri Sanjay Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sanjay Singh, you listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sanjay Singh, you had given notice and the issue was for the Zero Hour... ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sanjay Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*... सुनिए, Shri Sanjay Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठिए।

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री विजय गोयल: आपने नोटिस देकर discussion मांगा है, सरकार बहस करने के लिए तैयार है। आप सदन को चलने दीजिए। ..(व्यवधान)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sanjay Singh. ...(Interruptions)... सुनिए, Shri Sanjay Singh. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सरकार आपकी है और आप सीलिंग नहीं रोक पा रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: आप बैठिए। Shri Sanjay Singh. ...(Interruptions)... Call him. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Sanjay Singh, now, you listen to me. ...(Interruptions)... You have to listen. ...(Interruptions)... आप सुनते नहीं हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरी बात सुनिए। आपने नोटिस दिया था, वह आज के Zero Hour में included था, लेकिन आपने Well of the House में आकर हाउस को disturb किया। ...(व्यवधान)... आप वापस जाइए। ..(व्यवधान).. Now, Question No. 1, Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati. Please put your question. ...(Interruptions)... Put your question. ...(Interruptions)...

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Improvement in distribution of ration

*1. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to bring in improvements in distribution of ration to the ration card holders;

(b) whether there is any proposal to introduce the biometric system in the distribution of ration through the fair price shops; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has examined the problems likely to occur to genuine beneficiaries, especially those living in remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) With the aim to improve the efficiency of the Public Distribution system and to address various challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains, elimination of fake and bogus ration cards etc., Government is implementing the scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations' in association with the States/UTs. The Scheme consists of activities, namely, digitization of ration cards/

beneficiaries and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management including online allocation of foodgrains, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms in all States/UTs.

The Scheme also includes modernising the foodgrains distribution process by installation of electronic Point of Sale (e-PoS) devices at Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for the biometric/Aadhaar authentication of eligible beneficiaries, electronic capturing of sale transactions at FPSs, etc. Presently, out of 5.27 lakh FPSs in the country, 2.94 lakh FPSs have ePoS devices.

This Department has issued clear instructions to all States/UTs that no beneficiary should be denied his/her entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains due to non-availability of Aadhaar or failure of biometric authentication due to network/connectivity/linking issues/ poor biometric of the beneficiary or other technical reasons.

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has any plan to verify the existing Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line ration cardholders based upon fresh survey since a very large number of families who are actually below poverty line have not been issued BPL ration cards and, hence, denied the facilities of the Public Distribution System, whereas a large number of well-to-do families have managed to get the BPL ration cards and are availing the facilities. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Put your question.
आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Sir, I had asked the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, sit down. Now, the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Sir, I had asked the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Can I repeat again? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, they want an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Sir, he has not replied. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, my supplementary question... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... संजय सिंह जी, आपने नोटिस दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Monday को discuss करेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अभी Question Hour है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): सर, सरकार बहस के लिए तैयार है। ..(व्यवधान) ..

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने जो चिंता व्यक्त की है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you stand up? ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. Why do you stand up? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: वह BPL परिवारों के लिए है और ...(व्यवधान)... BPL परिवारों को राशन कार्ड दिए जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि National Food Security Act ...(व्यवधान)... 2012 से लेकर BPL category कोई नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... भारत में जो Antyodaya Anna Yojana के अंतर्गत परिवार हैं, वे ढाई करोड़ परिवार हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... इसी प्रकार से भारत में हमारे पास priority household sector...(व्यवधान)... कुल मिलाकर 81.6 ...(व्यवधान)... करोड़ लोगों को ...(व्यवधान)... highly-subsidized अनाज दिए जाने का प्रावधान है, यह इसमें है। ...(व्यवधान)... जहां तक BPL परिवार या AAY राशन कार्ड का है, ...(व्यवधान)... उसका डिजिटाइजेशन किया गया है, ताकि जो गरीब परिवार हैं, उनको निश्चित रूप से ...(व्यवधान)... हर महीने अनाज मिले। ...(व्यवधान)... इस बात की व्यवस्था की गई है। ...(व्यवधान)... जहां AAY परिवारों की बात है, तो उनका पूरा ध्यान रखा जाएगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the second supplementary.

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Sir, I thank the Minister for the detailed reply but, further, I would like to know from him as to what timeline has been fixed for implementation of the measures proposed in this reply. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What happened? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY: Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we have already replied in detail about the measures taken by the Government. Even then, I would like to narrate first about End-to-End Computerization. In 2012-2017, Twelfth Five Year Plan में यह End-to-End Computerization का प्रावधान किया गया था उसके तहत ...(व्यवधान)... डिजिटाइज्ड राशन कार्ड ...(व्यवधान)... online procurement, इसी प्रकार से computerization of supply-chain and grievance redressal mechanism ये सारे सिस्टम हैं। इसी प्रकार से प्रत्येक दुकान पर electronic Point of Sale (e-PoS) machine देने का प्रावधान किया गया है, जिसमें Government of India, जिसमें गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया और राज्य सरकारें 50-50 per cent शेयर करेंगी। North-Eastern and special category के जो स्टेट्स हैं, तो 75 per cent by the Central Government and 25 per cent will be paid by the State Government. यह जो सारा प्रावधान किया गया है, वह End-to End Computerization के माफ़त किया गया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Vijayasai Reddy. ...(Interruptions)... Please wait, Mr. Vijayasai Reddy. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. LoP, please.

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: सर, लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के सभी MPs का दिल्ली में second home है। एक घर स्टेट में है, जिसमें हम रहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: سر، لوک سبھا اور راجیہ سبھا کے سبھی ایم-پیز کا دہلی میں سیکنڈ ہوم ہے۔ ایک گھر اسٹیٹ میں ہے، جس میں ہم رہتے ہیں --- (مداخلت)---

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, मेरा एक निवेदन है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप बोलें ...(व्यवधान)... आप इसके बाद बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप इसके बाद बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आपको को किसने रोका है? ...(व्यवधान)... आप इसके बाद बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के MPs जो इस सदन और दूसरे सदन के सदस्य हैं ...(व्यवधान)... यह उनका कर्तव्य बनता है कि वे दिल्ली के लोगों की मदद करें। ...(व्यवधान)... दिल्ली में ...(व्यवधान)... उजाड़े जा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... लाखों लोग उजाड़े जा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... सरकार इसके लिए जिम्मेदार है। ...(व्यवधान)... सरकार को यहां जवाब देना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... ये चुपचाप बैठकर देख नहीं सकते। ...(व्यवधान)... इसके लिए जवाब देना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... मंत्री जी जवाब दें ...(व्यवधान)... किस तरह से लाखों लोगों को, छोटे तबके के दुकानदारों को सड़क से उठाकर फेंक रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... एक तो आपकी गलत नीति से ...(व्यवधान)... पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में बिजनेस बंद हो गया ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: میں چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ بولیں --- (مداخلت)--- آپ اس کے بعد بولئے --- (مداخلت)--- آپ اس کے بعد بولئے --- (مداخلت)--- آپ کو کس نے روکا ہے؟ --- (مداخلت)--- آپ اس کے بعد بولئے --- (مداخلت)--- سر، پورے ہندوستان کے ایم-پیز جو اس سदन اور دوسرے سदन کے سدسے ہیں --- (مداخلت)--- یہ ان کا فرض بنتا ہے کہ وہ دہلی کی مدد کریں --- (مداخلت)--- دہلی میں --- (مداخلت)--- اجاڑے جا رہے ہیں --- (مداخلت)--- لاکھوں لوگ اجاڑے جا رہے ہیں۔ --- (مداخلت)--- سرکار اس کے لئے ذمہ دار ہے --- (مداخلت)--- سرکار کو یہاں جواب دینا چاہئے --- (مداخلت)--- یہ چپ چاپ بیٹھ کر نہیں دیکھ سکتے --- (مداخلت)--- اس کے لئے جواب دینا چاہئے --- (مداخلت)--- منتری جی جواب دیں --- (مداخلت)--- کس طرح سے لاکھوں لوگوں کو، چھوٹے طبقے کے دوکانداروں کو سڑک سے اٹھا کر پھینک رہے ہیں --- (مداخلت)--- ایک تو آپ کی غلط نیتی سے --- (مداخلت)--- پورے ہندوستان میں بزنس بند ہو گیا ہے --- (مداخلت)---

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, please. ...(Interruptions)... My question is.. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: वे सड़क पर दो रुपये कमाते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... आप उनको भी फेंक देते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: وہ سڑک پر دو روپے کماۓ ہیں --- (مداخلت) --- آپ ان کو بھی پھینک دیتے ہیں --- (مداخلت) ---

श्री संजय सिंह: उपसभापति जी, हम अपनी बात रख रहे थे। ...(व्यवधान)... हम अपनी बात रख रहे थे, पर यह सरकार सुनना नहीं चाहती है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: The LoP has spoken. Now let the House run. ...(Interruptions)... On behalf of all of us the LoP has summarized the issue. ...(Interruptions).. Let the House run. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me continue with the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)... My question is only this. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. My question is only this: In the morning the same subject was in the Zero Hour notices. We wanted to allow that but the same Members came and disturbed. Now in the Question Hour, they are coming and disturbing. Is it fair? ...(Interruptions)... Is it fair? ...(Interruptions)... Is it fair? That is all I wanted to say. ...(Interruptions)... So, I will continue with the Question Hour. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. ...(Interruptions)... I will continue with the Question Hour, Shri Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After this, I will call you. Don't worry. Shri Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: The Government of Andhra Pradesh has recently decided to convert 6,500 ration shops out of 28,000 ration shops that are located in Andhra Pradesh to malls and hand over them to the private business groups like Future Group and Reliance Retail.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of consumer Affairs whether the Government of India has granted any approval to convert the ration shops into business malls and hand over them to the private business institutions.

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: उपसभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात बताई है, उस संदर्भ में मैं उनसे निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आंध्र प्रदेश पहला स्टेट है, जिसके अंदर 100 परसेंट फेयर प्राइस शॉप्स में इ-पॉस मशीनें और ऑटोमाइजेशन है। जहां तक यह बात है कि कोई भी स्टेट राशन को किस प्रकार से डिस्ट्रिब्यूट करती है, whether cooperative society के मार्फत, whether Gram Panchayat के मार्फत, प्राइवेट डीलर के मार्फत, ये जो सारी बातें हैं या डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का

जो सिस्टम है, that depends upon the State Government. स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का काम है कि जो हाइली subsidized food grains हैं, उनका proper distribution हो। सही व्यक्ति तक, जो Right to beneficiary है, he should get the food grains. जहां तक मॉल की बात है, कई स्टेट्स में यह व्यवस्था है — क्योंकि हम लोग, चाहे वह राशन डीलर हो, चाहे वह सोसायटी हो, चाहे पंचायत हो या प्राइवेट संस्था हो, उसका जो प्रतिशत है, that is ₹ 70 per quintal. इस कारण से, in a month he gets around ₹ 6,000 or ₹ 7,000 only. इस कारण से कई स्टेट्स ने अन्नपूर्णा भंडार के नाम से, because distribution job is only for 4 or 5 days. पांच-छह दिन के अंदर he can distribute the foodgrains. उसके बाद उसको काम देने के लिए कई स्टेट्स द्वारा कुछ अन्य वस्तुएँ दे दी गई हैं कि वे ये-ये बेच सकते हैं। इनमें से कोई अन्नपूर्णा भंडार के नाम से है, कोई मॉल के नाम पर है, I don't agree with the malls, लेकिन सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का इसमें कोई रोल नहीं है, it is up to the State Governments कि वे अपने राशन डीलर के राशन के साथ क्या व्यवस्था करती हैं।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: उपसभापति जी, महाराष्ट्र में भी राशन की दुकान में राशन नहीं मिलता है। महोदय, बात ऐसी है कि जो सवाल श्री वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी साहब ने पूछा है, मेरा भी वही सवाल आ रहा है कि अभी सारी राशन की दुकानों पर रिलायंस के कंज्यूमर डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का बड़ा इदारा रहा है, मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सब भी उसके जरिये होने वाला है? यदि यह होगा तो उसको रोकने के लिए क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट यहां कुछ कर रही है?

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: उपसभापति जी, आपके मार्फत मैंने food grains में भी बताया है कि राशन की दुकानों पर वितरण का कार्य, that lies with the State Government, हमारा काम यहां से स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को राशन सप्लाई करना है। जहां तक प्रॉपर वितरण होने की बात है, यदि किसी भी प्रकार से बेनिफिशियरी को राशन नहीं मिलेगा, तो the Central Government will ask the State Government to do the right thing. जहां तक मॉल की बात है, अभी तक इस प्रकार का कोई भी प्रकरण हमारी नॉलेज में नहीं आया है। ऐसा प्रकरण हमारे विभाग की नॉलेज में या मंत्रालय की नॉलेज में भी नहीं है। यह बात जरूर है कि कुछ स्टेट्स में, जैसे कि मैंने पहले ही अन्नपूर्णा का बताया था, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने उन्हें कुछ आइटम्स की छूट दी है कि वहां पर साबुन है, तेल है — गांव में दुकान होती है, लेकिन कुछ स्टेट्स द्वारा उनको ये कुछ और आइटम्स बेचने की छूट दी गई है।

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Sir, my supplementary question is about the migrant workers who are not covered under the PDS.

Sir, the inter-State migration in 2016-17 stood at around nine million people. In urban areas today, about 33 per cent of the male workforce and 56 per cent of the female workforce comprises migrant workforce. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister if it is true that these nine million inter-State immigrants are denied access to ration under PDS. It is most unfortunate that they are told that they can get their legal entitlement only in their own States. Sir, these immigrants are mostly Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and they are very vulnerable. This anomaly must be rectified at the earliest if we believe in *sabka saath sabka vikaas*.

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: ऑनरेबल डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, माननीय सदस्य ने जो चिंता जताई है, वह काफी गंभीर है। यह बात सही है कि जो अधिकतर लेबर फोर्स माइग्रेशन की सिटीज के अंदर जा रही है, जो उनमें परमानेंट वहां सेटल हो गए हैं, उनके नाम तो गांवों से काट कर शहरों में कर दिए जाते हैं, इसमें कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, लेकिन जो केवल मात्र दो या तीन महीने के लिए शहर में जाते हैं, but their Ration Cards are lying in their villages, तो उनके लिए अभी तक विलेज के द्वारा ही व्यवस्था है। जहां तक जो अभी end-to-end computerisation within the State है, जैसे एक ही स्टेट का आदमी, अब जैसे आंध्र प्रदेश ने जिस प्रकार से किया है, जो एक नया फार्मुला है, इसके द्वारा कोई भी व्यक्ति अपनी राशन दुकान के अलावा, जो उसकी फिक्स्ड राशन शॉप है, उसके अलावा भी वह कहीं दूसरी जगह की राशन शॉप से खरीद कर सकता है, because data is there and computers are there, और इस कारण से वह कहीं से भी खरीद सकता है, यानी अधिकतर जो विदइन द स्टेट माइग्रेशन होता है, there is no problem for those people. जब इस प्रकार का यह पूरा आधार से लिंक हो जाएगा, वैसे अभी करीब 81.6 परसेंट हमारा आधार से लिंक हो चुका है, यदि दो स्टेट्स को छोड़ दें, तो 90 परसेंट हो जाता है, इससे I think they would be covered.

Production of honey

***2. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total production of honey in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the import and export of honey and honey related products during the aforesaid period;

(c) the details of the loans and assistance provided by the Government to the farmers of Himachal Pradesh for encouraging honey production farming during the aforesaid period;

(d) whether Government has introduced any scheme or policy for promotion and development of beekeeping/honey production farming in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

Statement

(a) The year-wise and State-wise details of honey production during the last three years, are given at Annexure-I (*See below*).

(b) The details of import and export of honey and bees wax for the last three years period, as per records of DGFT, are enclosed at Annexure-II (*See below*).

(c) Government does not provide any loan to farmers for encouraging honey production. The year-wise details of funds/subsidies/assistance provided to for encouraging farmers for beekeeping/honey production in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years period (2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18-as on date) are given as under:—

Sl.No.	Year	Assistance Provided/Funds Sanctioned/Released (₹ in Lakh)
1.	2015-16	45.93
2.	2016-17	45.66
3.	2017-18	153.00

(d) and (e) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, is implementing the programme Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for overall development of horticulture in the country. Under MIDH, among others, to promote beekeeping in the country, assistance is provided for various capacity building/HRD programmes (trainings and exposure visits of farmers/beekeepers, officers/field workers, etc., seminars/workshops, etc.), production of nucleus stock of honeybees, developing bee breeders, distribution of honey bee colonies, beehives, supers, etc. and complete set of beekeeping equipments under the component of “Pollination Support through Beekeeping”. The State Departments of Horticulture/ Agriculture are the implementing agencies for implementation of the Mission’s programmes/components in the State/field. National Bee Board (NBB), a society registered under Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860, has also been designated as a National Level Agency (NLA) for implementation of various activities/components for development of scientific beekeeping under MIDH.

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission is implementing Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for promotion of Khadi and Village Industries which includes providing assistance for production of Honey. Details of the scheme are as under:—

(i) PMEGP is the credit linked subsidy Scheme for setting up Khadi and village Industries units including honey production units by unemployed persons. The maximum cost of the project eligible for financing under PMEGP is ₹ 25.00 lakhs in Manufacturing Sector and ₹ 10.00 lakhs in Service Sector. Under this Scheme, any unemployed person may submit his application online. The scheme is being implemented through all Public Sector Banks, selected private sector banks and co-operative banks.

- (ii) Margin Money in the form of subsidy, provided according to categories of beneficiaries and geographical location of the unit, as per following details:—

Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP	Beneficiaries contributions (of the project cost)	Rate of subsidy (of the project cost)	
Area (location of the project/unit)		Urban	Rural
General category.	10%	15%	25%
Special (including SC/ST/OBC/ Minorities/Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically Handicapped, NER, Hill and Border Areas.	05%	25%	35%

DAC&FW and KVIC do not provide any loans to the farmers.

- ICAR – All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) Honey Bees and Pollinators (HB&P) having research plans to increase the genetic diversity of the existing stock of Apismellifera to breed more efficient strains.
- National Bee Board (NBB), DAC&FW, for promotion and development of scientific beekeeping/honey production farming in the country, has decided to set up Integrated Beekeeping Development Centre's (IBDCs)/Centre's of Excellence (CoEs) on beekeeping in the country. 12 IBDCs/CoEs, as role model for beekeeping, have been commissioned by NBB, DAC&FW under MIDH till date in 12 States, one each in, Haryana, Delhi, Bihar, Punjab, MP, UP, Manipur, Uttarakhand, J&K, TN, Karnataka and HP.
- The registration of beekeepers has also been started by National Bee Board to address the problem of traceability source of honey. NBB also provide insurance cover of ₹ 1.00 lakh to all registered beekeepers.

Annexure-I

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW)

*State-wise and Year-wise details of production of Honey in India
for three years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18*

Production of Honey in Metric Tonnes

Sl.No.	States	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (Estimates)
1.	Andhra Pradesh and Telengana	1650	1700	1870

Sl.No.	States	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (Estimates)
2.	Assam	850	1000	1200
3.	Bihar	8800	9000	10000
4.	Chhattisgarh	600	650	750
5.	Gujarat	300	450	550
6.	Haryana	4500	4000	4500
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5150	5200	5500
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1200	1150	2100
9.	Jharkhand	1200	1250	1350
10.	Kerala	2500	2700	3000
11.	Karnataka	2000	2000	2100
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1850	2150	2250
13.	Maharashtra	1300	1500	1650
14.	Meghalaya	200	200	250
15.	Mizoram	150	150	180
16.	Nagaland	430	450	550
17.	Odisha	1000	1250	1350
18.	Punjab	14900	15000	15500
19.	Rajasthan	4600	6000	8500
20.	Sikkim	320	350	400
21.	Tamil Nadu	1500	1800	1900
22.	Uttar Pradesh	15000	17000	18900
23.	Uttarakhand	2100	2500	2700
24.	West Bengal	15600	15800	16500
25.	Others	1200	1250	1450
TOTAL		88900	94500	105000

Annexure-II*Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW)**A. Details of Export of Honey and other Beekeeping related products**viz. Beewax during last three years*

(Quantity in Metric tonnes)

Sl.No.	HS Code	Commodity	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 upto September, 2017
1.	4090000	Natural Honey	38177.04	45055.45	27882.00
2.	152190	Bees Wax W/N Coloured	173.02	277.43	138.29

*B. Details of Import of Honey and other Beekeeping related products**viz. Beewax during the last three years*

(Quantity in Metric tonnes)

Sl.No.	HS Code	Commodity	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 upto September, 2017
1.	4090000	Natural Honey	423.08	161.7	158.15
2.	152190	Bees Wax W/N Coloured	25.47	88.7	10.33

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहती हूँ। माननीय मंत्री ने बहुत विस्तार से जवाब दिया है, लेकिन जो मैंने पूछा था, उसका जवाब कहीं पर भी नहीं है। मैंने इनसे पूछा था कि आप मुझे बताइए कि इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट कितना हो रहा है? इसका जवाब यहां नदारद है। दूसरी बात मार्केटिंग की है, आप बहुत फैसिलिटीज दे रहे हैं, ट्रेनिंग दे रहे हैं, बीकीपिंग की रिसर्च हो रही है, लेकिन जो मार्केटिंग है, उसके लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं? आज जो यूथ इसमें जाता है, वह सड़कों के किनारे अपनी शहद की बोतलों और उनको लेकर बैठा रहता है। चूंकि वहां मार्केटिंग की कोई भी व्यवस्था नहीं है, इसलिए उनको बिल्कुल घाटा होता है और उनको अनएंप्लॉयमेंट का या जो दूसरे फायदे होने हैं, वे जीरो हो जाते हैं? मैं इस बारे में जानना चाहती हूँ।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने जो उत्तर यहां ले किया है, उसके अनुबंध 2 में बहुत स्पष्ट दिया है, जिसमें एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट का पूरा विवरण है। फिर भी मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमने प्राकृतिक शहद का 2015-16 में 38 हजार मीट्रिक टन, 2016-17 में 45 हजार मीट्रिक टन और 2017-18 में सितंबर तक का छह महीने का जो आंकड़ा है, 27 हजार मीट्रिक टन निर्यात किया और ऐसा अनुमान है कि 2017-18 में भी इसमें वृद्धि होगी। लगातार हम निर्यात में वृद्धि कर रहे हैं। जहां तक आयात का सवाल है, उसका भी अनुबंध में दिया हुआ है कि 2015-16 में 423 मीट्रिक टन का हम आयात करते थे, जो 2016-17 में 161 मीट्रिक टन और

2017-18 में 158 मीट्रिक टन आयात हुआ। यह पूरा विवरण इसमें संलग्न है। जहां तक मार्केटिंग का सवाल है, अभी दिल्ली में मदर डेयरी के साथ इसको अटैच किया है और अन्य राज्यों से बातचीत करके हर जगह, जहां दूध कलेक्शन और बिक्री के सेंटर बने हुए हैं, उनसे हम इसे जोड़ना चाहते हैं, लेकिन दिल्ली में मदर डेयरी के साथ काम शुरू हो गया है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: उपसभापति जी, इन्होंने beneficiaries के बारे में बताया कि उनका contribution General Category में 10 परसेंट और Special Category including SC/ST/OBC/ Minorities/Women/Ex-servicemen/Physically Handicapped/NER/Hill and Border Areas में 5 परसेंट है एवं rate of subsidy Urban Area में 15 परसेंट और Rural Area में 25 परसेंट है। मैं यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि जब unemployment इतना ज्यादा है, आप नौकरियां दे नहीं सकते, आप केवल जुमले ही करते हैं, अभी जो बजट आया, उसमें भी यही कहा गया कि हम इतनी नौकरियां दे देंगे, तो क्या आप youth के लिए honey bee के लिए, शहद के लिए कोई awareness camp लगा रहे हैं? क्या उनको educate किया जा रहा है कि आप इस तरफ जाइए और ऐसा काम कीजिए?

इसके साथ-साथ, मैं यह भी पूछना चाहती हूँ कि क्या शहद की quality के लिए कोई monitoring की जा रही है, क्योंकि आज शहद में भी बहुत ज्यादा मिलावट आ रही है? क्या आपने इसके लिए कोई scientific तरीका रखा है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, प्रश्न के उत्तर में बहुत स्पष्ट रूप से बताया गया है कि MSME मंत्रालय में खादी और ग्रामोद्योग आयोग के माध्यम से शहद उत्पादन हेतु सहायता दी जाती है। इसमें इसका विवरण दिया गया है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कितनी सहायता दी जाती है और शहरी क्षेत्रों में कितनी सहायता दी जाती है। खादी एवं ग्रामोद्योग आयोग के द्वारा लगातार इस विषय में प्रयत्न होते हैं कि छोटे-छोटे कुटीर उद्योग स्थापित हों, फिर वहां से उनके प्रशिक्षण वगैरह की व्यवस्था होती है। अगर माननीय सदस्या कुछ और विशेष जानकारी चाहेंगी, तो मैं उनको इस मंत्रालय से इसके बारे में जानकारी मुहैया कराऊंगा। इसमें इसके बारे में स्पष्ट रूप से दिया हुआ है। इसके साथ ही Training के लिए भी एक NHM scheme है, जिसके तहत training दी जाती है और राज्यों को पैसा दिया जाता है। मैं आपको उसका विवरण भी उपलब्ध करा दूंगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you. Shri Manish Gupta.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, मैंने शहद की quality के बारे में भी पूछा था, क्योंकि इसमें मिलावट आ रही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay. It is over. He replied to that. Shri Manish Gupta.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: मैंने आपको NHM के बारे में बताया। इसके साथ ही राष्ट्रीय बागवानी बोर्ड और MIDH के तहत हम बड़े पैमाने पर इस काम को करते हैं और हम इसे राज्यों के माध्यम से करते हैं। हमारे वैज्ञानिक एक किट विकसित करने में लगे हुए हैं, ताकि इसकी ठीक से जाँच हो सके।

SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Minister has very elaborately pointed out details in his reply relating to the Government policy for promotion of bee keeping and production of honey. The problem is that, worldwide, today, the adulteration of honey is a major issue, and they keep using antibiotics and for increasing production. There are several agencies in India who are entrusted with the task of regulating honey production. One is the PFA Rules' 1955 which is administered by the Food Safety Authority. The second is the Bureau of Indian Standards, BIS, and the third one is the Honey Grading and Marking Rules which is administered by the Agriculture Ministry. The question is: Is the Agriculture Ministry coordinating the work of these agencies to ensure that honey is not adulterated?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, 2006 के पहले यह बोर्ड private लोगों के पास था। 2006 में इसका पुनर्गठन किया गया। उसके बाद सरकार इसमें आई और उस बोर्ड को पैसा देना भी शुरू किया। उसके तहत इन सब कामों के लिए पूरा तंत्र विकसित किया गया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. But, the question is, whether you are taking some steps to ensure that honey is not adulterated. That is the point.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, मैंने पहले सवाल के उत्तर में बताया था कि हमारे वैज्ञानिक इसके लिए एक किट विकसित कर रहे हैं, ताकि हम इसकी grading कर सकें, माप कर सकें और मिलावट का भी पता लगा सकें। यह मैंने पहले बताया है।

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी से इसी संबंध में मेरा एक प्रश्न है। अभी आपने मिलावट के संबंध में जवाब दिया है, इसके बावजूद मिलावट हो रही है। लोग वजन कम करने के लिए शहद खाते हैं, लेकिन अशुद्ध होने के कारण इससे वजन बढ़ जाता है। क्या आपने इस प्रकार की कोई विधि या नियम बनाया है, जिससे आम जनता स्वयं इसकी शुद्धता की जांच कर सके? क्या आपने इसके संबंध में कोई अध्ययन करवाया है कि आम जनता इसकी जांच कैसे करेगी? आज आम जनता चीनी मिला हुआ शहद खाती है। लोग इसे स्वास्थ्य लाभ के लिए खाते हैं, लेकिन इससे स्वास्थ्य बिगड़ जाता है। आम जनता यह कैसे जानेगी कि हम इसकी शुद्धता की जांच कैसे करें? कृपया आप इसके संबंध में जानकारी देने का कष्ट करें।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, आम जनता इसकी जांच कैसे करे, इस प्रश्न का उत्तर बड़ा कठिन है, लेकिन मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहां सात लैब्स हैं, जहां इसकी जांच होती है। हमारे पास जब भी कोई शिकायत आती है, तो वहीं इसकी जांच होती है। हमारे यहां वैज्ञानिकों की टीम लगातार इस दिशा में प्रयास कर रही है। इसके साथ-साथ नये-नये कीटों का निर्माण भी किया जाता है।

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू: डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, शहद धरती के ऊपर शुद्ध अमृत है और इसके बहुत सारे लाभ हैं। In this backdrop, we need to understand that we can just procure and not produce honey. But is the Union Government having a programme

to promote the genetic diversity of honey procurement? The available honey is being doubted by all consumers. There is a National Bee Board to encourage beekeeping. So far in these years gradually we are having the capacity of one lakh metric tonnes per annum. I want to know whether the Union Government is contemplating to focus on cluster-wise concentration to get perfect honey which is not adulterated and to discourage the imports because we are having the vast forest areas where we can procure extraordinary honey but the genetic diversity promotion has not taken shape and the National Bee Board is not in perfect order to cater to the requirement. In this background, are you going to expand this activity so that we can procure huge quantity of honey throughout the country? Thank you, Sir.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, आप देखेंगे कि 2006 से हमने संस्थागत रूप से इसके उत्पादन को शुरू किया है और 2006 से 2013-14 तक हमने इसमें मात्र 10 करोड़ रुपये ही लगाए थे। हमारा स्वभाव इसमें बहुत कम इन्वेस्टमेंट करने का रहा है। अभी भी, 2014-15 से 2017-18 तक हमने मात्र 29 करोड़ रुपये ही इसमें लगाए हैं। अभी तक हमने 12 राज्यों में मधुमक्खी पालन केंद्र या शहद उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित किए हैं। हमारा लक्ष्य है कि आने वाले समय में सभी राज्यों में ऐसे केंद्र स्थापित हों, इसके लिए हम सब प्रकार की व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित कर रहे हैं।

Railways' plan to overcome loss accrual

*3. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for losses to Railways at present in spite of rise in fares of passenger/goods;

(b) whether Government is contemplating any plan to overcome the losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has planned to change the previous structure of income sources to patch up the losses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Overall there is no loss to Railways. The surplus generated by Indian Railways and its operating ratio during the last three years is as follows:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Surplus	Operating Ratio (%)
2014-15	7664.94	91.25
2015-16	10505.97	90.48
2016-17	4912.99	96.5

Indian Railways carries out certain transport activities which are uneconomic in nature but carried out in the larger interest of society. Losses incurred on this account are termed as Social Service Obligation on Indian Railways. Details of these obligations for the last three years are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	Items	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Loss on Coaching Services:—			
	(i) Suburban Service	4755.62	5200.28	5388.84
	(ii) Non-Suburban Services	28735.33	30718.11	34176.55
	(iii) Total (i) + (ii)	33490.95	35918.39	39565.39
2.	Loss on essential commodities carried below cost of operation	68.92	41.20	42.06
	TOTAL (1+2)	33,559.87	35959.59	39607.45

In order to contain losses in these activities, besides rationalization of fare and freight rates, efforts are on to improve passenger services and realign passenger fares accordingly. Some of the initiatives taken include:—

- (i) Introduction of new AC EMU services and Anubhuti coaches with special fare structure.
- (ii) Introduction of new brand trains like Gatimaan Express, Humsafar Express, Tejas Express, Antyodaya Express, Mahamana Express with additional facilities where tariff structure is in line with better services.
- (iii) Introduction of Flexi-fare system in Rajdhani/Duronto and Shatabdi trains in 2016-17.
- (iv) Augmentation of ticket selling capacity through operation of Automated Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), ticket booking through mobile phones, utilising the services of ticketing agents like Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK) to facilitate ticket purchase.

- (v) Organizing intensive ticket checking drives including fortress checks.
 - (vi) Augmentation of on-board capacity by attachment of additional coaches, running of special trains (including at special fares) during festivals and holidays, running of Suvidha trains on variable fare structure.
 - (vii) Introduction of special measures to increase passenger earnings through schemes like booking of tickets under Tatkal Quota, Premium Tatkal Quota, Flexi-fare system, etc.
 - (viii) Voluntary forgoing of concession for senior citizens, wherein they have option to forgo concession by 100% or 50%.
- (d) and (e) Changes made in tariff structure and new sources for generating revenue include:-
- (1) Under Passenger segment, increase in passenger fare in 2014-15 by 14.2%, except Second Class (ordinary) Suburban fare upto a distance of 80 km.; increase in platform ticket rate from ₹ 5 to ₹ 10; increase in the minimum chargeable passenger fare for Second Class Non-suburban services at par with the rate of platform tickets;
 - (2) Under Freight business, freight rates have been rationalized and various freight policy initiatives have been introduced to make it more competitive in comparison to other modes of transport. These include:-
 - (i) Policy on Long Term Tariff Contract with key freight customers;
 - (ii) New Station to Station Rates policy;
 - (iii) Liberalized Automatic Freight Rebate Scheme in Empty Flow Directions;
 - (iv) Distance restriction eased in Mini rake Loading from 400 km. to 600 km.;
 - (v) Re-introduction of short lead concession and reduction in minimum distance for charge from 125 km. to 100 km.;
 - (vi) De-notification of additional 44 commodities from the notified list and bringing them under Freight All Kind (FAK) rates for expanding the freight basket;
 - (vii) Exemption from weighment of “Standard Bags of uniform size” in container traffic to further lower operational time and improve fluidity;
 - (viii) Rationalization of Policy guidelines on Merry Go Round (MGR) System to facilitate transportation of coal from mines to power houses near pit heads;

- (ix) Withdrawal of Port Congestion Charge from 13.04.2016, leading to freight on imports have become cheaper by 10%.
 - (x) Further, double stack dwarf container shall be introduced as a new delivery model to increase loadability and attract new traffic.
- (3) To improve parcel earnings, powers for fixation of reserve price have been delegated to Zonal Railways to make the Leased Parcel Traffic Scheme liberal, customer-friendly and market-oriented by modification in Comprehensive Parcel Leasing Policy (CPLP), Parcel Cargo Express Trains (PCET) policy. Similar delegation has been made to Zonal Railways for charging of rates to improve non-leased parcel traffic carried in Brake-vans.
- (4) Apart from the traditional sources of income, efforts are being made to tap Non-fare earnings to augment income resources. These include initiatives like:—
- (i) Out of home advertising policy to allow monetization of Railway assets by means of conventional advertising, advertising on trains and advertising at areas not hitherto used viz, area along track, road over bridges, level crossing gates etc;
 - (ii) Content on demand allowing monetization of entertainment-based services on trains and stations;
 - (iii) App based cab services; integrated Mobile App based services etc.
- (5) Further, vacant land which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs is proposed for utilisation in interim period for commercial development through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA). Presently 54 sites measuring 189 hectares approx. identified by Railways and RLDA, having revenue potential of about ₹ 14000 crore have been entrusted to RLDA.

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any studies are being made to ascertain the revenue losses in the Railways due to the instances of wasteful expenditure and operational inefficiencies within the organization particularly those not brought out by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his Reports presented during the last two-three years. If so, what steps are being contemplated or proposed to be taken to reduce losses on this account?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to correct the impression of the hon. Member that the Railways is in losses, the Railways is not in losses. Certainly, because we have not increased the fares for about four years

from now after 2014-15 Budget, in the last four years, there has been no increase in fares either on passenger or freight, therefore, certainly there has been stress on the Budget of the Railways and the expenditure of the Railways. More so, with the implementation of the Pay Commission, which incurred an additional expenditure of about ₹ 15,000 crores, plus, about two-three thousand crores in the current year because of the allowances, as per the Seventh Pay Commission, and the impact on pension of ₹ 7,000 crores per year, the Railways, in fact, has added an additional expenditure of ₹ 20,000 to ₹ 22,000 crores. Within the existing revenues and without fare increase, we have been able to maintain the profits in the Railways. As regards the inefficiency or any items that come to our notice whether through CAG Report or outside, of that, this is an ongoing, continuous process and I can assure the hon. House, through you, Sir, that, we believe, we shall be able to bring back the operating ratios, improve the efficiency of different aspects of rail working through the introduction of better services, through the introduction of more non-fare revenue, through monetisation of assets. And I am fairly confident that in the years to come, with the expanded network that we are creating through the Dedicated Freight Corridors and high speed bullet train project and also doubling the electrification which alone will save about ₹ 10,000 crores annually, all of these steps put together, we are confident that after absorbing this huge additional expenditure, we would continue to maintain profits.

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, recently, a number of reports have appeared in media that Railways are losing revenue on account of low occupancy in certain categories in long distance trains because of comparatively low fares being offered by airlines operating in the country. Will the Railways Minister please elaborate on the plans, if any, being chalked out by his Ministry to minimize losses being incurred on such passenger operations?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, the occupancy in trains depends on the time of the season, off-season and peak season. It is a regular ongoing process. Having said that, there has been a lot of discussion and debate about less occupancy in certain trains, particularly, where air fares are very competitive. We have got a report from a very high powered Committee where we had also included representatives of the airline industry and the hotel industry to get a feel of what could be a more dynamically profitable way to set the fares so that during the off-season we could possibly even give discounts to attract more traffic and the fares would self adjust themselves through technology, through artificial intelligence or algorithms to have more occupancy and improve our revenues.

श्री अमर शंकर साबले: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यात्रियों का किराया, after cancellation of the ticket, कितने दिनों में वापस करना चाहिए और अब कितने दिनों में वापस दिया जाता है?

श्री पीयूष गोयल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि यदि टिकट को online book करते हैं तो टिकट कैंसिलेशन के बाद पैसा नियमित समय में यात्री के बैंक खाते में चला जाना चाहिए। इस समय मुझे इसके बारे में exact information नहीं है कि कितने दिन में जाता है और इसका क्या process है। मैं उसे देख कर माननीय सदस्य को लिखित में जवाब दे दूंगा।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I have a technical question and I request the hon. Minister to give me a technical answer and not a political answer which he normally does. Sir, one of the objectives of merging the Railway Budget with the General Budget was that the social obligations that are borne by the Railways would be borne by the General Budget. According to the hon. Minister's answer, the Railways had a social obligation of roughly ₹ 40,000 crores. What I would like to know is, whether there is a road map that over the next 'x' number of years, the Railways would be freed of this burden and this ₹ 40,000 crores or thereabouts would be absorbed by the General Budget by your Government in the remaining one year and by the successive Government after newly formed.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, that is a very good question the hon. Member has raised. First of all, let me assure him that we will be back in the Government in 2019. So, our Government will have to probably continue to finish the process of taking it forward and absorbing these losses and bearing the burden of these losses, but as regards the social obligations, my own experience of five months tells me that these social obligations in many cases can very well be maintained within the existing structure of the Railways and can be absorbed by the Railways. We have a lot of scope to improve the efficiency of our freight traffic. For example, I will just share with the hon. Members, through you, Sir, the signaling system. When I took charge and started studying what is happening, I realized that we have a hundred-year old signaling system! We still have trains running on red, green, yellow/amber and deciding whether train can move forward. For example, we are all suffering due to delay and punctuality of trains in fog. Similarly, the headway between two trains suddenly increases significantly, because loco driver is always worried that he should not cross danger signal and, possibly, cause a collision.

I have already initiated a dialogue with the experts in the industry. We are looking at transforming the entire signaling system of 1.10 lakh kms. of railways over the next 5-6 years. It is 5 or 6 years, because there is no capacity anywhere in the world. Sir, I am going in for the most modern signaling system — ETCS Level 2. It is the most modern signaling system. This can help us ...(Interruptions)... I am replying to your question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please listen to the Minister.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, the moment I change the signaling system, I almost double the carrying capacity of the Railways. Once I double the carrying capacity, the social obligation, which is after all of the nation and collectively all of us, is achieved without any problem.

Hon. Members of Parliament continuously come to me for stoppages, new trains, etc. They also demand for new trains in areas where there is not much demand, but there is a social obligation. Recently, I started a train in a LWE-infested area in Chhattisgarh. This is for the first time that a train is going into deep interiors of the LWE area. Now, all these social obligations, I think, are no burden, but should be borne by the Railways. We may have to continue to increase the social obligation in the years to come. With increased efficiency, I am sure, the Railways will live up to the expectations of the people of India. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, when the Operating Ratio is 95 per cent, from where will you get money? How will you do it? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, allow him a supplementary. He wants to ask a supplementary.

श्री राम विचार नेताम: डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा कि हमारी सरकार आने के बाद जिस प्रकार से रेलवे में आमूल-चूल परिवर्तन हुआ है, उससे निश्चित तौर पर देश में एक क्रांतिकारी निर्णय का स्वागत हो रहा है। *...(व्यवधान)...* उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस प्रकार से रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा स्पेशल ट्रेन्स में, चाहे वह राजधानी हो, दूरंतो हो या शताब्दी हो, इन ट्रेन्स में डायनेमिक फ्लेक्सी फेयर लागू किया गया है, इसकी वजह से बहुत सारे यात्रियों को परेशानी होती है और यहां तक कि इसकी वजह से किराया दोगुना हो जाता है। कहीं-कहीं तो प्लेन का किराया भी ट्रेन से कम होता है और प्लेन से भी अधिक किराया ट्रेन में फ्लेक्सी फेयर के कारण देना पड़ता है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इसकी समीक्षा करके, जो वस्तुस्थिति है, जोकि वास्तव में व्यावहारिक नहीं है, उसे व्यावहारिक बनाने की दिशा में आपके पास बहुत सारी मांगें आई हैं, तो उसके आधार पर इसकी समीक्षा करके क्या वापस लेंगे?

श्री पीयूष गोयल: महोदय, मैंने अभी माननीय सांसद दुंगरपुर जी को कहा कि इसके बारे में हमारे पास डिप्टेल में एक रिपोर्ट आई है कि कैसे इसको फ्लेक्सी फेयर के बदले डायनेमिक फेयर किया जाए, जो समय-समय के हिसाब से, डिमांड-सप्लाई के हिसाब से दोनों तरफ जायेगा, ऊपर भी जायेगा और नीचे भी आयेगा, जिससे एक सामान्य यात्री को लगभग balance हो जायेगा। यह कभी सस्ता मिलेगा और कभी महंगा मिलेगा। परन्तु इस फ्लेक्सी फेयर पर पूरे तरीके से पुनर्विचार करने की बातचीत मंत्रालय में चल रही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Number 4. Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, Rajeev Shukla wants to ask a supplementary.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, let me ask a supplementary. The hon. Minister is willing to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... When the operational cost is 95 per cent, where from you get money for this? ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, वे खुश हैं। वे जवाब देना चाह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already called him.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: वे जवाब देना चाह रहे हैं, तो आपको क्या परेशानी है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are no supplementaries beyond three. The practice in the House is to permit only three supplementaries. I don't want to change it today. Yes; Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

Welfare measures for farmers and farm labourers

*4. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated any action to put in place welfare measures for farmers, small and marginal farmers and farm labourers, above 60 years of age;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Statement

(a) to (c) The Department is implementing various schemes for the welfare of farmers including small and marginal farmers and farm labourers of all age groups including those above 60 years of age. The strategy is to improve net returns to the farmers by enabling them to realise higher yields at lower cost and benefit from better market prices. Some important schemes include Soil Health Card scheme (SHC), Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), etc.

Under Interest Subvention Scheme, short-term crop loan upto ₹ 3.00 lakh is provided to farmers at a subvented interest rate of 7% per annum. Further, in the case of farmers, who promptly repay their crop loans as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks, 3% prompt repayment incentive is granted to such farmers. Thus, the effective interest rate for the short-term crop loan is 4% per annum.

In order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against warehouse receipts, 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 the harvest at the same rate as available to crop loan against negotiable warehouse receipt in Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) accredited warehouses.

Under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo, subsidy is provided to the farm size limited to 4 hectare, in majority of its interventions. Also, small and marginal farmers are mobilized to form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/Farmer Interest Group (FIG) for aggregation and economies of scale. FPOs are eligible for financial assistance under MIDH. The Mission also plays a vital role to enhance income of farmers through various interventions, such as, diversification to High Value Horticulture of Orchards and Plantation crops, Vineyards, vegetables and flower gardens, Bee keeping, Mushroom Cultivation and off season vegetables. In certain components like cultivation of flowers in open fields, there is a provision to provide higher rate of assistance for small and marginal farmers for upliftment of small and marginal farmers.

Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), at least 33% of funds are earmarked for small and marginal farmers.

Under the Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) under the main Mission *i.e.* National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), it is proving a suitable platform for converging all activities for inclusive growth of agricultural mechanization by providing a 'single window' approach for implementation with a special focus on small and marginal farmers.

Under the Per Drop More Crop (micro irrigation) at least 50% of the allocation is to be utilized for small and marginal farmers. Further, 10% additional financial assistance is available to small and marginal farmers as compared to other farmers. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) guidelines also envisage that at least 50% of the allocation is to be utilized for small and marginal farmers *i.e.* for Rainfed Area Development (RAD) and Sub Mission on Agro Forestry (SMAF) Schemes.

Under the Soil Health Card scheme (SHC) assistance is provided to all State Governments to evaluate soil health in all farm holdings across the country and issue Soil Health Cards to farmers (including small and marginal farmers) regularly in a cycle of two years.

Joint Liability Group is an informal group comprising 4 to 10 individuals coming together for the purpose of availing bank loan on individual basis or through group mechanism against mutual guarantee. The JLG mode of financing serves as collateral substitute for loans to be provided to the target group *i.e.* small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, share croppers, etc. It builds mutual trust and confidence between the bank and the target group and minimizes the risks in the loan portfolio for the banks through group dynamics, cluster approach, peer education and credit discipline. The objective of the JLG mode of financing is to provide food security to vulnerable section by enhanced agriculture production, productivity and livelihood promotion. JLGs can also easily serve as a conduit for technology transfer, facilitating common access to market information, training and technology dissemination in activities like soil testing, training and assessing input requirements, etc.

The Scheme for financing of Joint Liability Groups of Tenant Farmers was started by NABARD in 2005-06. The scheme was extended to non-farm sector from 2009 onwards. Thus, JLGs consists of farmers and non-farmers. The announcement of Union Budget for 2014-15 for financing of 5 lakh Joint Liability Groups of 'Bhoomi Heen Kisan' (landless farmers) has given further credence to efforts of NABARD in innovating and reaching out to the landless farmers through JLG scheme of financing. Financing of 25.42 lakh Joint Liability Groups from 2014 to 2017 during last 3 years has been done as compared to 6.7 lakh JLGs during the 7 years from 2007 to 2014. ₹ 27,929.67 crore were made available to JLGs during the last three years from 2014 to September, 2017 as compared to ₹ 6,630 crore made available to JLGs during 2007 to 2014.

Further, there are various other welfare schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government for all including small and marginal farmers and farm labourers above 60 years of age, like:-

- (i) **Atal Pension Yojana (APY):** This scheme is a periodic contribution based pension plan where the subscribers would receive a guaranteed minimum pension of ₹ 1000 to ₹ 5000 per month, at the age of 60 years, depending on their contribution. All Indian citizens having valid bank account and between the age of 18 to 40 years of age are eligible. APY will focus on all citizens in the unorganised sector.
- (ii) **Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS):** Under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the IGNOAPS is applicable to aged persons belonging to Below Poverty Line category, both in rural and urban areas at the rate of ₹ 200 per month falling in the age group of 60-79 years and at the rate of ₹ 500 per month for ages above 80 years. Currently over 2.12 crore beneficiaries are covered under the scheme.

- (iii) **Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY):** This is a centrally sponsored scheme to provide health insurance coverage of ₹ 30,000/- per annum to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families and 11 other defined categories of Unorganized Workers. Senior Citizens Health Insurance Scheme (SCHIS) as a top up over existing RSBY scheme has been implemented from 01.04.2016 for senior citizens aged 60 years and above. SCHIS provides enhanced coverage of ₹ 30,000 per senior citizen in the family enrolled under RSBY.

All farmers including small and marginal farmers and farm labourers belonging to BPL and other categories are eligible for health insurance benefits under RSBY.

- (iv) **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY):** Under PMSBY, the risk coverage will be ₹ 2 lakh for accidental death and full disability and ₹ 1 lakh for partial disability on the payment of premium of ₹ 12 per annum. The scheme will be available to people in the age group of 18 to 70 years with a bank account, from where the premium would be collected through the facility of “auto-debit”.
- (v) **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY):** To protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to the uncertain market conditions, as also to provide social security during old age, Government launched a simplified scheme of assured pension of 8% called the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana. This scheme has been launched through Life Insurance Corporation of India. As per the scheme, on payment of an initial lump sum amount ranging from a minimum purchase price of ₹ 1.50 lakh for a minimum pension of ₹ 1000 pm to a maximum purchase price of ₹ 7.50 lakh for a maximum pension of ₹ 5000 pm, subscribers will get an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum, payable monthly/quarterly/half-yearly/annually.
- (vi) **Integrated Programme of Older Persons (IPOP):** The scheme is being implementing to improve the quality of life of senior citizens. Under the Scheme, financial assistance up to 90% of project cost is provided to Government/Non Government Organisation/Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies etc. for running and maintenance of old age homes, day care centres, mobile medicare units etc.
- (vii) **Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY):** Under this scheme, aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category who suffer from age related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth, loco-motor disabilities etc. to restore near normalcy in their bodily functions.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: The hon. Minister, in his five-page reply to my main question, has been pleased to highlight a long list of welfare measures for small and marginal farmers and farm labourers. Therefore, my first supplementary, through you, Sir, to the hon. Minister is this. To what extent and in how many cases these welfare measures, mentioned by the hon. Minister, have been effective in reducing or arresting the farmers' suicides, in the past three years, in the country?

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह): महोदय, किसानों की आत्महत्या के संबंध में गृह मंत्रालय से हमारे पास रिपोर्ट आती है। चूंकि मूल प्रश्न में यह नहीं था, इसलिए मैं इससे संबंधित आंकड़ा माननीय सदस्य को लिखित रूप में भिजवा दूंगा।

आपका जो सवाल है, वह 60 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के किसानों, छोटे एवं सीमांत किसानों और कृषि श्रमिकों के लिए कल्याणकारी उपाय के संबंध में है। किसानों के सशक्तीकरण के लिए हमारी जितनी भी योजनाएं हैं, उनमें आयु की सीमा नहीं है। उनमें 65 वर्ष के किसान भी हैं, 70 वर्ष तक के भी किसान हैं। इस तरह की जितनी भी योजनाएं चल रही हैं, उन सभी का हमने विवरण दिया है, लेकिन खास तौर से कुछ ऐसी योजनाएं हैं, जिनमें आयु सीमा है, जैसे अटल पेंशन योजना है। इस योजना में यह प्रावधान है कि 60 वर्ष की आयु के बाद ही एक हजार, दो हजार या पांच हजार रुपए तक का पेंशन देने की व्यवस्था है और अभी तक इस योजना से लगभग 85 लाख किसान लाभान्वित हुए हैं। किसान का मतलब यह है कि जो नौकरी-पेशा नहीं हैं। इस तरह के किसानों की बहुत बड़ी संख्या है, जो नौकरी-पेशा नहीं हैं।

इसी तरह से प्रधान मंत्री सुरक्षा बीमा योजना है। इसमें भी 60 वर्ष की आयु से अधिक के किसान शामिल हैं। इस तरह से कुछ योजनाओं में तो आयु सीमा है, जैसे प्रधानमंत्री वय वंदना योजना है। इसमें 60 वर्ष या इससे अधिक की आयु सीमा है।

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, my supplementary was altogether different.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. You will have a chance for second supplementary.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, हम राज्यों के माध्यम से जो वेलफेयर की योजनाएं चलाते हैं, उनका विवरण हमने इसमें दिया है। उनमें कोई आयु सीमा नहीं है, लेकिन कई कल्याणकारी योजनाएं हैं, जिनकी हमने चर्चा की, उनमें 60 वर्ष से अधिक के किसान या मजदूर शामिल हैं, जैसे Joint Liability Group है, अब इधर चार वर्षों के अंदर जो 25 लाख Joint Liability Groups बनाए गए हैं, पहले भी 5 लाख बने थे, इसमें सीमा नहीं है, लेकिन जो भूमिहीन मजदूर हैं या एकदम छोटे किसान हैं, उनका नाबार्ड के माध्यम से Joint Liability Group बनता है और उनको ऋण मुहैया कराया जाता है। ऐसे 25 लाख Joint Liability Groups इन चार सालों के अंदर बने हैं। हमारी कई योजनाएं चल रही हैं, जिनकी हमने चर्चा की है और बाकी का विस्तार से वर्णन हमने उसमें दिया है।

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, before seeking my second supplementary, I would like to seek your protection because my first supplementary has not

been replied. Possibly, I could not make the Minister understood as to what my supplementary was. The hon. Minister has listed so many welfare measures for the farmers. Therefore, my limited question was whether these welfare measures had been effective in reducing the farmers' suicides in the country, in the past three years. That was my categorical question. But, that has not been replied.

Now, because there is no time, my second supplementary is this. How many farmers, above the age of sixty years, have so far subscribed to the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana.

श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य का जो प्रश्न है कि अब तक प्रधानमंत्री वय वंदना योजना का कितने किसानों ने लाभ लिया है, चूंकि यह योजना सीधे कृषि मंत्रालय से जुड़ी हुई नहीं है, यह स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय की योजना है, इसलिए इस योजना के बारे में सही डेटा कि कितने किसानों ने इससे लाभ लिया है, यह योजना उम्र से जुड़ी हुई है, उसके profession से जुड़ी हुई नहीं है, इसलिए इसके संबंध में सीधा-सीधा इस तरह का bifurcated data देना संभव नहीं है। यदि इस तरह की जानकारी उपलब्ध होगी, तो संबंधित मंत्रालय को पत्र भेज कर माननीय सदस्य महोदय को यह जानकारी उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Can you make the data available to him?

श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यदि संबंधित मंत्रालय ने प्रधानमंत्री वय वंदना योजना में इस तरह का classification किया है, तो माननीय सदस्य को इस तरह की सूचना निश्चित रूप से दे दी जाएगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. That is okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... He said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, I want your protection because he has denied me the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. This data is not given by him.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, I have extracted my question from the reply given by the Minister at page 5. At page 5, he has categorically stated that so many schemes have been initiated. I have chosen only one scheme.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I have to take the Minister by what he says. He said the data doesn't belong to his Ministry. It is sent by some other Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Then, why has he mentioned it here? ...*(Interruptions)*... Then, why has he mentioned it here? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can put. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Then, why has he mentioned it here?
...(Interruptions)... Sir, this is his reply.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Did he say that?

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Yes, Sir. Kindly look at page 5 of his reply. ...(Interruptions)... Kindly look at page 5 of his reply. ...(Interruptions)... No. ...(Interruptions)... He is avoiding the reply. The Minister should not avoid the reply because he has mentioned this at page 5.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Minister, he says, in your own reply, you have made a reference to that.

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Sir, I have understood what he is saying. मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमने अपने उत्तर में यह लिखा है कि कृषि मंत्रालय चूंकि उम्र पर आधारित योजना नहीं चलाता, जबकि मूल प्रश्न यह था कि लघु और सीमांत कृषकों के फायदे के लिए, कल्याण के लिए और welfare के लिए हमारा मंत्रालय क्या स्कीम्स चलाता है, उसके उत्तर में हमने स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा है कि लघु और सीमांत कृषकों की फसल, बागवानी और प्रसंस्करण से लेकर भण्डारण तक, लघु और सीमांत कृषकों के अतिरिक्त भूमिहीन कृषकों के फायदे और कल्याण के लिए, उनके हित में, कृषि मंत्रालय के अतिरिक्त भारत सरकार के अन्य मंत्रालय भी विभिन्न योजनाएं चलाते हैं, जिनमें special incentivization का प्रावधान होता है। माननीय सदस्य जो कुछ जानना चाहते हैं, उसके उत्तर में हमने लिखा है कि हमारी योजनाओं के अतिरिक्त, भारत सरकार के अन्य मंत्रालयों द्वारा भी देश के वृद्ध लोगों के लिए, senior citizens के लिए अन्यान्य योजनाएं चलाई जाती हैं। हमने उनका उल्लेख किया है। इसी निमित्त माननीय सदस्य को मैंने आश्चर्य किया है कि यदि आवश्यकता होती है, यदि इस तरह का data available होता है और माननीय सदस्य चाहेंगे तो निश्चित रूप से हम उन्हें वह data उपलब्ध करा देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, a senior Member of the House and also a senior citizen has been standing there for a long time. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, he is a senior citizen. ...(Interruptions)... Have some sympathy on him. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Jatiyajji, one minute. That senior Member came in the morning with a placard. I requested him many a time to go back. He did not go away. He continued doing so. Now, I think he is standing as a bodyguard for me. Why should he? Let him be. ...(Interruptions)... You can come and take him. ...(Interruptions)... You can come and take him. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Sir, you can't call him a bodyguard. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, he can do this. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, you approve that. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Don't teach me rules. Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* In the morning, he was standing here with a placard before the Chair, blocking the face of the Chair for one hour. I requested him many a time, none of you came and requested him to go back. And, now, you are blaming me. Why should I tell him? Let him be there. I don't want to tell him. Let him be there. I don't mind. *...(Interruptions)...* It is indiscipline of the highest degree, unbecoming of a Member. *...(Interruptions)...* I don't know what has happened to him. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, this is an expression of his anger. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. This is not the way a Member should behave. *...(Interruptions)...* On his subject, let him give notice. I will admit that *...(Interruptions)...* Let him give notice. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, he is having some grievance. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Why don't you advise him?

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, he is having a grievance. He is reflecting the feeling of the Andhra Pradesh people. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Many of you may have grievances, but that does not mean that you should behave like this. *...(Interruptions)...* No, no. I don't approve it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, we have to respect him. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ramachandra Rao, I am making a final request. Will you go back to your seat? Dr. Ramachandra Rao, he doesn't even mind the Chair and you people are arguing for him. He doesn't mind the Chair. I should have taken action against him. Dr. Ramachandra Rao, if you have some sense in you, go back to your seat. You are becoming a laughing stock, Dr. Ramachandra Rao. The whole nation is watching how you are behaving. The people will be feeling sorry for sending you here to behave like this. *...(Interruptions)...* I am so sad that a Member is behaving like this. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, nothing else will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Jatiya. ...*(Interruptions)*... You ask him to go back to his seat. Why don't you do that? ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Jatiya. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: माननीय उपसभापति जी, यह बहुत ही आवश्यक और बहुत ही अच्छा प्रश्न है। सरकार ने अभी बजट में किसानों के लिए जो प्रभावी उपाय किए हैं, उनके कारण किसानों को राहत मिलने वाली है। यह प्रश्न किसानों, छोटे व सीमान्त किसानों और कृषि-श्रमिकों के बारे में है, उनकी कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के बारे में है और चिन्ता यह है कि उनके रोजगार का क्या होगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू: *

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि जब किसानों की खेती का रकबा लगातार कम होता जाता है, तब एक बड़ा किसान भी छोटा किसान हो जाता है तथा छोटा किसान एक भूमिहीन किसान हो जाता है और उसकी स्थिति खेतिहर मजदूर जैसी हो जाती है। आज देश में 20 करोड़ लोग खेतिहर मजदूर हैं, जिनके पास कृषि-भूमि नहीं है। उन सबके लिए एक प्रभावी योजना की आवश्यकता है, जिससे उनको रोजगार मिल सके और उनके परिवारों का गुजारा हो सके। मेरा प्रश्न है कि क्या सरकार ऐसे खेतिहर मजदूरों को सम्मानजनक रोजगार प्रदान करने के लिए और उनके भले के लिए ऐसी कोई योजना बनाने के लिए प्रभावी रूप से कार्रवाई करेगी? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू: *

श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य की यह चिन्ता जायज़ है कि देश-भर में जमीन की जोत लगातार घटती जा रही है, कृषि-योग्य भूमि की जोत घटती जा रही है। जोत घटने के कारण इस तरह के दृष्टांत सामने आए हैं कि हमारे किसान की कृषि फायदे का सौदा नहीं रही, ऐसा प्रतीत हो रहा है। इसीलिए देश की सरकार ने Model Land Leasing Act बनाया है, ताकि इस तरह के लैंड का aggregation किया जा सके और किसान उस क्षेत्र में काम कर सके। वह विभिन्न प्रदेशों को भेजा गया है।

इसके अतिरिक्त, देश की सरकार ने Joint Liability Group बनाया है, ताकि NABARD के माध्यम से किसान लोन ले सकें, भूमिहीन किसान भी खेती कर सकें और खेती के समय में वे आवश्यक विनिवेश को प्राप्त कर सकें। इस तरह का प्रावधान किया गया है। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने देश के युवाओं को स्वरोजगारी बनाने के उद्देश्य के संकल्प के साथ "मुद्रा योजना" को लागू किया है और देश के लगभग 10 करोड़ ऐसे युवा, जो स्वरोजगार करने के इच्छुक हैं, उनको रोजगार देने के लिए "मुद्रा योजना" के माध्यम से पिछले तीन वर्षों में साढ़े 4 लाख करोड़ रुपये की ऋण सहायता बिना किसी गारंटी के दिलाई है। मैं आज अत्यंत प्रसन्नता के साथ यह बात कह सकता हूँ कि माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कल जो बजट घोषित किया है, उसमें उन्होंने इसकी सीमा को बढ़ाकर, इस तरह का और 3 लाख करोड़ रुपये का ऋण उपलब्ध

कराने के लिए देश को आश्वस्त किया है। मैं युवाओं और किसानों का प्रतिनिधि होने के नाते भी यह निश्चित रूप से कह सकता हूँ कि यह देश के भूमिहीन होते जा रहे किसानों को एक बहुत बड़ा संबल प्रदान करेगा।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से सिर्फ इतना जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या आपने इस बात का सर्वे कराया है कि हमारे देश में बड़े किसानों की संख्या क्या है, छोटे किसानों की संख्या क्या है, जो खेतिहर मजदूर किसान हैं, उनकी संख्या क्या है और खेतिहर मजदूरों ने सरकारी योजनाओं का अब तक कितना लाभ लिया है?

श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, इस तरह का सर्वे उपलब्ध है। माननीय सदस्या को इस सर्वे के अलावा और जो भी जानकारी चाहिए, उसके आँकड़े उन तक पहुँचें, इसको हम सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Sir, according to the National Crime Records Bureau – the latest records that are available – a total of 6,867 farmers committed suicides; a total of 6,867. The Government continues to say that the suicides are on the decline. Now that is contrary to record. Except for Karnataka where there has been a decline from 1,478 suicides in 2016 to 848, other States are showing increase. The States which are showing an increase are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Tamil Nadu. The loans given to farmers throughout the country are at an interest rate of 14 per cent, whereas consumers get loans at the rate of 10 per cent. So, why are loans given to farmers so expensive as compared to those that are given to consumers? This forces them to borrow money from money lenders who charge 24 to 60 per cent interest, as a result of which they are not able to repay the said loans and they have no other option but to end their lives. Is the Government going to ensure that farmers are given interest-free loans, or loans at low rates of interest, so that farming remains remunerative for the farmers?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, जहां तक किसानों की समस्याओं का सवाल है, हम इससे सहमत हैं कि किसान समस्याओं से त्रस्त है और इसीलिए मोदी सरकार आने के बाद उसके सशक्तिकरण में भारी निवेश हो रहा है। मैं एक आंकड़ा आपको बताना चाहूंगा। 2009 से 2014 तक, जो कृषि मंत्रालय है, मैं सिर्फ उसकी बात कर रहा हूँ, इसका जो बजटीय आवंटन था, वह 1 लाख 21 हजार करोड़ का था और मोदी सरकार आने के बाद यह 5 वर्ष का जब बजटीय आवंटन आप देखेंगे तो यह 2 लाख 11 हजार करोड़ का है, जो दोगुने से ज्यादा है, उनके सशक्तिकरण में हम निवेश कर रहे हैं और बजटीय आवंटन के अलावा भी आप देखेंगे कि दो साल के अंदर सूक्ष्म सिंचाई कोष चल रहा है। मैं सिर्फ कृषि मंत्रालय की बात कर रहा हूँ, सिंचाई मंत्रालय में अलग से निवेश हो रहा है। 99 परियोजनाएं जो 20 वर्ष से लम्बित थीं, मैं वित्त मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद दूंगा कि उसके लिए कॉर्पस फंड बनाया और उसमें 2019 या 2020 आते-आते 99 परियोजनाएं जो वर्षों से लम्बित थीं, बीस साल से, पच्चीस साल से, वे पूरी हो रही हैं। यदि सिर्फ कृषि मंत्रालय की बात करें तो बजट दोगुना हुआ और जो अलग से फंड बना है सिंचाई के लिए 5 हजार करोड़ का, डेयरी प्रोसेसिंग और इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर कोष दस हजार आठ सौ इक्यासी करोड़ का, जरा सुनिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मंत्री जी ...(व्यवधान)... The question is about interest-free loans. ...(Interruptions)... The question is about interest-free loans. ...(Interruptions)... ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: जहां तक ऋण का सवाल है, ऋण प्रवाह को तेज किया है और किसानों को जो क्रेडिट कार्ड देते हैं और ऋण देते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... जो उनका सवाल था कि 7 प्रतिशत जो ब्याज दर है, ...(व्यवधान)... हम उसमें 3 प्रतिशत की सहायता देते हैं और किसान को 4 प्रतिशत ही देना पड़ता है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...(Interruptions)... Question No. 5, Shri Neeraj Shekhar. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Neeraj Shekhar. ...(Interruptions)... Ask supplementaries, please. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing would go on record. Sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

Unrestricted availability of Aadhaar details on social media APP

*5. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than one billion unrestricted Aadhaar details were available on WhatsApp for just ₹ 500, as per a recent report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether UIDAI has filed FIR against the whistle blowers; and

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

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

Stateemnt

(a) and (b) Aadhaar data is fully safe and secure and there has not been a single case of data breach from Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)'s database. The report in media about “₹ 500, 10 minutes, and you have access to billion Aadhaar details” was a case of misreporting and is completely false.

UIDAI, for the purpose of grievance handling, has provided search facility to State Government officials, which provide demographic information of the person whose enrolment ID or Aadhaar is provided. The reported case was a case of misuse of the said facility.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. UIDAI has filed a complaint on 4th Jan., 2018 with full details of the incident, on which an FIR no. 9/18 of PS Crime branch dated 05th Jan., 2018 has been registered in Cyber Cell of Delhi Police against unknown persons

for violations of Section 36 and 37 of Aadhaar Act, 2016, Section 419, 420, 468 and 471 of IPC and Section 66 of IT Act, 2000/8.

श्री नीरज शेखर: उपसभापति जी, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

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

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: *

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: *

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: *

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: *

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ, इन्होंने जो जवाब दिया है, बिल्कुल असत्य है। इन्होंने कहा है कि किसी के ऊपर एफआईआर नहीं की गई है। मेरे पास एफआईआर की कॉपी है.....(व्यवधान).....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please put the question so that the Minister could answer. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, मेरे पास एफआईआर की कॉपी है, जिसमें UIDAI ने लिखा है कि उसमें नाम लेकर रचना, सुनील ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No point of order during the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या माननीय मंत्री जी अपना जवाब वापस लेंगे और जिन पर...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. ...(Interruptions).... Question Hour is over. ...(Interruptions).... The House stands adjourned till 1430 hours.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Mandatory linking of Aadhaar with ration cards

†*6.SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that linking of Aadhaar with ration cards has been made compulsory or partially compulsory, if so, the details thereof; and

* Not recorded.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that persistent complaints are being received about ration being not given due to non-linking of Aadhaar, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As per provisions of the notification issued *vide* SO No. 371[E] dated 8/2/17 [as amended from time to time], by the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, all the eligible beneficiaries entitled to receive subsidised foodgrains or Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy under National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 who do not possess Aadhaar number or, are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, but are desirous of availing subsidised food grains or Cash Transfer of Food Subsidies under NFSA, are required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by 31/3/2018. Till the Aadhaar is assigned to beneficiaries/households, benefit of subsidized food grains or Cash Transfer for Food grains under NFSA shall be given to such beneficiaries/households subject to the production of Ration Card, and either Aadhaar Enrolment ID Slip, or copy of his/her request made to State Government for Aadhaar Enrolment along with any of the 8 documents listed in the said notification (*i.e.* Voter ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Driving License, Certificate of Identity with photo issued by Gazetted Officer/Tehsildar on official letter head, Address card having Name and Photo issued by Department of Posts, Kisan Photo Passbook and any other document as specified by State/UT Governments).

A few reports have of late appeared in the media citing non-linking of Aadhaar with Ration Cards as one of the reasons for difficulties faced by the beneficiaries under NFSA in getting their entitled quota of foodgrains. Further, as per report received from some States, a few ration cards were suspended for this reason. However, this Department has issued clear instructions to all States/UTs that no beneficiary/household shall be deleted from the list of eligible beneficiaries/households only on the ground of not possessing Aadhaar, and shall also not be denied for subsidized foodgrains or cash transfer of food subsidy under NFSA due to non-availability of Aadhaar or failure of biometric authentication due to network/connectivity/linking issues/poor biometric of the beneficiary or other technical reasons.

Filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary

*7. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of posts in subordinate judiciary have been lying vacant in a number of States/Union Territories with the result that more than 22 lakh cases are pending for over 10 years now;

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

(c) whether Government has issued any instruction to the State Governments to fill up those vacancies and if so, the reaction of State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) At present, as per available information 5,925 posts of judicial officers in district and subordinate courts are vacant in all the States and UTs. As per information available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 22.70 lakh cases were pending in various District and Subordinate Courts of the country for more than ten years (excluding District and Subordinate Courts in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry) as on 30.01.2018. The State/UT-wise details of vacancies of judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts and State/UT-wise details of cases pending for more than ten years are given in Statement (*See below*). The disposal of cases in district and subordinate judiciary depends on many factors and the availability of judicial officers may be one of the relevant factors.

(c) As per the Constitution, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. The Supreme Court, through a judicial order in Malik Mazhar case, has devised a process and time-frame to be followed for the filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary. This order of January, 2007 by the Supreme Court stipulates that the process for recruitment of judges in the subordinate courts would commence on 31st March of a calendar year and end by 31st October of the same year. The Supreme Court has permitted State Governments/High Courts for variations in the time schedule in case of any difficulty based on the peculiar geographical and climatic conditions in the State or other relevant conditions.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of vacancies of judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts and State/UT-wise details of cases pending for more than ten years.

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Vacancies as on 31.12.2017\$	Cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts for more than 10 years.\$\$
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**	114	24314
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	—
3.	Assam	76	2716
4.	Bihar	835	268545
5.	Chhattisgarh	63	7805

1	2	3	4
6.	Goa	12	1873
7.	Gujarat	375	266707
8.	Haryana	149	564
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11	709
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	29	5746
11.	Jharkhand	253	12012
12.	Karnataka	327	28684
13.	Kerala***	80	8357
14.	Madhya Pradesh	728	14647
15.	Maharashtra	167	254916
16.	Manipur	09	457
17.	Meghalaya	58	799
18.	Mizoram	17	32
19.	Nagaland	12	—
20.	Odisha	204	172562
21.	Punjab	136	1270
22.	Rajasthan	103	74426
23.	Sikkim	5	2
24.	Tamil Nadu*	341	40142
25.	Tripura	31	2855
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1348	847063
27.	Uttarakhand***	60	4648
28.	West Bengal***	40	221927
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	842
30.	Chandigarh	0	43
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0	379
32.	Delhi**	316	5342
33.	Lakshadweep	1	—

1	2	3	4
34.	Puducherry*	14	—
TOTAL		5,925	22,70,384

*Details of Judges as on 7.11.2017/ **Details of Judges as on 31.10.2017/ ***Details of Judges as on 30.11.2017/\$ Source: Various High Courts/\$\$ Source: NJDG Web portal.

Note: Data on District and Subordinate Courts in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry are not available on the web-portal of NJDG.

Setting up of new courts

*8 SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is committed to double the number of judicial courts in the country;

(b) if so, the number of new Courts established in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) by when Government is going to appoint new Judicial Officers/Judges to fill in vacant posts in the new Courts; and

(d) the number of such Courts proposed to be established in the State of Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) In the case of Imtiyaz Ahmed *versus* State of Uttar Pradesh and others, the Supreme Court had asked the Law Commission of India to evolve a method for scientific assessment of the number of additional courts required to clear the backlog of cases. In 245th report (2014), the Law Commission has observed that filing of cases per capita varies substantially across geographic units as filings are associated with economic and social conditions of the population. As such the Law Commission did not consider the judge population ratio to be a scientific criterion for determining the adequacy of the judge strength in the country. The Law Commission found that in the absence of complete and scientific approach to data collection across various High Courts in the country, the “Rate of Disposal” method, to calculate the number of additional judges required to clear the backlog of cases as well as to ensure that new backlog is not created, is more pragmatic and useful. In May, 2014, the Supreme Court asked the State Governments and the High Courts to file their response to the recommendations made by the Law Commission. In August 2014, the Supreme Court asked the National Court Management System Committee (NCMS Committee) to examine the recommendations made by the Law Commission and to furnish its recommendations in this regard. NCMS Committee submitted its report to the Supreme Court in March, 2016. The report, *inter alia*, observes that in the

long term, the judge strength of the subordinate courts will have to be assessed by a scientific method to determine the total number of “Judicial Hours” required for disposing of the case load of each court. In the interim, the Committee has proposed a “weighted” disposal approach *i.e.* disposal weighted by the nature and complexity of cases in local conditions. As per the direction of the Hon’ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 02.01.2017, the Department of Justice has forwarded a copy of interim report of the NCMS Committee to all the State Governments and High Courts to enable them to take follow up action to determine the required Strength of district and subordinate judiciary.

(b) The new courts at District and below District/Subordinate (Tehsil/Taluka) level are established by the respective State Governments in consultation with the concerned High Courts. As per information made available by High Courts and State Governments, sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers of District/Subordinate Courts has increased from 20,214 in the year 2014 to 22,623 in 2017. The State-wise details of sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers of District/Subordinate Courts in the years 2014 and 2017 are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Judges of Supreme Court of India are appointed under Article 124 (2) and the Judges of High Courts are appointed under Articles 217 (1) and 224 of the Constitution. As per the provision in the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts, the proposals are initiated by the Chief Justice of India after consultation with the Collegium of Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of the High Court after consultation with the Collegium of the High Court respectively, for filling up of vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and related High Courts. The details of vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States. The details are given in Statement-III (*See below*).

As per information made available by the High Courts and respective State Governments, as on 31.12.2017 the sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts is 22,623. The number of Judges in position and vacant posts is 16,698 and 5,925 respectively.

It may be mentioned that the Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution. It has undertaken many steps towards achieving this objective. One of these steps is, strengthening of

judicial infrastructure in districts through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary wherein a total of ₹ 6020 crore has been released since 1993-94, out of which ₹ 2,575 crore (42.77%) has been released since April, 2014. 17,798 Court Halls and 13,759 Residential Accommodations have been made available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on date. Out of this 1,980 Court Halls and 3,548 Residential Accommodations were constructed since 2014 to till date. In addition, 2,966 Court Halls and 1,692 Residential Accommodations are under construction. The Central Government has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary beyond the Twelfth Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an estimated outlay of ₹3,320 crore.

Under the Phase-I of the e-Courts Mission Mode Project undertaken by the Central Government from 2010 to 2015, against a total target of computerisation of 14,249 courts, the computerisation of 13,672 district and subordinate courts has been achieved. This includes the installation of hardware, the LAN and software. This has enabled the courts to upload the case status and orders online. Status of cases and copies of judgments have also been made available on the websites of the respective District and Subordinate Court Complexes which have been computerised. ₹ 935.00 crore were allocated for Phase-I out of which ₹ 639.41 crore were utilized.

In the Phase-II of the e-Courts Mission Mode Project (July, 2015 upto 31 March, 2019) an outlay of ₹ 1,670 crores has been approved and ₹ 921.75 crore has been released so far. The facilities of e-services such as cause lists, case status, daily orders, judgments etc. are being provided under the supervision of e-Committee of the Supreme Court and Computer Committees of respective High Courts. A total of 16,089 Courts have been computerised under the eCourts Project till date. Video Conferencing facility has also been operationalised between 488 court complexes and 342 corresponding prisons during the period 2015-17. The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) developed under this project provides updated information on civil and criminal cases, including pending cases, for the computerised district/subordinate courts in the country.

Another initiative that has been undertaken with a focus to improve access to justice is the Tele Law Scheme launched on 20th April, 2017, which is an effort to provide legal advice pro-actively to the marginalised sections of society through Common Service Centres (CSCs). This initiative facilitates delivery of legal advice through an expert panel of lawyers stationed at the State Legal Service Authorities (SLSA). Under this Scheme, Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) connect potential litigants with lawyers through video conferencing facilities at CSCs which are, operated by Village Level Entrepreneurs. The Scheme has been launched in 1800 Gram Panchayats in 11 States (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Sikkim). A total of 12,218 cases

have been registered by PLVs under the scheme and legal advice has been provided in 9,094 cases. The Government has also launched a scheme for Pro Bono Legal Services in April, 2017 in which interested lawyers and litigants can register on the website (www.doj.gov.in) to provide and avail pro-bono legal services as may be required. So far, 202 lawyers have registered on the portal and more than 298 cases have been assigned for pro bono assistance. In order to reduce cases pending in courts for over 10 years, the Government has recently introduced Nyaya Mitra Scheme covering 227 selected districts of 16 States. Under the Scheme, retired judicial officers are engaged and designated as 'Nyaya Mitra' to facilitate expeditious disposal of the cases pending over 10 years. In the first Phase, 15 Nyaya Mitra's have been engaged.

(d) As per the information made available by Orissa High Court, the number of new Courts proposed to be established in the State of Odisha is 265.

Statement-I

*Sanctioned Strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts
in the years 2014 and 2017*

Sl. No.	States	Sanctioned Strength as on 31.12.2014	Sanctioned Strength as on 31.12.2017
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	1034	987**
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	28
3.	Assam	403	428
4.	Bihar	1670	1828
5.	Chhattisgarh	354	398
6.	Goa	52	55
7.	Gujarat	1963	1496
8.	Haryana	644	645
9.	Himachal Pradesh	146	159
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	244	253
11.	Jharkhand	578	672
12.	Karnataka	1085	1303
13.	Kerala and Lakshadweep	447	538***
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1460	2021
15.	Maharashtra	2072	2097
16.	Manipur	40	49

1	2	3	4
17.	Meghalaya	55	97
18.	Mizoram	67	63
19.	Nagaland	27	34
20.	Odisha	690	862
21.	Punjab	672	674
22.	Rajasthan	1145	1225
23.	Sikkim	18	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	997	1257*
25.	Tripura	104	107
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2097	3204
27.	Uttarakhand	289	291***
28.	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	994	967***
29.	Chandigarh	30	30
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	7	7
31.	Delhi	793	799**
32.	Puducherry	21	26*
TOTAL		20,214	22,623

*as on 7.11.2017

**as on 31.10.2017

***as on 30.11.2017

Statement-II

*Details of Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and various
High Courts as on 29.01.2018*

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 29.01.2018.
1	2	3
1.	Supreme Court of India	6
Name of the High Court		
1.	Allahabad High Court	56
2.	Calcutta High Court	39

1	2	3
3.	Karnataka High Court	38
4.	Punjab and Haryana High Court	35
5.	High Court of Telengana and Andhra Pradesh	30
6.	Bombay High Court	24
7.	Delhi High Court	22
8.	Gujarat High Court	21
9.	Patna High Court	21
10.	Madhya Pradesh High Court	20
11.	Madras High Court	17
12.	Rajasthan High Court	16
13.	Kerala High Court	10
14.	Orissa High Court	10
15.	Chhattisgarh High Court	10
16.	Jharkhand High Court	08
17.	Guahati High Court	06
18.	Jammu and Kashmir High Court	06
19.	Himachal Pradesh High Court	05
20.	Manipur High Court	03
21.	Tripura High Court	02
22.	Meghalaya High Court	02
23.	Uttarakhand High Court	02
24.	Sikkim High Court	00
TOTAL		403

Statement-III

*Details of authorities conducting selection for appointment of Judicial Officers/
Judges to State Higher Judicial Services and Lower State Judicial Services*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Higher Judicial Service	Lower Judicial Service
1.	Andhra Pradesh	High Court	High Court
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	High Court of Gauhati	50% by High Court of Gauhati and 50% by State Public Service Commission

Sl.No.	Name of State	Higher Judicial Service	Lower Judicial Service
3.	Assam	High Court	High Court
4.	Bihar	High Court	State Public Service Commission
5.	Chhattisgarh	High Court	State Public Service Commission
6.	Delhi	High Court	High Court
7.	Goa	High Court of Bombay	High Court of Bombay
8.	Gujarat	High Court	High Court
9.	Haryana	High Court	State Public Service Commission
10.	Himachal Pradesh	High Court	State Public Service Commission
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	High Court	State Public Service Commission
12.	Jharkhand	High Court	State Public Service Commission
13.	Karnataka	High Court	High Court
14.	Kerala	High Court	High Court
15.	Madhya Pradesh	High Court	State Public Service Commission
16.	Maharashtra	High Court	State Public Service Commission
17.	Manipur	High Court	High Court
18.	Meghalaya	High Court	State Public Service Commission
19.	Mizoram	High Court	State Public Service Commission
20.	Nagaland	High Court	High Court
21.	Odisha	High Court	State Public Service Commission
22.	Punjab	High Court	State Public Service Commission
23.	Rajasthan	High Court	High Court
24.	Sikkim	High Court	High Court
25.	Tamil Nadu	High Court	State Public Service Commission
26.	Tripura	High Court	State Public Service Commission
27.	Uttar Pradesh	High Court	State Public Service Commission
28.	Uttarakhand	High Court	State Public Service Commission
29.	West Bengal	High Court	State Public Service Commission

Use of websites and mobile apps for making fake Aadhaar cards

*9. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to check the use of websites and mobile apps to make fake Aadhaar cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of cases of fake Aadhaar cards being generated and used, detected since 2014, year wise?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) and (b) As genuineness of Aadhaar card can be confirmed anytime, anywhere due to its online as well offline QR code, question of fake Aadhaar Cards does not arise. All Departments and Agencies requiring Aadhaar as a proof of identity can verify the authenticity of Aadhaar Card through online or offline QR code verification. However, it was found that some websites and mobile applications were providing un-authorized Aadhaar related services such as downloading online Aadhaar letters, providing status of Aadhaar generation, printing Aadhaar letters on PVC cards etc. to residents. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) lodged an official complaint to Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (ICERT) and M/s Google India in this regard. The illegal/un-authorised websites, as mentioned above, were blocked by Department of Telecommunications, while the un-authorised mobile applications were removed from the Google PlayStore.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) As per sub-section (3) of section 4 of Aadhaar Act, 2016, “an Aadhaar number, in physical or electronic form subject to authentication and other conditions, as may be specified by regulations, may be accepted as proof of identity of the Aadhaar number holder for any purpose.” Hence, question of fake Aadhaar, if used as per above provisions, does not arise. UIDAI has provided online authentication facility whereby any Aadhaar can be authenticated anywhere anytime. Further, an online facility has also been provided for verifying an Aadhaar, available at <https://resident.uidai.gov.in/aadhaarverification>.

Revenue generation in railways

*10. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue from non-fare sources in order not to burden the passengers by raising the passenger fare;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are planning to earn revenue of about ₹ 2000 crore by way of offering branding packages of full trains; and

(c) whether only the products of the advertiser would be sold in the whole train or platforms, leaving no other choice to the public/passengers visiting the platform or travelling by those trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) In order to earn revenue through sources other than fare, Indian Railways has set up a Non-Fare Revenue Directorate to explore avenues for increasing earnings. The Revised Estimates for 2017-18 through advertising have been kept as ₹ 850 crore. This will entail revenues from Out of Home advertising, Mobile assets advertising, Rail Display network, App-based cabs, Monetization of soft assets, Automated Teller Machines and various innovative and unsolicited proposals.

(c) All permitted/listed products of any manufacturer/service provider can be sold on the train or platforms after following due process and procedures.

Subsidy for procuring foodgrains

*11. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has decided not to purchase foodgrains from farmers at MSP;

(b) whether Government is aware of inability of many States for procurement for want of necessary infrastructure;

(c) how the Ministry arrived at giving 30 per cent subsidy to States for procuring foodgrains;

(d) whether it is also a fact that States are demanding for 50 per cent subsidy;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(f) the result of the meeting held in January, 2018 with States on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Central Government extends price support to paddy and wheat through the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government/Agencies. Paddy and wheat conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centers are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). The producers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or in the open market whichever is advantageous to them. Apart from paddy and wheat, coarse grains are also procured by State Governments as per their requirement for distribution under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes.

Some of the States like Eastern U.P, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand do not have sufficient infrastructure in place for procurement. These States have been consistently requested to improve such infrastructure.

(c) to (f) With a view to make the existing procurement mechanism more efficient, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Government of India circulated a concept paper for a new scheme called Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) among State Governments/UTs. Based on the inputs and deliberation during meetings convened by the DAC&FW with representatives of State Governments in September, 2017 and January, 2018, a revised concept paper on MAS has been prepared by the DAC&FW. A copy of the same is given in Statement.

Statement

Revised Concept Paper on Market Assurance Scheme

1.0. Finding value for agri-produce

Government is aiming to resolve the agrarian crisis and enhance farmers' welfare by focusing on their income. Pursuant to Government's commitment to double farmers' income by 2022, the strategy of agricultural growth and development is bringing greater focus on monetization of farmers' produce, alongside achieving higher production levels through productivity gains across the agri-sector. Optimal monetization of a host of agri-produce is a function of post-production activities comprising value chain and supply chain management, and marketing.

2.0. Need for market intervention by Government

An efficient agricultural marketing system is *sine qua non* for ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers on their produce. However, no market in general and much less in case of agriculture sector can be perfect, and hence cannot always be relied upon

to find optimal value for farmers' produce. As a consequence Government supported market intervention schemes become inevitable.

3.0. **Twin intervention—MSP and Procurement operations**

One of the corner stone of Government's support relating to farm-produce has been notification of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for as many as 23 commodities (14 Kharif + 6 Rabi + 3 Calendar year seasons). A supplement to this is the procurement operations that Government undertakes through the following instruments:

- **Procurement operations by Food Corporation of India (FCI)** – limited largely to paddy and wheat.
- **Price Support Scheme (PSS)**— though open to all MSP notified commodities except wheat and paddy, it has been mostly confined to pulses and oilseeds, and that too only partially. In result, many other commodities including nutri-rich cereals are left out.
- **Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF)**— it is operated by the Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) with a view to building up buffer stock of pulses, in order to protect the consumer interests.

However, the procurement of pulses can be undertaken from farmers at MSP as done during the marketing season 2016-17, though buffer stock can be built by purchases in the domestic market at any price or even by importing.

- **Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)**— this serves the cause of horti- commodities of the farmers, whenever the prices fall below 10 per cent or production increases by more than 10 per cent compared to the previous year. This intervention is made in case of commodities, for which no MSP is notified.

3.1. **Honouring MSP**

It is more important to honour the assurance that is the obverse of MSP notification. This entails the need for a robust mechanism of monitoring the market prices for various commodities and making timely intervention by commencing procurement operations through Government agencies. The system as exists now leaves much to be desired. In the year 2016-17, which has been historically one of the best years of government intervention, the procurements accounted for:

- Paddy and Wheat -33 per cent of production
- Pulses -8 per cent of production
- Oilseeds -1 per cent of production

All other commodities including nutri-rich cereals were not procured.

This demonstrates the less than desired depth and spread of procurement operations of agri-commodities, for which annual MSPs are notified by Government.

Hence, there arises a rationale as also a scope to build alternate procurement mechanism and broaden the bouquet of instruments.

4.0. Market Assurance Scheme – a new initiative

Government proposes to strengthen the procurement mechanism to ensure that farmers do not suffer from marketing inefficiencies, as commonly reflected in the prices ruling lower than notified MSP for many commodities. Hence, the need for a suitable market intervention mechanism, that enables quick assessment of market fluctuations, advanced preparation and timely procurement commencement as soon as the prices breach the MSP on its negative side. This can happen if the decision making and procurement authority is one and the same. It is against this background, that the Government has decided to launch a new scheme called Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) which will address the shortcomings in the existing schemes and offer a robust alternative for procurement of various agri-commodities (except wheat & paddy) of farmers, for which MSPs are notified by Government of India.

5.0. Main features of MAS

- (i) The ownership of the scheme including the decision to procure and its actual operation shall be decentralized and vested with the respective State/UT Governments; who shall assure the farmers that their agri-commodities, as notified by them would be procured at MSP (notified by GoI for the season) if the prices dip below it.
- (ii) The State/UT Governments shall decide when to begin procurement and shall enter the market and start procurement accordingly through their own public sector agencies or through other empanelled and authorised private agencies or central procuring agencies authorized to do so by them, which shall then procure on behalf of the authorizing State/UT.
- (iii) It shall be the responsibility of the State/UT to deal with and dispose off the procured commodities in an appropriate manner. However, losses, if any, sustained in these operations by the State/UT shall be compensated for, by the Central Government upto a maximum value of 40 per cent of MSP for that particular commodity notified for the season/year in which the commodity was procured. The State/UT Governments are free to retain any surplus generated during this exercise.

- (iv) As per preliminary calculations, maximum support of 30 per cent of the MSP by Government of India is estimated to be an adequate compensation to cover the losses sustained, if any, and serve as an incentive to the State/UT own the new scheme. These calculations based on recent procurements by Central agencies (wherein losses range between 25% - 40% in majority of the procurements) are detailed below:
- The procurement cost that includes expenses over gunny bags, loading and unloading charges, commission of various agencies and market fee works out to about 8 per cent of MSP.
 - Assuming that the stock is held for a period of about nine months and disposed thereof (nine months holding is likely to fetch price higher price realization, but with an added carry over cost), the carrying cost per month of the procured stock would be around 1.2 per cent. (Interest @ 1 per cent per month plus ₹ 7 towards the storage charge per quintal per month and insurance). If the stock is stored for six to nine months, the average carrying cost works out to 9 (nine) per cent.
 - Assuming that the procured quantity of agri-commodity is sold after 9 (nine) months at prices which are 8 per cent below MSP, the total cost of procurement operation works out to $8+9+8 = 25$ per cent of MSP.
 - Allowing for an additional 5 per cent margin towards incidental/miscellaneous expenses, total probable loss, is estimated to be 30 per cent of MSP.
- (v) Hence, the Central Government assurance of providing compensation support upto a maximum of 30 per cent of MSP value to the State/UT Governments based on actual procurements will be adequate to incentivize procurements. In case of North-East and Himalayan States, this compensation threshold will need be raised to 40 per cent, to account for higher constraints of infrastructure and operations. But based on the comments of various states on the concept paper of MAS circulated to them, the revised maximum limit of 30% of MSP to the states/UTs has been proposed to be increased upto 40% of MSP Value and for North-East and Himalayan States, this compensation threshold is revised upto 50 per cent of MSP value.
- (vi) Considering the comment of some States regarding the limitation of financial resources with the States/States procuring agencies and arrangement of working capital, it is proposed to create initially a Central Corpus Fund of ₹ 500 crores for providing interest free advance towards working capital to

the States/UTs to enable them to make Revolving Fund at the State level. This Revolving fund can be used by State as working capital for making procurements in their respective State under MAS of Agri-commodities (except Wheat and pulses) of FAQ at MSP if market price goes below MSP. The Central Fund may be called as “Central Corpus Fund for MAS” and interest free working capital advance, as evaluated by the concern State/UT Level Committee and approved by MAS Central Corpus Fund Committee, will be provided to the States/UTs based on their request. The advance will be made to Revolving Funds Account set up for MAS by the State/UT Government and to which State Government will make equal amount. In case of North East and Himalayan states central advance will be 75% of States/UTs revolving fund.

6.0. Advantages of MAS

- (i) It is a decentralized system operated by the State/UT Governments, wherein they have the flexibility to decide and rollout procurement operation in time and engage different agencies to undertake such procurements.
- (ii) The liability of the Central Government will arise only if prices fall below MSP, and such obligation is limited to a maximum of 40 to 50 per cent of MSP, as the case may be.
- (iii) The State/UT Governments will have the latitude to dispose of the procured commodities in the manner they find it most suitable.
- (iv) The State/UT Governments are likely to integrate these procurements into their PDS, Mid Day Meal scheme, ICDS feeding programme, ration distribution scheme for Police and such other forces.
- (v) The State/UT Governments can also sell in the open market or/and export (subject to export and trade regime of Government of India).
- (vi) The farmer-producers will stand to benefit on account of timely and speedy market intervention.

7.0. The responsibility of mobilizing the capital needed for procurement, gunny bags, transportation, storage, handling and all other forms of logistics and management shall be that of the State/UT Governments. Government of India's liability shall be limited to a maximum 40-50 per cent of MSP, as compensation against loss incurred, if any, between the cost incurred on procurement and handling operations and price realized on disposal.

Policy to monitor dangerous content in online games

*12. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has framed any policy regarding monitoring of dangerous content in online games;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cases which have come to notice wherein online gaming has driven people to commit suicide or similar dangerous acts;

(d) whether Government has taken any action to block such online games; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for certain due diligence to be followed by Intermediaries failing which they would be liable. The Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under section 79 of the Act, *inter alia*, specifies that the intermediaries shall inform the users of computer resource not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is grossly harmful, harms minor in any way; violates any law for the time being in force; etc.

Government has asked popular social media sites not to host any such dangerous online games and immediately remove the same as and when detected. No separate Policy regarding monitoring of dangerous content in online games has been framed.

It is also understood that there is no formal application, website or URL available for downloading/accessing online games like Blue Whale Challenge. Hence, there is little scope for using technical solutions to identify or block the dangerous online games.

(c) There had been media reports about alleged suicides/attempted suicides due to dangerous online game like Blue Whale Challenge Game. In this regard, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had constituted a Committee to investigate all cases where suicides were committed or attempted allegedly using dangerous online games like Blue Whale Challenge. The Committee findings could not establish any involvement of Blue Whale challenge game in any of incidents reported to them. Further, in a writ petition (civil) no. 943/2017 on the same subject, Hon'ble Supreme Court has disposed off the case directing the Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories

to spread awareness in the school children about the dangers such games propagate by bringing people into a trap.

(d) and (e) Government has taken various steps to prevent harmful online games, such as:

- (i) Government has directed various internet/social media companies to identify and disable Blue Whale Challenge Game and related content on their platform, if they find any. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Indian Computer Emergency Response Team interacted with service providers of social media regarding the steps to be taken to prevent users from falling prey to harmful online games.
- (ii) Government has also published advisory/awareness materials on the websites, Newspapers, etc. regarding the dangers of Blue Whale Challenge Game.
- (iii) Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted a Committee to investigate all cases where suicides have been committed or attempted allegedly using 'Blue Whale Challenge Game'. The committee findings could not establish any involvement of Blue Whale challenge game in any of incidents reported to them.
- (iv) Government issued Guidelines for Safe and Effective Use of Internet and Digital Technologies to all CBSE schools *vide* circular dated. 18.08.2017.
- (v) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) sent an advisory related to online dangerous games to Ministry of Women and Child Development on 07.08. 2017. The advisory contains best practices for parents and school teachers. Ministry of Electronics and IT also published an advisory related to protection of children from Blue Whale Game on its website (<http://meity.gov.in/advisory-blue-whale-challenge-game>) on 12th September, 2017.
- (vi) Minister, Women and Child Development wrote to Principals of all schools on 31st August 2017 to take immediate steps to protect children from Blue whale Game Challenge.

Uniform Civil Code

*13. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission is considering to hold discussions with religious scholars, political groups and others to gauge whether the time is right for the Uniform Civil Code;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Law Commission has forwarded a questionnaire on Uniform Civil Code to elicit opinion on various issues to religious scholars, political groups and others; and

(c) if so, whether the Law Commission has received their inputs in this regard, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Law Commission of India had prepared a questionnaire on uniform civil code and the same was uploaded on its website <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in> on the 7th October, 2016 along with an Appeal, soliciting the views/opinion of the public at large. Besides this, the questionnaire was sent to media through Press Information Bureau and also circulated to the heads of National and State level political parties and Chief Ministers of all States for wide publicity. The Law Commission has informed that though the questionnaire has not been sent directly to any religious group, information about various religious groups in the country has been obtained by them. The Law Commission had also held some meetings/discussions with certain stakeholders.

(c) The Commission have received about 70,000 responses through post/e-mail and is still receiving responses, which are being examined.

Difficulties faced by senior citizens in Aadhaar Validation

*14. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the difficulties in Aadhaar validation by using finger prints for senior citizens and other sections of population due to worn out finger prints and hardening of hand fingers due to hard occupation in which some people are engaged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to bring in any change in Aadhaar validation, particularly for senior citizens and some sections of population, who are facing difficulties in Aadhaar validation by using finger prints;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) to (e) Aadhaar Authentication using fingerprint depends upon number of factors viz. quality of fingerprint, network connectivity,

placement of finger etc. However, few senior citizens, persons engaged in manual labour or individuals with specific disabilities may face difficulties in fingerprint authentication.

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) provides various modes of authentication *viz.* demographic, biometric (Fingerprint/IRIS) and One Time Password (OTP). The user agencies, depending upon their needs and user conditions, can choose any of the above modes of authentication.

In addition, as per Regulations 14(1) (i) of Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulations 2016, all requesting entities are required to implement exception-handling mechanisms and back-up identity authentication mechanisms to ensure seamless provision of authentication services to Aadhaar number holders.

Direct procurement of agricultural produces of farmers

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

(a) whether buying farm produces directly from farmers by Government helps farmers a lot and thereby avoid middlemen;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NITI Aayog recently recommended that Government should buy farm produce directly from farmers;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendation and whether any legislation to this effect is going to be introduced in Parliament;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any consultations have been held with States in this regard, if so, the outcome of the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government notifies Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 25 commodities covering both Kharif and Rabi seasons for Fair Average Quality (FAQ). Procurement is done at MSP primarily from farmers through Central/State agencies as and when prices fall below the MSP and proposals received from State Governments/Union Territories. The payments to the farmers are made through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)/National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) and account payee cheque by the procuring agencies. However, if producer/farmers gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market. The objective of procurement at MSP is to intervene

in the market with a view to stabilize the market price in favour of farmers as a result the market price goes above the MSP. Under the present mechanism, State Government agencies procure produces primarily from the farmers on behalf of central agencies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Dairy processing and infrastructure development fund

1. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide ₹ 8,000 crore fund to help milk co-operative societies to expand their capacity;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that Government aims to create new milk processing capacity of 27 million litres per day in the Cooperative sector this year;

(c) Whether it is also a fact that this year 39 projects by various cooperative dairies will be cleared under the Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Yes Sir, The Department of Animals Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has launched new Central Sector Scheme Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) in December, 2017 with a corpus of ₹ 8,004 crore with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), to help milk co-operative societies to expand and modernize infrastructure for processing and value added products.

(b) DIDF envisages to create additional milk processing capacity of 12.6 Million liters per day in the co-operative sector during the project period.

(c) and (d) DIDF envisages that 39 profit making milk unions shall be covered initially. However, other Milk Cooperatives shall be eligible subject to fulfilment of eligibility criteria. A list of 39 milk union is enclosed in Statement.

Statement

List of 39 milk cooperatives identified under Dairy processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

Sl. No.	State	Name of Milk Cooperative
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development cooperative federation Ltd. (APDDCF)
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasham
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Sangam PC (Guntur)
4.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
5.	Gujarat	Banaskantha
6.	Gujarat	Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (GCMMF)
7.	Gujarat	Kaira
8.	Gujarat	Panchmahal
9.	Gujarat	Vadodara
10.	Gujarat	Sabarkantha
11.	Haryana	Hissar-Jind
12.	Karnataka	Bangalore
13.	Karnataka	Belgaum
14.	Karnataka	Dharwad
15.	Karnataka	Hassan
16.	Karnataka	Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF)
17.	Karnataka	Kolar
18.	Karnataka	Mandya
19.	Karnataka	Shimoga
20.	Karnataka	Tumkur
21.	Karnataka	Raichur
22.	Kerala	Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (KCMMF)
23.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
24.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
25.	Maharashtra	Kolhapur Milk Union

Sl. No.	State	Name of Milk Cooperative
26.	Maharashtra	Rajaram Bapu (Walva)
27.	Odisha	Orissa State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation (OMFED)
28.	Punjab	Ludhiana
29.	Punjab	The Punjab State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited (MILKFED) (Centralised)
30.	Punjab	Patiala
31.	Punjab	Jalandhar
32.	Rajasthan	Bhilwara
33.	Rajasthan	Bikaner
34.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation Ltd. (RCDF)
35.	Tamil Nadu	Salem
36.	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited (TCMPF)
37.	Telangana	Telangana Milk Federation
38.	Punjab	Baani Milk Producer Company
39.	Rajasthan	Paayas Milk Producer Company

Transactions under e-nam platform

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

(a) the number of transactions made by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) on the e-NAM platform, State-wise;

(b) the total number of all transactions made on the e-NAM platform, State-wise;

(c) the value of transactions made by the FCI on the e-NAM platform, State-wise; and

(d) the value of all transactions made on the e-NAM platform, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) E-NAM is an electronic trading portal with Pan India trading facility which networks the existing

APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. FCI and State Government/Agencies have been mandated by the Government to undertake procurement of foodgrains at Minimum Support Price (MSP). FCI has developed its own depot online system for procurement purpose for which they are not transacting online on the e-NAM platform.

(b) This State-wise total number of trade recorded on e-NAM platform is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

(d) The State-wise total value of trade recorded on e-NAM platform is given in the Statement.

Statement

*State-wise Total Transactions on National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)
and its value form 14th April, 16 to 20th Jan., 18*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Lots Traded	Qty (Ton)	Trade Value (in crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	515752	531842.93	1591.73
2.	Chhattisgarh	92333	152985.00	303.61
3.	Gujarat	530087	996402.94	3959.67
4.	Haryana	1956262	9207711.76	19501.60
5.	Himachal Pradesh	179517	63491.68	228.31
6.	Jharkhand	2008	2113.81	3.12
7.	Madhya Pradesh	178534	166125.97	587.51
8.	Maharashtra	30830	59207.21	161.91
9.	Odisha	4893	6404.67	24.15
10.	Rajasthan	183841	300124.27	924.70
11.	Tamil Nadu	2477	1954.94	4.33
12.	Telangana	1402500	2142867.92	6795.71
13.	Uttar Pradesh	442223	1444625.66	2070.69
14.	Uttarakhand	14696	38988.92	51.82
TOTAL		55,35,953	15114847.70	36208.86

Subsidies to farmers under NDRF/SDRF

3. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of guidelines to be followed by the States while approving input subsidies to farmers under NDRF/SDRF in case of crop loss due to drought, flood, hailstorm, pest-attack and cold wave/frost etc.;

(b) the various rates of input subsidies given to the States for different crops like paddy, wheat and other cereals;

(c) the names of States reported to have been affected by notified list of disasters; and

(d) the details of Central team deputed and sent for assessment of losses of crops, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the States. The concerned State Governments undertake assessment of damage and relief operations in the wake of notified natural disasters, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal, in accordance with the magnitude of the ground situation. However, assistance is provided to the affected farmers from SDRF and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per laid down procedure. Assistance from NDRF is admissible for natural calamities of severe nature only. The extant norms, *inter alia*, provide for assistance to the farmers in the form of Agriculture/Horticulture input subsidy (where crop loss is 33% and above) for damage caused to cropped areas due to the notified natural calamities only. As such, under the SDRF/NDRF norms, assistance is provided in the form of input subsidy for total crop area damaged and not crop-wise. These are ₹ 6,800/- per hectare for rainfed crop areas, ₹ 13,500/- per hectare for assured irrigated areas, subject to minimum assistance not less than ₹ 1,000/- and restricted to sown areas, and ₹ 18,000/- per hectare for all types of perennial crop areas, subject to minimum assistance not less than ₹ 2,000/- and restricted to sown areas; where crop loss is more than 33% and above.

(c) and (d) During the year 2017, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), as intimated, received 16 Memoranda from 15 States and 1 Union Territory, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, and Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

During 2017-18, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare received Memoranda from the State Governments of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan in the wake of drought during Kharif 2017. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have visited the affected areas of the States. The reports of the IMCTs in respect of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh were considered by the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC) and recommendations of SC-NEC have been conveyed to the MHA for placing before the High Level Committee for approval.

This Ministry has also received Memorandum from the State Government of Maharashtra in the wake of pest attack on paddy and cotton crops during Kharif 2017.

Production of fruits and vegetables in Himachal Pradesh

4. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any target for the production of fruits and vegetables in different States of the country, including Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to achieve the said targets;

(c) the details of the production of fruits and vegetables in different States of the country, including Himachal Pradesh, during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the details of assistance provided/to be provided by Government to Himachal Pradesh for promoting production of fruits and vegetables during the last three years and current year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total production target of 310 million metric ton of horticulture produce including fruits and vegetables was kept under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period for the country (including Himachal Pradesh).

Under MIDH, for the promotion of horticulture throughout the country and to achieve the said targets, financial and technical assistance is provided to States/UTs for following major interventions/activities:

- Setting up of nurseries, tissue culture units for production of quality seed and planting material.

- Area expansion *i.e.* Establishment of new orchards and gardens for fruits, vegetables, and flowers.
- Rejuvenation of unproductive, old, and senile orchards.
- Protected cultivation, *i.e.* poly-house, green-house, etc. to improve the productivity and grow off season high value vegetables and flowers.
- Organic farming and certification.
- Creation of water resources structures and watershed management.
- Bee-keeping for pollination.
- Horticulture Mechanization.
- Creation of Post Harvest Management and Marketing infrastructure.

(c) State-wise details of the production of fruits and vegetables in different States of the country including Himachal Pradesh during the last three years and current year are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(d) Details of funds allocation (GoI Share) and releases made to Himachal Pradesh under MIDH for promoting horticulture crops during the last three years and current year is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Item	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Allocation (GoI)	48.00	31.50	32.00	32.00
Release	42.42	24.49	24.25	10.00

Statement-I

State-wise details of the production of fruits including Himachal Pradesh during the last three years and current year

(Production in '000 tonnes)

State/UTs	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
				(1st Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	9121.62	10088.82	13612.92	13912.66
Arunachal Pradesh	331.40	306.27	124.38	125.34
Assam	2030.14	2077.77	2024.84	2433.95
Bihar	3990.00	4230.63	4234.62	4234.62
Chhattisgarh	2071.14	2294.73	2480.40	2514.49

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	8300.60	8477.17	8937.42	9026.79
Haryana	703.68	737.82	770.97	1050.00
Himachal Pradesh	751.94	928.83	611.88	596.29
Jammu and Kashmir	1779.44	2115.72	2241.06	2241.06
Jharkhand	898.08	961.19	1047.97	1034.81
Karnataka	6799.89	7023.69	7218.38	7559.08
Kerala	2554.12	2532.94	2509.13	2493.90
Madhya Pradesh	6119.00	5783.06	6935.60	7004.95
Maharashtra	11089.53	9749.80	10630.08	10879.88
Manipur	521.57	467.76	478.77	523.61
Meghalaya	377.25	395.40	426.86	443.02
Mizoram	350.91	330.28	339.05	342.04
Nagaland	411.00	374.13	388.49	380.30
Odisha	2156.49	2386.94	2432.27	2433.61
Punjab	1644.64	1790.94	1818.19	1908.46
Rajasthan	735.60	681.57	995.60	1008.08
Sikkim	0.03	23.48	25.56	24.01
Tamil Nadu	5963.93	6635.10	6181.77	5158.35
Telangana	5287.70	4319.87	1200.30	1765.90
Tripura	819.12	854.05	559.92	594.70
Uttar Pradesh	7558.99	10296.14	10302.76	10521.77
Uttarakhand	785.97	659.10	662.85	669.48
West Bengal	3313.70	3516.71	3585.30	3848.97
Others	134.23	143.16	140.75	153.67
TOTAL	86601.68	90183.04	92918.04	94883.86

Source: Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agnculture, Coopn. and Farmers Welfare

Statement-II

State-wise details of the production of vegetables including Himachal Pradesh during the last three years and current year

(Production in '000 tonnes)				
State/UTs	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (1st Estimates)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	4592.58	5442.77	8026.36	8503.87
Arunachal Pradesh	41.00	33.01	14.42	14.57
Assam	4469.73	3821.71	3329.58	4033.30
Bihar	14467.15	14400.12	14520.97	14520.97
Chhattisgarh	5812.32	6318.41	6728.00	7000.82
Gujarat	11861.23	13401.39	13161.25	13292.86
Haryana	5305.59	6129.36	6180.43	7905.00
Himachal Pradesh	1585.37	1715.16	1783.77	1770.29
Jammu and Kashmir	1395.47	1386.37	1410.42	1424.52
Jharkhand	4279.28	3373.82	3370.00	3399.88
Karnataka	8828.37	7804.57	8167.16	8547.30
Kerala	1645.06	2088.66	1921.45	2010.78
Madhya Pradesh	14199.00	15568.26	17928.50	18208.79
Maharashtra	8783.01	9452.07	10520.49	9043.98
Manipur	268.01	316.51	369.86	359.30
Meghalaya	534.00	494.88	523.42	522.55
Mizoram	273.76	179.02	179.88	179.86
Nagaland	492.37	494.61	564.62	561.57
Odisha	9413.54	8755.51	8761.61	8768.77
Punjab	4167.65	4301.63	4564.91	4917.68
Rajasthan	1433.23	1986.73	1795.37	1935.76
Sikkim	130.06	106.94	190.72	190.72
Tamil Nadu	7521.02	6976.15	6559.84	5656.99
Telangana	3005.33	3195.44	1647.03	1519.30

1	2	3	4	5
Tripura	811.09	793.24	817.94	802.37
Uttar Pradesh	26120.18	26251.00	28192.63	28226.19
Uttarakhand	1109.65	945.36	945.29	954.74
West Bengal	26354.61	22825.45	25505.66	25892.08
Others	578.57	505.81	490.83	519.34
TOTAL	169478.23	169063.93	178172.41	180684.15

Source: Horticulture Statistics Division, Department of Agnculture, Coopn. and Farmers Welfare

Welfare schemes for female farmers

5. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study on the problems being faced by female farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, if not, whether Government will conduct such a study; and

(c) the details of schemes initiated, if any, by Government for the welfare of female farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In all, 4 studies have been conducted by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to understand the problems of women farmers; 3 by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) with regard to their access to land, tools and technologies and information support and 1 by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on impact of lac cultivation on tribal women. Another study on women's access to credit and financial institutions by DAC&FW is currently under way. The Department wise and State-wise details are given in Stataement (*See below*).

(c) As a part of the mainstreaming efforts, the States have been directed to ensure flow of funds to the tune of 30% for the benefit of women farmers under all the beneficiary oriented schemes of the Department. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 681 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country mandated with Technology Assessment and Demonstration for its Application and Capacity Development – (TADA-CD), KVKs organise demonstrations, training programs and skill development programs for the benefit of farmers and

farm women, rural youth and in-service extension personnel. Women are encouraged to participate in all the programs. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is, however, not implementing any specific Scheme exclusively for women farmers.

The Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development has a scheme, namely, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP), which is a sub-component of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to meet the specific needs of women farmers and help achieve their socio economic and technical empowerment, predominantly of small and marginal farmers. MKSP focuses on organisation and mobilisation of Mahila Kisan and their training, in order to enable them to manage and sustain their activities.

Statement

Details of the Studies taken up by MoA&FW to understand the problems being faced by female farmers

Sl. No.	Name of the study	Department/ Institute	Status	States Covered
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Existing State Polices, programmes, interventions and process and their impact on women's access to land	DAC&FW/National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture, New Delhi	Completed	Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Meghalaya
2.	Adoption of Gender Friendly To Is by Women Farmers and its impact on their lives	DAC&FW/National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture, New Delhi	Completed	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Meghalaya
3.	Schemes for Improving Women Fatmers' Access to Extension Services and Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture.	DAC&FW/National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture, New Delhi	Completed	Punjab, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Assam
4.	Kisan Credit Card and Issues Related to Credit Availability to Women: Role of Financial Institution in Empowering Women Farmers	DAC&FW/National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture, New Delhi	On-going	Punjab, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Impact of lac cultivation on econormc strengthening of tribal women	ICAR/Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums, Namkum, Ranchi	Completed	Khunti District of Jharkhand

Income of farmers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that income of farmers has been hit badly in the last two years, despite bumper crops; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to boost farm economy and save farmers from the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The average income of agricultural households in the country is estimated by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) through the “Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households” conducted from time to time. The last such Survey was conducted by NSSO in 2013 (January-December). As per the results of this Survey, the average monthly income per agricultural household from various sources is estimated to be ₹ 6426.

Agriculture is a state subject and primary responsibility of the State Governments. Union Government supplements their efforts through implementation of various schemes/programmes. With a view to improve the economic condition of farmers in the country and promote agriculture, various schemes are being implemented by the Government, including, *inter alia*, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Neem Coated Urea, creation of a unified national agriculture market (e-NAM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), etc. As a result of implementation of these schemes and other focused interventions by the Union and State Governments, foodgrains production in the country has increased from 251.57 million tonnes in 2015-16 to a record high of 275.68 million tonnes in 2016-17 (Fourth Advance Estimates).

Suicides by farmers in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the NCRB the suicides of farmers and farm labourers in Andhra Pradesh have gone up from 632 in 2014 to 916 in 2015;

(b) the details of suicides of farmers and farm labourers in 2016 and 2017 in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the reasons for consistent increase in farm deaths in spite of favourable rains in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) in what manner the Ministry is going to help the State to address this serious issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides are available upto 2015 on its website. The Reports for the year 2016 onwards have not been published yet. As per the Reports for the year 2014-15 the total number of suicide committed by farmers/labourers in the State of Andhra Pradesh are 632 and 916 respectively. In view of provisional data for the year 2016 as provided by NCRB, the total numbers of suicide committed by farmers/labourers in the State of Andhra Pradesh are 804.

As per Report of 2015, 'Bankruptcy or Indebtedness' and Farming Related Issues' are reported as major causes of suicides among farmers/cultivators. Other prominent causes of farmers/cultivators suicides are family problems, illness, etc.

Agrarian distress as manifest from large number of farmers living below the poverty (BPL) line and unfortunate incidents of suicides can be addressed by enabling the farmers to increase their income. Agriculture is state subject. However, the Government is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to examine various dimension of farmers' income and to recommend an appropriate strategy. In the meanwhile, the Government is realigning its interventions to move from production-centric to farmers' income-centric platform. The Department has, therefore, been implementing various schemes to meet this objective viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated

Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market Scheme (e-NAM), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Interest Subvention Scheme etc.

Increasing farm production and doubling the income of farmers

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

(a) the concrete steps Government has taken to increase farm production and for doubling the income of farmers;

(b) whether any tie-up has been made with Israel to borrow latest techniques to increase farm production, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Indo-Israel task force has been created for the implementation of the programme; and

(d) if so, by when the positive results are likely to be visible on the ground level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government is aiming to reorient agriculture sector by focusing on income centeredness in addition to pure production-centeredness. In order to realise net positive returns for the farmer, schemes as follows, are being promoted and implemented in a major way, *viz*: Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme; Neem Coated Urea (NCU); Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY); Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY); National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM); Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); 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). In addition, schemes relating to tree plantation (Har Medh Par Ped), Bee Keeping, Dairy and Fisheries are also being implemented. All these schemes are being implemented to enhance production and productivity of agriculture and thereby enhance income of farmers.

Further, to achieve the target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022, the Government has also constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. At present, nine volumes prepared by the

Committee have been uploaded on the website of this Department (<http://agricoop.nic.in/doubling-farmers>) for seeking public opinion.

(b) to (d) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Indo-Israel Agriculture Action Plan 2015-18, as part of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), 1993, between India and Israel for cooperation in the field of agriculture. The Action Plan includes transfer of technology for horticulture development. Under this Action Plan, Centres of Excellence (CoE) are being established with technical cooperation from Israel. The main objective of establishment of these CoEs is demonstration of technologies, training and production of planting material. Under this Action Plan, Israeli experts also travel to these centres and impart hands on training to horticulture field staff and farmers. This is benefit to farmers.

Profitable price for potato growing farmers

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

(a) whether Government is aware that potato growing farmers are compelled to sell their produce at 10 to 20 paise per kilogram during the current season due to its bumper crop; and

(b) if so, the details of measures Central Government would take to ensure profitable price to potato growing farmers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No. As reported from Government of Uttar Pradesh, during the year 2017, the average market price of potato was ₹ 451/- (March), ₹ 462/- (April), ₹ 485/- (May), ₹ 534/- (June), ₹ 588/- (July), ₹ 569/- (August), ₹ 541/- (September), ₹ 516/- (October), ₹ 494/- (November) and ₹ 499/- Qtls. (in December).

(b) Several measures taken by the Government to ensure profitable price to potato growing farmers of the country are:—

- Launch of National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016 with objective to reduce price gap, induce competition and transparency in sale transactions. e-NAM has been implemented in 470 wholesale markets in 14 States in which competitive online bidding system has been introduced for better price realization by the farmers.
- Further, the Government released a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” on

24th April, 2017 for its adoption by States/UTs. The provisions include setting up of private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity markets, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storages or such structures as market sub yards. Adoption of these reforms by State, create alternate marketing channels for better price realization by farmers.

- To enable the farmers to get better remunerative prices, AGMARKNET portal is providing information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets.
- Assistance is available under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture for development of infrastructure for post-harvest management and marketing including establishment of cold storages, processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans, integrated cold chain and low cost onion storage. In the country 35.88 MMT of cold storage capacity have been created to store horticultural produce including potato.
- Under post-harvest component credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% to @ 50% of the project cost is available. Assistance for creation of cold storage/cold chain component is provided to individuals, group farmers/growers/consumer, partnership/proprietary firms, self-help groups, farmers producer organisations, companies, corporations, co-operatives, co-operative marketing federations, agricultural produce market committees and marketing boards, State Governments and local bodies like Panchayats.
- Government is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are generally perishable in nature. The basic objective of MIS 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/UTs Administration willing to share losses with the Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States).
- Government of India is implementing a new Central Sector Scheme – Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for the creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain from farm gate to retail outlet so, that farmers can get profitable prices for agricultural and horticultural commodities including potato.

Benefits of neem-coated urea

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

(a) the extent to which the introduction of neem-coated urea by Government has benefited the farmers;

(b) whether neem-coated urea has also helped to improve farm production, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the arrangements made by Government for providing neem-coated urea to the farmers easily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) As per study conducted by Agro-Economic Research Centre of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, the output and net returns were higher for the neem coated urea (NCU) than the non NCU farmers and urea cost per acre was significantly lower for NCU farmers and they benefited mainly due to reduced usage of total urea. The total input cost, yield as well as gross returns were also significantly higher for the NCU farmers. The increase in gross returns is mainly due to the yield effect rather than the price effect. The National Productivity Council study also shows that the use of Neem Coated Urea has resulted in lower consumption of fertilizer by about 4-5 per cent with lower incidence of pests and diseases with higher yields to the tune of 5-6 percentage.

(c) The Government has promoted the use of neem coated urea with a view to increase nitrogen-use efficiency, Government of India (GOI) has with effect from 25.05.2015 made it mandatory for manufacturers to produce 100% neem coated urea. Further, Government made it mandatory to coat all the imported urea with neem Oil w.e.f from December, 2015 onwards. Hence all the urea available in the country from December, 2015 onwards is neem coated. For the Rabi 2017-18 seasons, the Ministry has allocated 154.30 LMT of neem coated urea and on the basis of that the Department of Fertilizer issues the monthly supply plan. So far 117.07 LMT has been made available to the States.

Drought in the country

11. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of districts across the country have been declared drought affected, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(b) the corrective action taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) During 2017-18, the State Government of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have submitted Memorandum declaring drought and seeking financial assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), as detailed below:—

State	Number of districts
Chhattisgarh	21
Madhya Pradesh	18
Rajasthan	13

Further, the State Government of Odisha has intimated that it has declared drought in 15 districts and has provided funds to the Collectors from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for disbursement towards Agriculture Input Subsidy to the affected farmers as per the existing guidelines. The State Governments have ready availability of funds under SDRF for taking immediate measures in the wake of all notified natural calamities, including drought. Assistance from NDRF is admissible for natural calamities of severe nature. In response to the Memorandums received from Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for assistance from NDRF, Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have visited these States for assessment of the drought situation and requirement of financial assistance. The proposals received from these States for assistance from NDRF are under consideration

Compensation to farmers for crop loss due to natural calamities

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

(a) whether due to delay in estimation, earlier, farmers were not able to get compensation on time for damage to their crops from natural disasters and the amount of compensation also used to be very low in proportion to damage done;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether farmers are able to get compensation on time for damage to their crops due to natural disasters following the introduction of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in January, 2016 and whether the amount of compensation is also adequate in proportion to damage done; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (d) Crop insurance is a financial tool to insure the crop losses on payment of admissible premium to the insurance company. Only those farmers who insure their crops and have paid premium for any of the notified crop in the area, notified by the concerned State Government, are insured under the insurance scheme. Admissible claims are worked out and paid strictly as per the provisions of the respective schemes.

In order to protect the farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India is implementing a new yield index based scheme, namely, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), from Kharif 2016 season, which has replaced the erstwhile schemes of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS). Similarly, Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), a weather index based scheme, has also been restructured by making the premium of the farmers, selection of insurance company and administrative and operational structure at par with PMFBY.

Timelines for settlement of claims have been prescribed in the Operational Guidelines of PMFBY/restructured WBCIS. Under the new schemes of PMFBY and restructured WBCIS, the sum insured has been rationalized and made equal to the Scale of Finance fixed by the District Level Technical Committee (DLTC). Further, cap on premium under erstwhile schemes which resulted in reduced sum insured/claims has been removed. Farmers are, therefore, getting better claims under the new schemes.

Data on average income of farmers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that NSSO has discontinued estimating average income of farmers now;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor; and

(c) in the absence of data regarding average income of farmers, how Government is going to arrive at the target of doubling the income of farmers by 2022 in the absence of any reference point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The average monthly income per farmer household/agricultural household is estimated by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) through the 'Situation Assessment Survey'

conducted from time to time. The first “Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers” was conducted in rural areas of the country during NSS 59th round (January-December 2003). Thereafter, during the 70th round (January-December, 2013), a repeat “Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households” was conducted by NSSO. In the 2013 Survey, NSSO estimated average income per ‘agricultural household’ and discontinued estimating average income of ‘farmer household’.

Under the 2003 Survey, a ‘farmer’ was defined as a person who possesses and operates some land and is engaged in agricultural activities. However, possession of land as a criterion was dispensed with in 2013 survey of NSSO, in recognition of the fact that significant agricultural activity can be carried out without possessing any land. Agricultural household now is defined as one which produces crops, livestock, and any other produce specified as agricultural activities.

(c) The Inter-Ministerial Committee set up by the Government to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers’ income by the year 2022 has uploaded nine volumes, out of the fourteen volumes of the draft Report/s, on the Department’s website for seeking public opinion (<http://agricoop.nic.in/doubling-farmers>). As per the available reports, Government’s objective is to double the average all-India income of agricultural households by 2022.

Funds for West Bengal under National Agro Forestry and Bamboo Mission

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

(a) whether it is a fact that over the last three years, no money has been released to the State of West Bengal under the National Agro Forestry and Bamboo Mission, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of funds allocated and released to States under this Mission over the past three years; and

(c) the details of all schemes implemented under this Mission for the State of West Bengal over the past three years and also the regions along with the yield of bamboo crop in the country, State-wise, over the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir. No money has been released to West Bengal State under the National Bamboo Mission over the last three years due to non-submission of proper utilisation certificate and physical progress for ₹ 129.15 lakhs released in 2008-09.

(b) The details of funds allocated and released to States under National Bamboo Mission over the past three years are given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) No reports of works carried out under the Mission have been received from West Bengal.

Details of Physiographic Zone-wise distribution of bamboo outside forest areas and State-wise distribution and sound weight of culms in recorded forest are given in Statement-II and Statement-III respectively.

Statement-I

Details of allocation and release to States under National Bamboo Mission during last three years

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No	States	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17*	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	83.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Bihar	76.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	512.40	380.00	514.95	513.00	143.21	143.21
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	439.06	291.16	476.00	476.00	152.70	152.70
6.	Himachal Pradesh	135.71	81.08	116.72	116.72	48.08	24.04
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	203.31	77.41	0.00	0.00	15.99	0.00
8.	Jharkhand	198.45	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Karnataka	616.09	464.62	400.00	400.00	178.50	133.88
10.	Kerala	112.53	109.54	0.00	0.00	9.19	0.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	684.34	681.10	1030.00	1029.25	120.30	116.49
12.	Maharashtra	268.80	58.61	245.70	175.00	18.02	0.00
13.	Odisha	564.43	388.14	498.00	498.00	185.91	102.79
14.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Rajasthan	219.84	31.24	68.42	68.42	19.47	0.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	120.72	15.00	35.00	35.00	30.39	22.79
17.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	257.67	50.00	126.55	126.55	0.00	0.00
19.	Uttarakhand	99.25	28.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	West Bengal	93.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUB-TOTAL		4686.23	2696.48	3561.34	3487.94	921.76	695.90
NE States							
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	1376.29	1281.90	350.00	350.00	138.60	138.60
22.	Assam	1065.23	296.64	70.00	70.00	156.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	1023.22	861.57	695.97	695.97	272.21	194.05
24.	Meghalaya	308.85	96.62	0.00	0.00	27.83	0.00
25.	Mizoram	1396.00	1230.00	830.21	830.21	416.58	416.58
26.	Nagaland	1136.66	1135.91	872.50	872.50	388.50	244.25
27.	Sikkim	301.46	56.76	256.99	245.60	24.68	0.00
28.	Tripura	198.73	80.60	124.33	124.33	20.50	0.00
SUB-TOTAL (N.E.)		6806.44	5040.00	3200.00	3188.61	1444.90	993.48
GRAND TOTAL		11492.67	7736.48	6761.34	6676.55	2366.66	1689.38

* Fund was released only for maintenance of Bamboo Plantation carried out during 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Statement-II

Physiographic zone-wise bamboo estimation outside forest area (Rural)

Physiographic Zone	Geographical Area (Sq. km.)	Equivalent Green Weight (Million Tonnes)
1	2	3
Western Himalayas	329255	0.55
Eastern Himalayas	74618	0.32
North East	133990	1.72
Northern Plains	295780	0.24
Eastern Plains	223339	4.07
Western Plains	319098	0.03
Central Highlands	373675	0.53
North Deccan	355988	0.23
East Deccan	336289	0.97
South Deccan	292416	0.16
Western Ghats	72381	0.28
Eastern Ghats	191698	0.02

1	2	3
West Coast	121242	0.77
East Coast	167494	0.24
TOTAL	3287263	10.20

Source: Table 6.5.7 of India State of Forest Report 2011, Forest Survey of India (M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change), Government of India.

Statement-III

State-wise Distribution of Bamboo Area and sound weight of culms in Recorded Forests

State/UTs	Bamboo bearing area (sq. km.)	Green Culms ('000 tonnes)	Dry Culms ('000 tonnes)	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	8184	4732	2080	6812
Arunachal Pradesh	16083	12359	2072	14431
Assam	7238	9985	2301	12286
Bihar	739	1023	394	1417
Chhattisgarh	11368	1863	904	2767
Goa	308	50	31	81
Gujarat	4091	3433	1626	5059
Haryana	19	--	--	--
Himachal Pradesh	508	773	567	1340
Jharkhand	3603	736	357	1093
Karnataka	8186	10436	4724	15160
Kerala	2882	6399	2818	9217
Madhya Pradesh	13059	4497	5671	10168
Maharashtra	11465	13024	6087	19111
Manipur	9303	11617	2121	13738
Meghalaya	4793	6334	1157	7491
Mizoram	9245	11150	2037	13187
Nagaland	4902	6150	1124	7274
Odisha	10518	3336	1404	4740
Punjab	75	13	10	23
Rajasthan	2455	1692	2722	4414

1	2	3	4	5
Sikkim	1181	772	115	887
Tamil Nadu	3265	5797	2499	8296
Tripura	3246	4198	767	4965
Uttar Pradesh	1313	424	591	1015
Uttarakhand	451	690	506	1196
West Bengal	1042	2158	681	2839
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	55	212	93	305
TOTAL	139577	123853	45459	169312
%		73	27	100

Note: Information for Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and Puducherry is not given due to inadequate data.

Source: Table 6.5.3 and table 6.5.6 of India State of Forest Report 2011, Forest Survey of India (M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change), Government of India.

Decline in public investment in Agriculture sector

15. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in public investment in Agriculture sector during the last five years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has taken any concrete steps to bail out the Agriculture sector from the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Public investment in agriculture and allied sectors (at 2011-12 prices) increased from ₹ 35696 crore in 2011-12 to ₹ 44957 crore in 2015-16. The details of the same from 2011-12 to 2015-16 (latest available) is given below:—

(₹ crore)

Year	Public Investment (at 2011-12 prices)
2011-12	35696
2012-13	36019
2013-14	33925
2014-15	36714
2015-16	44957

Source: Central Statistics Office (CSO), M/o Statistics and PI.

(c) Government has taken several steps for increasing investment in agriculture sector such as enhanced institutional credit to farmers; promotion of scientific warehousing infrastructure for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce; setting up of Agri-tech Infrastructure Fund for making farming competitive and profitable; developing commercial organic farming etc.

Further, under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, which is a major scheme for incentivizing States to increase investment in agriculture and allied sectors, 35% of annual outlay has been earmarked for infrastructure and asset development.

Setting up of cattle feed knowledge portal

16. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed and launched NDDB cattle feed knowledge portal as an interactive knowledge platform on various aspects of compound cattle feed production, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government needs to ensure good quality cattle feed and mineral mixture to improve per animal productivity and meet international standards as India is the largest milk producer in the world and there is an ample scope to improve further in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Compound cattle feed, being an important source of nutrients in the ration, plays an important role in determining the overall economics of dairy production system. Usually, all information pertaining to cattle feed plant is not available from a single source. In view of this, NDDB has developed a cattle feed plant knowledge portal for the feed manufacturers to get thorough information on the specification of various type of feeds, raw material specifications and access to least cost feed (LCF) formulation software to derive LCF formulation.

(b) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Government of India is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme National Livestock Mission since 2014-15 with a Sub Mission on Feed and Fodder Development with various components *viz.*, Establishment of Fodder Block Making Units, Bypass protein making units, Area Specific Mineral Mixture/Feed pelleting and Feed manufacturing units, Establishment/Modernisation of Feed Testing laboratories. Under the Sub Mission, financial assistance is being provided to the States and Union Territories so that good quality cattle feed and mineral mixture can be provided to the dairy farmers thereby improving milk and animal productivity.

Improvement in PMFBY

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

(a) whether Government is planning to improve flagship farm insurance scheme that has faced criticism for tardy implementation and being skewed in favour of insurers, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government is scouting for technology and looking at experience of other countries to improve the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) No, Sir. However, as a result of experience in implementation of the crop insurance schemes, the operational guidelines are reviewed on periodic basis and suitable changes are made wherever found necessary.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The PMFBY provides for infusion of improved technology like Remote sensing, use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV/DRONE), smartphone/CCE Agri App, for early/timely settlement of claims of farmers. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) platform namely, National Crop Insurance Portal has also been developed to integrate all the stakeholders to facilitate the realtime information flow, better coordination, transparency and auto-administration of the scheme. Experiences of other countries are also examined while adopting the aforesaid technology under PMFBY.

Diversification from tobacco farming

18. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

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

(a) whether allocations of ₹ 25 crore and ₹ 30 crore have been made as Central share during 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively to diversify tobacco farming in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal;

(b) whether Government has received any feedback on utilisation of funds by States to convert tobacco farmers into alternate farming, if so, details thereof;

(c) whether any positive results have been recorded, if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to increase funds allocation for future, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) had made budgetary allocations of ₹ 25.00 crore and ₹ 30.00 crore as Central share during 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively under Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), an ongoing sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternate crops/cropping system in ten tobacco growing states namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) State Governments have reported utilisation of a total amount of ₹ 2903.468 lakh including Central and State share during 2015-16 and 2016-17. This includes ₹ 1980.00 lakh by Government of Andhra Pradesh, ₹ 65.66 lakh by Bihar, ₹ 96.54 lakh by Gujarat, ₹ 632.27 lakh by Karnataka and ₹ 128.998 lakh by West Bengal under CDP for shifting from tobacco farming to alternate crops. The expenditure on subsidy under CDP is shared on 60:40 basis between Central and State Governments.

(c) As per the reports of the State Governments, tobacco area shifted to other crops under CDP are; 49553 hectares in Andhra Pradesh, 351 hectares in Bihar, 348 hectares in Gujarat, 5804 hectares in Karnataka and 2250 hectares in West Bengal during 2016-17. Besides, the State Government of Odisha and Tamil Nadu have also reported diversion of tobacco area to alternate crops in an area of 5080 hectares from 2001-02 to 2016-17 and 2131 hectares during 2015-16, respectively.

(d) Government consider need based allocation of funds under the scheme annually.

Land usage in India

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

(a) whether cultivable land is steadily decreasing in the country due to diversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this diversion has affected the agricultural production in the country;

(c) the details of land under cultivation and land irrigated with different sources in the country over the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the details of funds allocated and released under major schemes of the Ministry over the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) As per the latest data available on land use statistics, cultivable land (Agricultural Land) in the country in 2005-06 was 182.69 million hectares and estimated to have marginally declined to 181.89 million hectares in 2014-15. The reduction in percentage of agricultural land has been mainly due to diversion of land for non-agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries, housing etc. While there is shift in agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes, non-agricultural land is also being brought under agricultural uses.

(b) Despite marginal decline in the cultivable area, the agricultural production and productivity in the country has been generally increasing as a result of various initiatives taken by the Government with the exception of the years affected by drought, floods, other natural calamities, etc.

(c) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2014-15 (latest available), the State-wise details of Area under Cultivation/Agricultural land and land irrigated with different sources in the country for the last three years *i.e.* from 2012-13 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See* below).

(d) The details of funds allocated and released under major schemes of the Ministry over the last three years, State-wise are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise details of area under cultivation/agricultural land in the country from 2012-13 to 2014-15 (latest available)

	(Thousand Hectares)		
States/UTs	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Andhra Pradesh	15930	8879	9047
Arunachal Pradesh	424	424	423
Assam	3356	3357	3364
Bihar	6582	6578	6579
Chhattisgarh	5552	5550	5558
Goa	197	197	197
Gujarat	12661	12661	12661

States/UTs	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Haryana	3664	3645	3656
Himachal Pradesh	812	812	812
Jammu and Kashmir	1070	1070	1075
Jharkhand	4336	4343	4343
Karnataka	12846	12840	12827
Kerala	2280	2279	2266
Madhya Pradesh	17264	17267	17252
Maharashtra	21129	21127	21099
Manipur	316	384	390
Meghalaya	1056	1056	1056
Mizoram	408	402	367
Nagaland	694	693	694
Odisha	6743	6797	6784
Punjab	4286	4219	4285
Rajasthan	25548	25542	25511
Sikkim	97	97	97
Tamil Nadu	8126	8120	8112
Telangana	—	6929	6877
Tripura	274	273	272
Uttarakhand	1547	1550	1549
Uttar Pradesh	19075	18955	18939
West Bengal	5673	5662	5655
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28	28	28
Chandigarh	1	1	1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24	24	24
Daman and Diu	3	3	3
Delhi	53	53	53
Lakshadweep	2	2	2
Puducherry	30	30	29
ALL INDIA	182085	181850	181886

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Statement-II

*State-wise and source-wise details of Net Irrigated Area during
2012-13 to 2014-15 (latest available)*

(Thousand Hectares)

States/ UTs/Year	Canals			Tanks	Wells		Other Sources	Net Irrigated Area
	Government	Private	Total		Tube- Wells	Other Wells		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh								
2012-13	1265		1265	503	2032	612	162	4575
2013-14	1429		1429	340	1044	76	124	3014
2014-15	1429		1429	293	1010	70	125	2927
Arunachal Pradesh								
2012-13							57	57
2013-14							57	57
2014-15							56	56
Assam								
2012-13	82		82	9	72	1	157	321
2013-14	79		79	9	74	1	140	303
2014-15	77		77	10	74	1	134	296
Bihar								
2012-13	955		955	59	1902	20	118	3053
2013-14	914		914	58	1830	20	112	2933
2014-15	934		934	57	1860	20	115	2987
Chhattisgarh								
2012-13	877	0	877	49	419	20	84	1449
2013-14	874	0	874	50	439	19	80	1462
2014-15	902		902	43	428	20	73	1466
Goa								
2012-13							36	36
2013-14	9		9	21	4	2	2	38
2014-15	9		9	21	5	3	2	39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Gujarat								
2012-13	771		771	45	1122	2181	114	4233
2013-14	771		771	45	1122	2181	114	4233
2014-15	771		771	45	1122	2181	114	4233
Haryana								
2012-13	1345		1345		1757		0	3102
2013-14	1210		1210		1721		0	2931
2014-15	1151		1151		1818	4	0	2974
Himachal Pradesh								
2012-13	4		4	0	23	2	83	113
2013-14	4		4	0	23	2	83	113
2014-15	4		4	0	23	2	83	113
Jammu and Kashmir								
2012-13	175	110	285	8	4	6	21	325
2013-14	174	109	284	8	4	6	21	323
2014-15	179	112	291	8	4	6	22	331
Jharkhand								
2012-13	7		7	48	43	55	57	210
2013-14	6		6	52	41	66	53	217
2014-15	7		7	49	38	63	50	207
Karnataka								
2012-13	1136		1136	138	1321	407	418	3421
2013-14	1253		1253	154	1322	411	416	3556
2014-15	1177		1177	158	1402	379	473	3589
Kerala								
2012-13	81	2	83	44	26	122	121	396
2013-14	80	1	81	45	30	125	116	397
2014-15	86	1	87	47	30	133	117	414
Madhya Pradesh								
2012-13	1440	0	1440	227	2741	2986	1156	8550
2013-14	1625	0	1625	264	3109	3108	1347	9455
2014-15	1646	0	1646	273	3281	3122	1262	9584

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Maharashtra								
2012-13	1080		1080		2164			3244
2013-14	1081		1081		2167			3248
2014-15	1080		1080		2164			3244
Manipur								
2012-13							49	49
2013-14							69	69
2014-15							69	69
Meghalaya								
2012-13	28	38	65					65
2013-14	31	37	68					68
2014-15	47	34	81					81
Mizoram								
2012-13	2	12	14					14
2013-14	2	13	16					16
2014-15	2	14	16					16
Nagaland								
2013-14							91	91
2014-15							97	97
Odisha								
2012-13							1248	1248
2013-14							1245	1245
2014-15							1259	1259
Punjab								
2012-13	1133		1133		2982			4115
2013-14	1122		1122		3022			4143
2014-15	1175		1175		2943			4118
Rajasthan								
2012-13	1901		1901	92	3118	2264	125	7499
2013-14	1859		1859	67	3402	2159	162	7650
2014-15	1929		1929	70	3557	2176	150	7882

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sikkim								
2012-13							13	13
2013-14							13	13
2014-15							12	12
Tamil Nadu								
2012-13	590	0	590	420	420	1206	7	2643
2013-14	653		653	378	463	1179	6	2679
2014-15	669	0	669	368	493	1191	4	2726
Telangana								
2013-14	290		290	230	1082	630	57	2289
2014-15	174		174	97	948	465	43	1726
Tripura								
2012-13	10		10	1	5	1	64	81
2013-14	6		6	1	7	1	64	78
2014-15	6		6	1	6	3	63	79
Uttarakhand								
2012-13	85	3	88	0	188	41	21	338
2013-14	78	2	79	0	210	16	23	328
2014-15	78	1	79	0	188	39	24	330
Uttar Pradesh								
2012-13	2537		2537	108	10175	836	272	13929
2013-14	2557		2557	119	9984	1308	60	14027
2014-15	2482		2482	184	10183	1474	67	14389
West Bengal								
2012-13							3082	3082
2013-14							3099	3099
2014-15							3102	3102
Andman and Nicobar Islands								
2012-13				0		0	0	0
2013-14				0		0	0	0
2014-15				0		0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh								
2012-13					0			0
2013-14					0			0
2014-15					0			0
Dadar and Nagar Haveli								
2012-13	1		1		0	1	2	4
2013-14	1		1		0	1	2	4
2014-15	1		1		0	1	2	4
Daman and Diu								
2012-13								
2013-14								
2014-15								
Delhi								
2012-13	2		2		18	0	1	22
2013-14	2		2		18	0	1	22
2014-15	2		2		18	0	1	22
Lakshadweep								
2012-13								
2013-14								
2014-15								
Puducherry								
2012-13	5		5		9		0	14
2013-14	4		4		9		0	13
2014-15	4		4		9		0	13
ALL INDIA								
2012-13	15512	165	15677	1752	30543	10762	7552	66285
2013-14	16115	163	16278	1841	31128	11311	7557	68116
2014-15	16020	163	16182	1723	31606	11354	7519	68383

Note: '0' relates to the area below 500 Hectares.

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Statement-III

*Details of State-wise funds allocated and released under Major Schemes
being implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation
and Farmers Welfare for 2014-15 to 2016-17*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
National Food Security Mission (NFSM)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	132.24	75.64	50.55	50.12	87.04	47.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.51	7.50	13.93	13.93	13.05	5.15
3.	Assam	112.06	95.82	89.25	67.84	108.32	39.28
4.	Bihar	96.78	74.68	88.80	55.79	111.46	35.62
5.	Chhattisgarh	95.89	47.94	66.73	37.50	75.89	53.39
6.	Goa			0.00	0.00	0.38	0.29
7.	Gujarat	49.94	13.92	19.35	9.22	50.01	21.36
8.	Haryana	55.72	36.49	20.80	11.39	23.24	10.40
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19.37	17.98	9.12	8.55	16.00	15.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	26.05	10.20	12.46	6.48	14.26	7.13
11.	Jharkhand	39.78	23.35	29.77	29.46	39.72	9.41
12.	Karnataka	169.03	134.19	86.37	52.11	151.60	99.29
13.	Kerala	3.15	3.13	1.52	0.77	1.55	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	340.91	214.71	209.61	134.11	337.58	185.08
15.	Maharashtra	370.99	194.71	125.02	111.64	198.01	139.96
16.	Manipur	15.42	14.82	13.02	13.02	14.79	7.40
17.	Meghalaya	10.09	9.63	6.78	6.23	6.31	3.15
18.	Mizoram	7.08	7.08	3.55	2.03	2.26	1.13
19.	Nagaland	20.17	19.41	21.59	11.75	21.80	10.90
20.	Odisha	86.46	53.98	79.45	67.70	73.32	34.67
21.	Punjab	51.30	40.83	27.32	14.05	19.69	9.85
22.	Rajasthan	269.29	213.88	185.89	106.54	219.14	103.44
23.	Sikkim	2.83	2.42	5.97	3.24	10.41	3.84
24.	Tamil Nadu	76.39	73.49	36.30	35.87	54.42	44.52
25.	Telangana	85.43	66.03	50.39	38.79	41.89	8.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	30.88	29.66	20.14	18.94	10.48	6.08
27.	Uttar Pradesh	335.40	254.85	167.59	120.16	197.53	92.93
28.	Uttarakhand	17.39	8.98	10.59	6.67	21.54	9.74
29.	West Bengal	68.98	54.32	38.05	33.13	57.78	56.02
STATE TOTAL		2606.53	1799.64	1489.91	1067.03	1979.47	1061.77

National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palms (Erstwhile Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize) NMOOP

1.	Andhra Pradesh	51.36	17.98	52.63	39.57	52.43	30.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.08	2.04	3.61	2.18	6.05	5.30
3.	Assam	17.72	8.86	16.24	8.87	18.75	0.00
4.	Bihar	2.31	1.54	2.39	1.70	1.51	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.34	3.20	7.69	3.19	10.48	4.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	36.65	14.01	16.48	6.47	40.04	23.34
8.	Haryana	6.92	2.42	10.24	8.31	7.87	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.35	1.01	1.58	0.00	1.01	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	2.38	1.19	4.39	0.00	3.81	1.27
12.	Karnataka	22.45	20.22	21.57	13.36	21.11	15.83
13.	Kerala	0.69	0.41	0.21	0.02	0.14	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	75.07	45.06	43.39	26.15	98.05	25.78
15.	Maharashtra	45.44	34.08	19.99	19.83	59.34	36.52
16.	Manipur	2.65	1.98	1.33	0.67	1.52	0.91
17.	Meghalaya	1.26	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.00
18.	Mizoram	8.91	6.68	12.71	5.07	14.48	10.86
19.	Nagaland	4.55	4.55	2.41	1.20	6.03	5.40
20.	Odisha	15.82	9.26	7.85	5.58	9.75	8.42
21.	Punjab	1.15	0.40	0.50	0.00	0.63	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	50.85	47.85	49.12	34.91	60.20	24.76
23.	Sikkim	0.69	0.69	0.60	0.30	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	10.59	8.43	8.88	8.06	9.01	7.83
25.	Telangana	10.91	6.19	9.81	9.68	10.97	0.00
26.	Tripura	5.12	5.12	4.03	2.62	1.16	0.62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
27.	Uttar Pradesh	14.00	11.73	18.88	13.19	16.60	4.15
28.	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	0.90	0.70	0.70	0.51
29.	West Bengal	9.58	6.03	13.00	9.85	13.37	5.00
STATE TOTAL		407.83	261.56	330.45	221.47	465.51	211.34

Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change (Erstwhile Rainfed Area Development)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.00	13.00	14.00	19.50	15.00	18.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.73	4.73	3.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
3.	Assam	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	5.00	5.00	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	11.44	11.44	11.00	5.50	4.00	2.40
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	22.50	22.50	10.00	5.00	5.00	5.46
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	5.00	1.57	3.50	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.58	7.58	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.50	2.50	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	10.00	10.00	5.00	6.02	10.00	7.00
12.	Karnataka	15.00	15.00	10.00	5.00	8.00	4.00
13.	Kerala	5.00	5.00	3.00	1.50	2.50	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24.98	24.98	22.00	11.00	10.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	40.00	40.00	30.00	25.00	30.00	26.63
16.	Manipur	5.00	5.00	3.50	3.50	6.00	4.25
17.	Meghalaya	4.84	4.84	3.00	1.50	2.00	1.50
18.	Mizoram	4.88	4.88	3.00	3.00	5.00	6.53
19.	Nagaland	5.46	5.46	4.00	6.00	7.00	9.00
20.	Odisha	13.00	13.00	13.00	15.27	14.00	18.35
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	3.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	25.00	25.00	8.00	0.00	5.00	0.00
23.	Sikkim	4.60	4.60	3.00	1.04	5.00	3.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	30.00	30.00	25.00	31.83	24.00	33.50
25.	Telangana	10.00	10.00	10.00	12.60	12.00	9.60
26.	Tripura	4.50	4.50	3.50	3.50	6.00	5.20
27.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	20.00	18.00	11.82	15.00	16.43
28.	Uttarakhand	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	5.00	8.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29.	West Bengal	5.00	5.00	3.00	6.00	7.00	10.51
	STATE TOTAL	304.00	304.00	235.00	196.65	220.00	200.19
Soil Health Management (SHM)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	No allocation was made for the year 2014-15	3.93	4.61	2.89	7.50	6.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		0.62	0.13	0.00	0.31	0.51
3.	Assam		1.82	1.98	1.02	3.64	0.00
4.	Bihar		5.52	3.58	1.52	6.18	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh		1.22	3.23	2.25	6.20	6.20
6.	Goa		1.90	0.06	0.00	0.45	0.00
7.	Gujarat		0.00	6.57	0.00	14.38	0.00
8.	Haryana		0.00	2.45	0.00	3.69	2.58
9.	Himachal Pradesh		1.99	0.37	0.91	0.98	1.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir		7.36	0.53	0.25	2.21	0.00
11.	Jharkhand		0.00	0.73	0.17	1.58	3.37
12.	Karnataka		0.50	7.53	2.93	13.59	9.27
13.	Kerala		1.01	0.87	0.40	3.13	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh		5.60	10.33	0.00	16.02	38.77
15.	Maharashtra		5.04	11.83	3.20	25.73	17.21
16.	Manipur		0.00	0.12	0.00	0.38	0.00
17.	Meghalaya		0.00	0.18	0.00	1.30	0.42
18.	Mizoram		0.08	0.07	0.00	0.13	0.44
19.	Nagaland		0.40	0.22	0.41	1.20	0.00
20.	Odisha		1.51	3.16	1.97	7.78	0.00
21.	Punjab		1.75	2.70	0.00	6.50	0.00
22.	Rajasthan		0.00	12.40	7.71	19.65	0.00
23.	Sikkim		6.12	0.05	0.15	4.29	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu		1.85	3.47	3.06	6.01	0.60
25.	Telangana		3.70	3.48	1.68	8.07	4.41
26.	Tripura		0.50	0.17	0.28	0.36	2.89
27.	Uttar Pradesh		6.79	11.24	8.38	22.68	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand		0.00	0.48	0.20	1.03	0.00
29.	West Bengal		3.75	3.47	4.78	7.93	0.00
	STATE TOTAL		62.98	96.00	44.15	192.90	95.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Soil Health Card (SHC)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	No allocation was made for the year 2014-15	1.24	7.06	4.58	13.94	13.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		0.12	0.30	0.17	0.50	0.37
3.	Assam		0.51	2.53	1.42	6.19	3.65
4.	Bihar		2.53	6.74	4.88	12.89	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh		0.66	3.83	2.81	6.85	3.43
6.	Goa		0.12	0.17	0.12	0.19	0.00
7.	Gujarat		0.81	8.36	6.03	10.57	5.29
8.	Haryana		0.34	4.01	2.88	4.40	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh		0.24	0.71	0.47	0.59	0.29
10.	Jammu and Kashmir		0.32	1.41	0.77	3.26	0.00
11.	Jharkhand		0.51	0.73	0.54	1.28	0.64
12.	Karnataka		1.27	8.94	6.50	20.60	10.30
13.	Kerala		1.13	0.83	0.61	1.32	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh		1.43	12.28	8.88	27.47	13.74
15.	Maharashtra		2.16	12.85	9.32	24.30	19.11
16.	Manipur		0.13	0.31	0.18	0.63	0.00
17.	Meghalaya		0.14	0.36	0.21	0.43	0.00
18.	Mizoram		0.12	0.24	0.14	0.36	0.06
19.	Nagaland		0.13	0.40	0.22	0.74	0.18
20.	Odisha		0.80	3.71	2.70	6.09	3.04
21.	Punjab		0.26	4.24	3.05	9.58	0.00
22.	Rajasthan		1.43	12.13	8.76	22.17	11.08
23.	Sikkim		0.12	0.20	0.12	0.25	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu		1.32	6.52	4.70	12.90	6.45
25.	Telangana		0.93	5.44	3.53	9.37	4.68
26.	Tripura		0.18	0.40	0.23	0.79	0.59
27.	Uttar Pradesh		3.54	23.87	17.16	48.84	24.42
28.	Uttarakhand		0.23	1.19	0.65	2.36	1.45
29.	West Bengal		1.17	6.67	4.80	14.60	10.95
STATE TOTAL			23.90	136.42	96.44	263.46	133.67

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

1.	Andhra Pradesh	18.54	11.00	13.09	7.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.22	0.51	0.86	0.81
3.	Assam	14.13	5.76	9.97	0.00
4.	Bihar	14.00	10.50	9.88	6.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	8.05	6.04	5.68	3.15
6.	Goa	0.17	0.07	0.12	0.00
7.	Gujarat	4.28	1.78	3.02	2.39
8.	Haryana	0.86	0.54	0.60	0.46
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.07	3.95	4.99	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.80	0.75	1.27	0.88
11.	Jharkhand	4.28	3.21	3.02	2.03
12.	Karnataka	23.34	19.45	16.47	8.15
13.	Kerala	5.10	3.82	3.60	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	37.69	28.27	26.59	17.88
15.	Maharashtra	39.92	25.99	28.16	29.58
16.	Manipur	1.93	1.07	1.36	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	2.89	1.45	2.04	2.96
18.	Mizoram	2.18	0.89	1.54	1.39
19.	Nagaland	1.54	1.54	1.09	0.00
20.	Odisha	13.71	10.28	9.67	6.50
21.	Punjab	2.14	1.61	1.51	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	32.34	23.74	22.82	14.91
23.	Sikkim	9.64	4.09	6.80	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4.80	4.00	3.38	2.07
25.	Telangana	12.85	10.71	9.07	4.49
26.	Tripura	3.21	1.34	2.27	3.09
27.	Uttar Pradesh	24.63	20.52	17.38	12.71
28.	Uttarakhand	35.33	19.63	24.93	20.19
29.	West Bengal	5.14	2.14	3.63	3.94
STATE TOTAL		332.78	224.65	234.80	152.19

No allocation was made for the year 2014-15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
National E- Governance Plan (NEGP-A) Phase- II							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.06	1.06	1.55	1.55	1.24	1.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.74	0.74	1.05	0.79	0.81	0.81
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	3.00	3.00	4.29	2.14	3.65	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.16	1.16	1.60	0.80	1.28	0.64
6.	Goa	0.10	0.10	0.28	0.14	0.23	0.00
7.	Gujarat	1.76	1.76	2.42	1.21	1.99	0.00
8.	Haryana	0.95	0.95	1.34	0.67	1.08	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.02	1.02	1.45	0.72	1.15	0.58
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.15
13.	Kerala	0.00	0.75	0.00	2.31	0.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	1.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Manipur	0.47	0.47	0.67	0.33	0.53	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.40	0.40	0.57	0.28	0.43	0.22
18.	Mizoram	0.34	0.33	0.44	0.22	0.33	0.33
19.	Nagaland	0.56	0.56	0.84	0.84	0.63	0.32
20.	Odisha	1.93	1.93	2.72	1.36	2.25	1.13
21.	Punjab	1.04	1.04	1.48	0.74	1.20	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	1.78	1.78	2.43	2.43	1.98	0.99
23.	Sikkim	0.24	0.24	0.38	0.19	0.29	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	2.24	2.24	3.41	1.71	2.97	2.97
25.	Telangana	0.67	0.67	0.98	0.74	0.77	0.58
26.	Tripura	0.41	0.41	0.56	0.28	0.44	0.44
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4.84	4.84	6.79	3.39	5.87	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	0.74	0.74	1.02	0.51	0.79	0.79
29.	West Bengal	1.85	1.85	2.78	1.39	2.39	1.19
STATE TOTAL		27.29	30.32	39.03	24.74	32.29	13.36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanisation (SMAM)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.76	10.54	7.59	7.28	48.99	48.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.49	0.49	1.88	1.88	1.90	1.33
3.	Assam	6.92	5.62	6.92	0.00	1.40	1.08
4.	Bihar	9.81	9.01	6.92	0.00	14.00	14.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.68	5.19	4	4.00	10.00	10.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	10.29	7.94	7.55	7.55	6.00	6.00
8.	Haryana	3.00	2.55	2.12	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.11	1.02	0.78	0.75	4.95	4.95
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.40	1.18	0.99	0.95	3.64	3.64
11.	Jharkhand	3.99	3.58	2.81	2.54	3.00	2.25
12.	Karnataka	13.06	9.62	9.2	0.00	46.47	44.41
13.	Kerala	2.73	2.37	1.92	0.00	1.00	1.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	15.99	13.92	26.02	26.02	20.00	20.00
15.	Maharashtra	22.64	20.34	15.96	15.96	15.00	15.00
16.	Manipur	0.50	1.10	2.91	2.91	2.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1.38	1.25	3.63	0.00	0.90	0.90
18.	Mizoram	0.56	0.50	2.03	2.03	2.00	2.00
19.	Nagaland	0.68	0.62	2.85	2.85	3.73	3.33
20.	Odisha	8.18	7.09	5.77	5.67	37.28	35.78
21.	Punjab	2.65	2.09	1.87	0.00	52.09	52.09
22.	Rajasthan	17.61	15.80	12.41	0.00	8.50	4.25
23.	Sikkim	0.19	0.19	1.3	0.65	2.40	1.44
24.	Tamil Nadu	9.38	8.44	21.39	21.39	30.30	30.30
25.	Telangana	7.79	6.93	5.49	4.76	5.97	5.97
26.	Tripura	0.84	0.39	2.57	2.44	2.00	2.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	24.26	21.21	17.1	16.51	39.77	37.98
28.	Uttarakhand	1.13	0.91	0.8	0.78	3.50	2.56
29.	West Bengal	8.80	5.98	6.2	5.65	4.00	4.00
STATE TOTAL		191.82	165.87	180.98	132.57	370.79	355.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material under NMAET (SMSP)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.00	11.11	6.35	9.69	8.50	9.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00	0.37	2.00	0.63	0.25	0.00
3.	Assam	20.00	18.87	13.00	15.00	12.85	12.64
4.	Bihar	6.50	7.29	6.87	7.12	7.58	7.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.00	17.82	5.11	3.26	3.43	5.94
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00
7.	Gujarat	1.50	0.08	1.95	0.79	2.40	0.12
8.	Haryana	1.00	0.01	0.97	0.13	0.45	0.04
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.00	1.00	3.04	2.71	5.05	4.19
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.00	2.41	5.47	5.74	8.53	7.40
11.	Jharkhand	0.30	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.08	
12.	Karnataka	5.00	1.16	7.84	7.39	6.40	6.56
13.	Kerala	2.00	1.56	0.22	0.25	0.71	0.35
14.	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	11.20	15.55	9.34	18.00	20.30
15.	Maharashtra	7.00	10.45	7.81	1.29	8.95	6.73
16.	Manipur	1.30	0.25	1.20	0.04	1.70	0.54
17.	Meghalaya	1.30	0.34	1.20	0.98	0.50	0.68
18.	Mizoram	1.30	0.00	1.20	0.00	0.25	0.25
19.	Nagaland	1.30	1.71	1.20	1.31	2.25	
20.	Odisha	18.00	16.68	2.73	0.00	0.80	0.93
21.	Punjab	3.00	2.70	3.50	3.28	3.36	0.61
22.	Rajasthan	5.00	7.82	11.25	5.43	8.36	3.89
23.	Sikkim	1.20	0.05	0.40	0.00	0.00	
24.	Tamil Nadu	16.00	14.38	6.37	9.97	9.12	8.40
25.	Telangana	6.00	3.93	5.45	9.73	7.60	9.99
26.	Tripura	1.30	3.25	1.80	0.00	0.20	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	13.00	14.00	19.27	12.55	19.35	7.99
28.	Uttarakhand	5.20	2.22	3.30	3.97	6.28	2.82
29.	West Bengal	1.50	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.75	
STATE TOTAL		174.70	150.66	136.00	110.60	143.74	116.82

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
National Horticulture Mission (NHM)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.59	64.68	71.50	55.75	64.03	64.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.00	23.77	35.50	35.50	32.30	0.00
3.	Assam	48.00	29.09	30.50	20.00	28.00	22.00
4.	Bihar	42.50	17.00	28.50	4.00	26.31	17.96
5.	Chhattisgarh	120.70	111.88	80.00	77.55	69.23	61.47
6.	Goa	4.68	0.00	3.00	2.30	2.52	1.65
7.	Gujarat	130.90	109.47	78.71	47.82	71.39	65.45
8.	Haryana	112.20	65.45	71.50	50.75	61.84	59.55
9.	Himachal Pradesh	48.00	42.42	31.50	24.49	32.00	24.25
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	60.00	45.00	61.78	52.00	46.00	96.09
11.	Jharkhand	68.00	49.69	45.00	25.79	40.18	30.13
12.	Karnataka	124.95	96.08	81.50	67.69	72.97	69.50
13.	Kerala	85.00	40.00	40.50	25.00	46.42	15.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	93.50	42.23	51.00	40.50	45.35	35.62
15.	Maharashtra	158.95	140.00	102.50	96.25	88.97	50.44
16.	Manipur	50.00	44.17	37.50	35.75	32.00	10.00
17.	Meghalaya	40.00	27.60	28.00	18.00	25.50	18.75
18.	Mizoram	52.00	41.00	34.50	34.50	31.50	31.50
19.	Nagaland	52.00	34.76	34.50	17.25	31.50	15.00
20.	Odisha	93.50	71.75	57.50	54.45	49.91	43.68
21.	Punjab	70.13	58.50	46.00	30.35	39.86	30.00
22.	Rajasthan	89.25	42.67	55.00	45.00	50.89	43.13
23.	Sikkim	49.00	44.50	34.50	33.25	30.50	25.25
24.	Tamil Nadu	107.95	55.36	61.50	58.73	55.03	47.14
25.	Telangana	59.71	45.00	40.50	35.25	32.90	20.96
26.	Tripura	54.00	37.00	37.50	32.75	33.00	23.50
27.	Uttar Pradesh	68.00	37.32	40.00	22.00	37.27	31.96
28.	Uttarakhand	46.00	32.73	22.50	22.50	31.00	47.50
29.	West Bengal	42.50	18.74	28.50	28.00	24.91	8.00
STATE TOTAL		2096.01	1467.85	1370.99	1093.17	1233.28	1009.49

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
National Agroforestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.76	12.82	3.50	3.50	1.39	1.39
3.	Assam	10.65	2.97	0.70	0.70	1.56	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	3.80	5.15	5.13	1.43	1.43
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	4.39	2.91	4.76	4.76	1.53	1.53
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.36	0.81	1.17	1.17	0.48	0.24
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.03	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	1.98	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	6.16	4.65	4.00	4.00	1.79	1.34
13.	Kerala	1.13	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6.84	6.81	10.30	10.29	1.20	1.16
15.	Maharashtra	2.69	0.59	2.46	1.75	0.18	0.00
16.	Manipur	10.23	8.62	6.96	6.96	2.72	1.94
17.	Meghalaya	3.09	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00
18.	Mizoram	13.96	12.30	8.30	8.30	4.17	4.17
19.	Nagaland	11.37	11.36	8.73	8.73	3.89	2.44
20.	Odisha	5.64	3.88	4.98	4.98	1.86	1.03
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	2.20	0.31	0.68	0.68	0.19	0.00
23.	Sikkim	3.01	0.57	2.57	2.46	0.25	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1.21	0.15	0.35	0.35	0.30	0.23
25.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	1.99	0.81	1.24	1.24	0.21	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2.58	0.50	1.27	1.27	0.00	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	0.99	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
STATE TOTAL		114.93	77.36	67.61	66.77	23.67	16.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.07	263.54	197.79	192.66	228.35	222.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.83	13.92	31.55	31.55	23.82	11.92
3.	Assam	483.53	267.71	128.07	94.10	279.75	210.45
4.	Bihar	564.55	545.73	164.86	111.20	258.22	90.61
5.	Chhattisgarh	385.44	341.75	150.11	145.07	200.30	193.04
6.	Goa	25.63	0.00	43.40	21.70	20.69	10.35
7.	Gujarat	593.55	290.03	182.09	174.55	315.27	155.31
8.	Haryana	372.03	254.68	143.10	141.54	152.40	126.85
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.11	86.11	28.30	28.30	52.76	52.76
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.50	78.25	74.72	37.36	88.90	38.49
11.	Jharkhand	306.94	153.15	87.68	78.32	155.27	72.72
12.	Karnataka	884.17	632.22	359.94	346.93	247.04	242.31
13.	Kerala	321.40	300.70	91.86	90.48	157.71	92.76
14.	Madhya Pradesh	547.55	511.78	264.57	264.09	454.89	293.49
15.	Maharashtra	1013.49	942.09	438.11	438.00	396.29	250.91
16.	Manipur	43.00	43.00	20.46	20.46	29.77	12.83
17.	Meghalaya	68.77	60.64	16.52	8.26	20.19	10.63
18.	Mizoram	113.92	113.92	16.61	19.39	25.95	20.58
19.	Nagaland	52.75	52.75	25.25	25.25	36.94	34.94
20.	Odisha	504.13	482.07	299.67	292.36	342.59	334.91
21.	Punjab	508.71	413.71	215.94	107.97	260.50	95.81
22.	Rajasthan	740.55	695.28	342.47	325.97	262.28	261.98
23.	Sikkim	18.98	9.49	24.35	4.07	14.71	14.40
24.	Tamil Nadu	298.95	298.95	259.94	259.74	147.39	204.87
25.	Telangana	195.27	179.64	142.30	135.91	427.85	256.99
26.	Tripura	80.27	80.27	21.54	21.54	34.41	34.41
27.	Uttar Pradesh	704.93	589.47	358.16	177.41	321.98	201.89
28.	Uttarakhand	95.39	80.70	40.03	36.20	46.87	46.57
29.	West Bengal	598.61	582.34	285.26	284.56	352.47	280.78
STATE TOTAL		10054.02	8363.89	4454.65	3914.94	5355.56	3876.15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)							
(A) Micro Irrigation							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Scheme was formulated in the year 2015-16		131.75	177.68	220.00	265.69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			0.50	0.00	0.75	0.00
3.	Assam			1.00	0.50	1.50	0.00
4.	Bihar			20.00	10.00	25.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh			7.50	7.50	20.00	24.00
6.	Goa			0.15	0.00	0.50	0.30
7.	Gujarat			146.75	204.10	220.00	250.00
8.	Haryana			34.50	16.94	40.00	24.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh			1.50	0.75	2.25	0.50
10.	Jammu and Kashmir			5.00	0.00	7.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand			15.00	0.00	20.00	12.00
12.	Karnataka			111.75	111.75	130.00	169.00
13.	Kerala			5.00	0.86	7.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh			82.75	134.33	140.00	84.00
15.	Maharashtra			176.75	88.38	250.00	247.50
16.	Manipur			2.72	1.36	3.75	0.00
17.	Meghalaya			0.50	0.00	0.75	0.00
18.	Mizoram			4.50	2.25	6.50	3.90
19.	Nagaland			0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
20.	Odisha			12.00	8.35	18.00	10.80
21.	Punjab			10.00	0.00	10.00	1.20
22.	Rajasthan			104.75	52.37	120.00	72.00
23.	Sikkim			4.26	4.26	6.50	3.90
24.	Tamil Nadu			72.75	72.75	95.00	110.00
25.	Telangana			92.75	95.15	115.00	165.00
26.	Tripura			2.00	0.00	2.50	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh			15.00	7.50	20.00	12.00
28.	Uttarakhand			7.00	3.50	10.00	10.00
29.	West Bengal			5.00	0.00	6.50	3.90
STATE TOTAL				1073.13	1000.28	1499.00	1469.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(B) Other Interventions							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Scheme was formulated in the year 2015-16		28.79	28.79	43.00	43.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			2.60	2.60	4.00	2.00
3.	Assam			4.53	4.53	43.00	11.00
4.	Bihar			18.60	18.60	36.00	21.60
5.	Chhattisgarh			12.80	12.80	28.00	20.80
6.	Goa			0.30	0.30	1.00	0.50
7.	Gujarat			8.95	8.95	40.00	24.00
8.	Haryana			18.03	18.03	5.00	3.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh			6.85	6.85	16.00	8.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir			4.87	4.87	9.00	5.40
11.	Jharkhand			14.97	14.97	31.00	18.70
12.	Karnataka			101.37	101.37	60.00	60.00
13.	Kerala			7.67	7.67	23.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh			27.41	27.41	62.00	37.10
15.	Maharashtra			18.88	18.88	97.00	58.30
16.	Manipur			1.40	1.40	6.00	3.60
17.	Meghalaya			1.43	1.43	6.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram			1.02	1.02	4.00	4.20
19.	Nagaland			2.34	2.34	9.00	4.50
20.	Odisha			20.35	20.35	29.00	29.00
21.	Punjab			43.00	43.00	4.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan			90.47	90.47	95.00	57.00
23.	Sikkim			0.60	0.60	3.00	1.50
24.	Tamil Nadu			57.03	57.03	47.00	33.50
25.	Telangana			16.17	16.17	24.00	24.00
26.	Tripura			1.55	1.55	8.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh			30.01	30.01	49.00	29.20
28.	Uttarakhand			6.10	6.10	13.00	5.00
29.	West Bengal			4.80	4.80	32.00	16.00
STATE TOTAL				552.89	552.89	827.00	520.90

GPS-based soil sample collection

20. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to go ahead with GPS-based soil sample collection for the second cycle so that the test data can not be fudged and a comparison can be made on the progress between the first and the second cycles;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the mobile app launched by Government will benefit field level works as it will automatically capture GIS coordinates while registering sample details at the time of soil sample collection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government has directed State Governments to follow GPS based soil sample collection for the second cycle as well, so that comparison can be made between soil parameters during first cycle and second cycle.

(b) and (c) Mobile app launched by Government captures GIS coordinates automatically while registering the sample details at the time of soil sample collection benefitting the field level workers to capture the values correctly. When mobile app is used, it captures the latitude and longitude of the place automatically, thus minimizing the data entry error and helps in capturing the GIS coordinates correctly.

Reasonable price to farmers for their produces

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

(a) whether Government will provide guidance/training to the marginal and medium level farmers for formation of companies collectively in order to provide reasonable prices to farmers for their produces;

(b) if so, by when the plan would be formulated in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers

Welfare is acting as a Promoter since 2011-12 to support the State Governments in the formation of Farmer Producer Organisations under financial support from Government of India. The key objective of the project is to collectivize small and marginal farmers, strengthen their organizational capacity, create infrastructure by mobilizing resources, associate with organized value chains, develop better access to inputs and extension services and market.

Furthermore, under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) scheme of Ministry of Rural Development, promotion of 'Producers' Enterprises has been taken up for agriculture, dairy and Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) commodities with women Self Help Group (SHG) members.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

Setting up of an academy for cooperative study

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering upon establishing an academy for cooperative study in the name of Laxman Madhav Rao Inamdar;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard so far; and

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

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

(b) and (c) It has been decided to re-name and upgrade the Training of Personnel in Cooperative (TOPIC) Institute of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) as "Laxmanrao Inamdar Academy for Cooperative Research and Development". The course content for the Academy is to be designed by NCDC.

Premium paid under new agriculture insurance policy

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

(a) the details of premium paid by farmers, Central Government and State Governments to the insurance companies after the introduction of new agriculture insurance policy and the number of farmers paid with compensation and amounts paid to each farmer, State-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of additional premium being required to be paid by the farmers under the new agriculture insurance policy; and

(c) the names of States with high risk and increase in premium amount at these places, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Actuarial/bidder premium rates are paid to the insurance companies under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS), but farmers have to pay a low flat premium rate of maximum of 1.5% for Rabi, 2% for Kharif food and Oilseed crops and 5% for commercial/horticultural crop. Under erstwhile schemes of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), where actuarial premium was paid to the insurance companies, farmers had to pay premium upto 6% as per slabs of actuarial premium. Hence, the farmers have to pay reduced premium rates under PMFBY and RWBCIS.

Some States like Haryana, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh etc. where yield variability is relatively less and low claims have been paid in the past, actuarial premium rates are comparatively very low, whereas in States like Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Maharashtra etc. where yield variability is more and higher claims have been paid in the past, the actuarial premium rates are high.

State-wise details of premium paid by farmers and subsidy provided by States and Central Government to the insurance companies alongwith claims paid and number of beneficiaries under PMFBY and RWBCIS combined during 2016-17 are given in Statement.

Statement

Detail of premium, claims and farmers benefited under PMFBY and RWBCIS during 2016-17 under PMFBY and RWBCIS

Sl. No.	State/UT	Farmers' Premium	GoI Premium (share)	State Govt. Premium (share)	Gross Premium	Claims Reported	Claims Paid	No. of Farmers benefited
Kharif 2016								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19896	29687	29687	79270	90678	81413	877241
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	1	2	15	15	295
3.	Assam	497	184	184	865	502	502	23370
4.	Bihar	20392	60851	60851	142093	40193	0	149698
5.	Chhattisgarh	13667	9491	9491	32648	15454	15301	134341
6.	Goa	7	0	0	7	3	3	111
7.	Gujarat	24938	98781	112345	236050	100248	100248	500219
8.	Haryana	19653	6486	10202	36341	29476	27153	216683
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3099	2022	2022	7143	4420	2940	110941
10.	Jharkhand	3979	11608	11608	27196	2641	2028	36630
11.	Karnataka	26822	67966	67966	162755	118042	100267	747211

12. Kerala	722	1298	1298	3317	2142	1704	23288
13. Lakshadweep							
14. Madhya Pradesh	71191	150767	150767	372728	194113	182653	1189794
15. Maharashtra	69099	201912	201912	472924	230117	229533	2919094
16. Manipur	74	143	143	359	196	127	8358
17. Meghalaya	1	1	1	4	3	0	0
18. Odisha	14263	19823	19823	53908	43142	42976	167909
19. Puducherry	26	129	154	310	734	734	4254
20. Rajasthan	36660	107737	107737	252134	129967	125146	2256928
21. Sikkim	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
22. Tamil Nadu	29498	46936	47043	123670	278512	252946	857948
23. Telengana	12201	9571	9571	31342	18392	15669	221423
24. Tripura	29	5	5	39	8	8	502
25. Uttar Pradesh	45296	29514	29514	104324	53747	53364	1061902
26. Uttarakhand	1956	1101	1101	4159	2747	2747	61681
27. West Bengal	23425	24067	25601	73093	36256	2318	429495
TOTAL	437390	880081	899028	2216682	1391746	1239795	11999316

Pitiable condition of farmers in Odisha

†24. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in Odisha are not getting value for their crops as per their cost of production;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether Government proposes to provide any package to improve the pitiable condition of farmers of Odisha, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 22 mandated crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). While recommending MSPs, CACP takes into account the cost of production, overall demand-supply, domestic and international prices, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, the likely effect on the rest of the economy, besides ensuring rational utilization of production resources like land and water.

Government generally increases the MSPs of mandated crops over the previous year's MSPs. The MSP fixed by Government provides adequate return over weighted average cost of production (A2+FL). The return over cost of production(A2+FL) for MSP fixed by Government for 2017-18 has been in excess of 50% with return of 112.4% for wheat, 88.4% for rapeseed/mustard, 79.6% for masur, 78.8% for gram, 66.9% for barley, 65.4% for urad, 64.3% for tur, 62% for jute and 50.2% for bajra.

The return over cost of production(A2+FL) for the MSPs fixed by Government varies in different States on account of difference in levels of irrigation, resource endowment, farm mechanisation, land holding size, yield of crops etc. However, the MSPs fixed by Government provide adequate returns over A2+FL for Odisha.

(c) Government has taken several initiatives to enhance the production and productivity of agricultural crops and to enhance income of farmers of the country including the farmers of Odisha. These include National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Soil Health Cards (SHC), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(NMSA), e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs), New Model Agricultural produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017 and a Committee of the Government has been set up to frame policies for doubling the farmer's income by 2022.

Internet connectivity in e-NAM

25. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is not working well due to low internet connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to overcome this problem and to raise the number of online tradings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) It is not true that National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is not working well. As on 31st January, 2018, 471 mandis across 14 States and one Union Territory have been integrated with e-NAM. So far, 73.27 lakh farmers have been registered with e-NAM. Availability of the desired speed of internet connectivity in few mandis situated in remote areas is a challenge to carry out the transactions at a desired speed. However, already 1.52 crore MT of agriculture produce worth ₹ 36,217.00 crore have been traded on e-NAM portal so far.

(c) To address the challenges, State Governments have been advised to explore the possibilities of upgrading the internet connectivity with internet service providers.

Burning of crop residues

26. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to curb and prevent burning of crop residues in the areas of Punjab and Haryana to prevent air contamination/pollution in the area of Delhi and NCR;

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide technological innovations for crop residue disposal to the farmers, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any plans to seek funds from Green Climate Fund through NABARD for the financial resources to address the issue of crop burning; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) The Government has circulated National Policy for Management of Crop Residues (NPMCR)- 2014 to all the States/UTs and directions have been issued to State Governments from time to time on burning of crop residue. Government also provide financial assistance to State Governments of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan for purchasing of identified machineries *i.e.*, rotavator, happy seeder, zero till seed drill, straw reaper, rake, paddy straw chopper, shredder, mulcher, loose straw chopper, baler at subsidized rates under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) for reducing crop burning.

In addition, State Governments can take suitable measures for creation of capacity building, organization of Kisan Goshthies and spreading awareness through electronic and print media among the farmers for reducing crop burning. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has recommended various technological interventions like *in-situ* incorporation of crop residue through conservation agriculture practices, rapid composting of crop residue using microbial consortia, production of bio gas, mushroom cultivation, preparation of feed for livestock, production of bio-fuel and biochar for scientific crop residue management in the country.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has no plans to seek funds from the Green Climate Fund to address the issue of crop burning.

State-specific policy initiative for farm sector

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has initiated concrete steps to double the income of farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the measures being taken to increase the income of farmers;

(c) whether Government is also contemplating on the State-specific policy initiatives for farming so that the initiative can be implemented keeping in view the State-centric problems; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the initiative being taken keeping in view the State of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To achieve the target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022, the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. At present, nine volumes prepared by the Committee have been uploaded on the website of this Department (<http://agricoop.nic.in/doubling-farmers>) for seeking public opinion.

Parallely, the Government is aiming to reorient agriculture sector by focusing on income centeredness in addition to pure production-centeredness. In order to realise net positive returns for the farmer, schemes as follows, are being promoted and implemented in a major way through the States/UTs including Bihar, viz: Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme; Neem Coated Urea (NCU); Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY); Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY); National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM); Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY); 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). In addition, schemes relating to tree plantation (Har Medh Par Ped), Bee Keeping, Dairy and Fisheries are also implemented. All these schemes are implemented to enhance production and productivity of agriculture and thereby enhance income of farmers.

Minimum Support Price (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 cultivation and recommends MSP. To incentivise cultivation of pulses and oilseeds in the country, Government has announced bonus for Kharif 2017-18, over and above the approved MSP. Even during last year, Government had offered bonus over and above the MSP, in the case of pulses and oilseeds.

The Government also undertakes procurement of paddy and wheat at Minimum Support Price (MSP) through Food Corporation of India (FCI). In addition, procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton are undertaken by central agencies at MSP under Price Support Scheme (PSS) at the request of the concerned State Government which agrees to exempt the procured commodities from levy of mandi tax and assist central nodal agencies in logistic arrangements.

Government also implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agriculture and horticulture products, which are perishable in nature and are not covered under PSS on the request of States/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.

(c) and (d) The Government of Bihar has already prepared an agriculture roadmap for the period of 2017-22 keeping in view State-centric problems.

FDI in agriculture sector

28. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FDI in Agriculture in Financial year 2013-14 was 910 lakh dollars, in 2014-15 was 599 lakh dollars and in 2015-16 was 846 lakh dollars, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether in the first six months of 2016-17, FDI was just 148 lakh dollars, if so, the reasons for this regular down graph in FDI in Agriculture and the details of measures taken by Government to arrest the downward trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. FDI in Agriculture in Financial year 2013-14 was 910 lakh US dollars, in 2014-15 was 599 lakh US dollars and in 2015-16 was 846 lakh US dollars.

(b) Yes, Sir. In the first six months of 2016-17, FDI was 148 lakh US dollars. However the total FDI during the year 2016-17 was 764.3 lakh US dollars. Government has recently permitted 100 per cent FDI in Single Brand Product Retail Trading through automatic route. This initiative is aimed at attracting investments in production and improving the availability of goods for the consumers.

Direct linking of agricultural institutions with farmers

29. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new Agriculture as well as Veterinary Medicine and Fisheries Universities or deemed to be Universities in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of them opened after 2014 along with the details thereof;

(c) the total strength of students enrolled and qualified faculty recruited in these new institutions so far;

(d) whether the Ministry has issued any guidelines to these institutions to have direct linkage with farmers and fishermen so as to have their research utilized by them effectively; and

(e) if so, the details of these guidelines and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The list of new Agriculture as well as Veterinary Medicine and Fisheries Universities or deemed to be Universities in the country, State-wise is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) The list of Universities which opened after 2014 is given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) The total No. of students enrolled in these Universities in the year 2016 was 517. Since, the State Agricultural Universities are functioning under administrative control of the concerned State Governments, the information regarding faculty recruited in these institutions is not available.

(d) No such guidelines have been issued.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

List of State-wise Agriculture Universities

Sl. No.	Name of University
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State Agricultural Universities

Andhra Pradesh

1. Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad
2. Dr. YSRHU (APHU) Venkataramannagudem (AP)
3. Sri Venkatesware Veterinary University, Tirupati

Assam

4. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

Bihar

5. Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur
6. Bihar Animal Sciences University Bihar

Chhattisgarh

7. Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Raipur
-

Sl. No.	Name of University
8.	Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Visvavidyalaya, Raipur
Gujarat	
9.	Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Dantiwada
10.	Anand Agricultural University, Anand
11.	Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari
12.	Junagarh Agricultural University, Junagarh
13.	Kamdhenu University, Amreli
Haryana	
14.	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar
15.	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar
16.	Maharana Partap Horticultural University, Karnal
Himachal Pradesh	
17.	Ch. Sarwan Kumar Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Palampur
18.	Dr. Yaswant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan
Jharkhand	
19.	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi
Jammu and Kashmir	
20.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Srinagar
21.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science and Technology, Jammu
Karnataka	
22.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
23.	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar
24.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur
25.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad
26.	University of Horticulture Science, Bagalkot
27.	University of Agriculture and Horticulture Science, Shimoga
Kerala	
28.	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur
29.	Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Panangad
30.	Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Wayanad (Kerala)

Sl. No.	Name of University
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Madhya Pradesh

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 31. | Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior - 474002 (MP) |
| 32. | Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu Chikitsa Visva Vidyalaya, Jabalpur |
| 33. | Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur |

Maharashtra

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 34. | Dr. Balaesahib Sawant Kokan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli |
| 35. | Maharashtra Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Nagpur |
| 36. | Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani (Maharashtra) |
| 37. | Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri |
| 38. | Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Akola |

Odisha

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 39. | Orissa University of Agricultural and Technology, Bhubaneswar |
|-----|---|

Punjab

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 40. | Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana |
| 41. | Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana |

Rajasthan

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 42. | Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur |
| 43. | Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner |
| 44. | Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner |
| 45. | SKN Agriculture University, Jobner |
| 46. | Agriculture University, Kota |
| 47. | Agriculture University, Jodhpur |

Tamil Nadu

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 48. | Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore |
| 49. | Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai |
| 50. | Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, Nagapattinam |

Telangana

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 51. | Sri Konda Laxman Telangana University |
| 52. | Sri. P. V. Narsimha Rao Telangana State University |
| 53. | Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University |
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Sl. No.	Name of University
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Uttarakhand

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 54. | Govind Ballabh Bhai Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar |
| 55. | Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar |

Uttar Pradesh

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 56. | Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agricultural and Technology, Kanpur |
| 57. | Narendradeo University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad |
| 58. | Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology, Meerut |
| 59. | U.P. Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwa Vidhyalaya Evam Go Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura |
| 60. | Banda University of Agricultural and Technology, Banda |

West Bengal

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 61. | Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Mohanpur |
| 62. | West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, Kolkata |
| 63. | Uttar Bang Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Cooch Behar |

Central Agricultural Universities

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 64. | Central Agricultural University, Imphal |
| 65. | Rani Laxmi Bai Central Agricultural University |
| 66. | Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samstipur |

Deemed-to-be Universities

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 67. | Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi |
| 68. | Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai (Maharashtra) |
| 69. | National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal (Haryana) |
| 70. | Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, Bareilly (UP) |

Central Universities with Agricultural Faculty

- | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| 71. | Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh |
| 72. | Nagaland University, Medziphema |
| 73. | Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi |
| 74. | Vishwa Bharti, Sriniketan |
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Statement-II*List of State-wise Agriculture Universities established after 2014*

Sl. No.	Name of University
State Agricultural Universities	
Established in 2017	
1.	Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna, Bihar
2.	Maharana Partap Horticultural University, Karnal, Haryana
Established in 2016	
3.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur

Mechanization of agricultural activities in NER

30. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government efforts in adopting new and better technologies in agricultural activities;

(b) whether incentives and financial assistance are provided to the farmers of the North-Eastern Region in the pursuit for mechanization of agriculture, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of schemes of the Central Government for assistance of agricultural machines and tools for the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Government has introduced and formulated various schemes to promote the use of modern technologies in agriculture in the country such as:—

- National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) consists of 4 Sub Missions:—
 - (i) Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE)
 - (ii) Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP)
 - (iii) Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
 - (iv) Sub-Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP)
- National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
- National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)

- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

and these missions/schemes are supporting various farm technologies to sustain growth of agriculture such as integrated farming system/cropping system with appropriate resource conservation technologies; development of high yielding pest/disease tolerant crop varieties/ hybrids; water use efficiency enhancement through micro irrigation; soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers; dissemination of agriculture related information to the farming community through various ICT enabled delivery channels including SMSs, internet kiosks, farmers portals and through Kisan call centers , Agricultural fairs etc; scientific storage of both perishable and non-perishable produce; precision farming; increasing the reach of farm mechanization by promoting “Custom Hiring Centres”, creating hubs for hi-tech and high value farm equipments; promotion of latest technologies on crops specific cultivation; protected cultivation of horticultural products, organic farming etc.

(b) and (c) For promotion of farm mechanization in the country including North-Eastern Region (NER), financial assistance is provided through a dedicated scheme on farm mechanization *i.e.* “Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)”. The other schemes of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) , Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) are also having the farm mechanization component for providing assistance on agricultural machines and tools for the farmers.

The State-wise (NER) and Scheme-wise allocation/release of funds under mechanization component during 2017-18 is given in Statement.

Statement

Details of State-wise and Scheme-wise Financial Allocation/Release under mechanization component in various schemes of DAC&FW in North Eastern Region States during 2017-18

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Financial Allocation/Release under mechanization component in various schemes of DAC&FW			
		SMAM	NFSM	MIDH	NMOOP
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.75	0.671	1.535	1.64
2.	Assam	10.0	18.40	2.070	3.15
3.	Manipur	2.85	0.684	0.728	0.30
4.	Meghalaya	0.5	0.219	0.054	0.12
5.	Mizoram	3.66	0.018	1.860	0.80
6.	Nagaland	11.41	1.239	0.999	1.27
7.	Sikkim	1.38	0.202	1.00	0.07
8.	Tripura	15.52	0.981	4.582	0.15

SMAM-Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization.

NFSM -National Food Security Mission.

MIDH- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

NMOOP-National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm.

Implementation of RKVY

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), launched during Eleventh Five Year Plan, has not been doing well since the funding pattern was changed from 2015-16; and

(b) if so, the details of the programme, the funds allocated, released and utilized during the Twelfth Plan period, year-wise, and Government's reaction to the poor implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Adverse effect is reported in the implementation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) due to change in funding pattern of the scheme from 2015-16. The year-wise details

of State-wise fund allocation, release and utilization reported by the States under the scheme during the Twelfth Plan period are given in Statement.

Statement

Details of State-wise Allocation, Release and Utilization reported by the States under RKVY during Twelfth Plan as on 30.01.2018

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
2012-13				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	601.98	577.79	577.79
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.31	24.94	24.94
3.	Assam	399.57	399.57	399.57
4.	Bihar	724.01	700.20	700.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	581.12	571.22	571.22
6.	Goa	62.43	35.27	35.27
7.	Gujarat	586.87	610.87	610.87
8.	Haryana	199.49	179.88	179.62
9.	Himachal Pradesh	73.48	59.27	59.27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	112.08	103.22	102.01
11.	Jharkhand	241.55	219.38	219.14
12.	Karnataka	586.52	549.15	549.15
13.	Kerala	282.26	253.03	253.03
14.	Madhya Pradesh	448.13	448.13	448.13
15.	Maharashtra	1025.81	1050.81	1050.81
16.	Manipur	52.94	47.97	47.97
17.	Meghalaya	105.34	22.68	22.68
18.	Mizoram	200.91	184.73	184.73
19.	Nagaland	85.75	85.75	85.75
20.	Odisha	503.10	468.28	468.28
21.	Punjab	146.93	86.83	86.83
22.	Rajasthan	363.09	348.18	348.18
23.	Sikkim	29.47	15.21	15.21
24.	Tamil Nadu	659.68	613.27	613.27

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
25.	Telangana	-	-	-
26.	Tripura	56.43	56.43	56.43
27.	Uttar Pradesh	432.26	294.52	294.52
28.	Uttarakhand	44.36	8.21	8.21
29.	West Bengal	464.81	374.58	374.58
	TOTAL STATES	9110.68	8389.37	8387.66
30.	Delhi			
31.	Puducherry			
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
33.	Chandigarh	Being Done by MHA		
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			
35.	Daman and Diu			
36.	Lakshadweep			
	CRRI, Cuttack BGREI Cell	106.58	10.63	10.63
	GRAND TOTAL	9217.00	8400.00	8398.29
2013-14				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	483.23	456.87	456.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	33.04	33.04	33.04
3.	Assam	440.03	218.87	218.87
4.	Bihar	527.67	254.26	254.26
5.	Chhattisgarh	407.63	233.82	233.82
6.	Goa	21.91	10.43	10.43
7.	Gujarat	557.04	476.89	476.89
8.	Haryana	318.57	159.29	159.29
9.	Himachal Pradesh	77.40	77.40	77.40
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	148.04	88.52	86.87
11.	Jharkhand	294.18	147.10	136.95
12.	Karnataka	794.58	467.29	466.53
13.	Kerala	270.78	256.24	256.24
14.	Madhya Pradesh	545.15	276.25	276.25

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
15.	Maharashtra	1154.93	959.69	959.69
16.	Manipur	40.96	23.66	23.66
17.	Meghalaya	60.89	37.98	37.95
18.	Mizoram	132.01	77.41	77.41
19.	Nagaland	52.59	30.07	30.07
20.	Odisha	508.42	529.42	529.42
21.	Punjab	448.24	229.44	229.44
22.	Rajasthan	735.24	735.24	735.24
23.	Sikkim	20.20	10.20	10.20
24.	Tamil Nadu	301.53	269.96	269.96
25.	Telangana	-	-	-
26.	Tripura	74.28	70.50	70.50
27.	Uttar Pradesh	746.69	561.09	560.90
28.	Uttarakhand	88.02	44.03	44.03
29.	West Bengal	508.14	265.08	265.08
TOTAL STATES		9791.39	7000.04	6987.26
30.	Delhi	Being Done by MHA		
31.	Puducherry			
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
33.	Chandigarh			
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			
35.	Daman and Diu			
36.	Lakshadweep			
	CRRI, Cuttack BGREI Cell	90.00	52.47	52.47
GRAND TOTAL		9881.39	7052.51	7039.73
2014-15				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.07	263.54	263.54
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.83	13.92	13.92
3.	Assam	483.53	267.71	267.00
4.	Bihar	564.55	545.73	456.89

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
5.	Chhattisgarh	385.44	341.75	341.75
6.	Goa	25.63	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	593.55	290.03	290.03
8.	Haryana	372.03	254.68	254.27
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.11	86.11	86.11
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	150.50	78.25	73.95
11.	Jharkhand	306.94	153.15	124.51
12.	Karnataka	884.17	632.22	632.22
13.	Kerala	321.40	300.70	300.70
14.	Madhya Pradesh	547.55	511.78	511.78
15.	Maharashtra	1013.49	942.09	942.09
16.	Manipur	43.00	43.00	43.00
17.	Meghalaya	68.77	60.64	60.64
18.	Mizoram	113.92	113.92	113.92
19.	Nagaland	52.75	52.75	52.75
20.	Odisha	504.13	482.07	482.07
21.	Punjab	508.71	413.71	397.53
22.	Rajasthan	740.55	695.28	695.28
23.	Sikkim	18.98	9.49	9.49
24.	Tamil Nadu	298.95	298.95	298.95
25.	Telangana	195.27	179.64	179.64
26.	Tripura	80.27	80.27	80.27
27.	Uttar Pradesh	704.93	589.47	584.13
28.	Uttarakhand	95.39	80.70	80.70
29.	West Bengal	598.61	582.34	582.19
TOTAL STATES		9864.02	8363.89	8219.32
30.	Delhi	Being Done by MHA		
31.	Puducherry			
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
33.	Chandigarh			

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			
35.	Daman and Diu	Being Done by MHA		
36.	Lakshadweep			
	CRRI, Cuttack BGREI Cell	90.00	79.31	79.31
GRAND TOTAL		9954.02	8443.20	8298.63

2015-16

1.	Andhra Pradesh	197.79	192.66	192.66
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.55	31.55	31.55
3.	Assam	128.07	94.10	93.49
4.	Bihar	164.86	111.20	103.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	150.11	145.07	145.07
6.	Goa	43.40	21.70	21.70
7.	Gujarat	182.09	174.55	174.55
8.	Haryana	143.10	141.55	124.86
9.	Himachal Pradesh	28.30	28.30	28.30
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	74.72	37.36	35.55
11.	Jharkhand	87.68	78.32	61.22
12.	Karnataka	359.94	346.93	346.93
13.	Kerala	91.86	90.48	90.48
14.	Madhya Pradesh	264.57	264.09	263.60
15.	Maharashtra	438.11	438.00	438.00
16.	Manipur	20.46	20.46	20.46
17.	Meghalaya	16.52	8.26	8.26
18.	Mizoram	16.61	19.39	19.39
19.	Nagaland	25.25	25.25	25.25
20.	Odisha	299.67	292.36	286.97
21.	Punjab	215.94	107.97	107.97
22.	Rajasthan	342.47	325.97	325.97
23.	Sikkim	24.35	4.07	4.07

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
24.	Tamil Nadu	259.94	259.74	259.74
25.	Telangana	142.30	135.91	135.91
26.	Tripura	21.54	21.54	21.54
27.	Uttar Pradesh	358.16	177.41	177.41
28.	Uttarakhand	40.03	36.20	36.20
29.	West Bengal	285.26	284.56	284.56
TOTAL STATES		4454.65	3914.95	3864.86
30.	Delhi	1.50	0.00	
31.	Puducherry	1.51	0.76	
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.70	2.35	*
33.	Chandigarh	0.31	0.00	
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5.43	0.00	
35.	Daman and Diu	0.94	0.00	
36.	Lakshadweep	0.63	0.00	
	CRRI, Cuttack BGREI Cell	30.33	24.34	24.34
GRAND TOTAL		4500.00	3942.40	3889.20

2016-17

1.	Andhra Pradesh	228.35	222.59	222.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.82	11.92	9.00
3.	Assam	279.75	210.45	174.61
4.	Bihar	258.22	90.61	75.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	200.30	193.04	175.81
6.	Goa	20.69	10.35	10.35
7.	Gujarat	315.27	155.31	155.31
8.	Haryana	152.40	126.85	117.01
9.	Himachal Pradesh	52.76	52.76	51.39
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	88.90	38.49	37.73
11.	Jharkhand	155.27	72.72	40.74
12.	Karnataka	247.04	242.31	240.81

Sl. No.	State	Allocation	Release	UC Recvd
13.	Kerala	157.71	92.76	92.76
14.	Madhya Pradesh	454.89	293.49	291.06
15.	Maharashtra	396.29	250.91	128.40
16.	Manipur	29.77	12.83	11.86
17.	Meghalaya	20.19	10.63	10.63
18.	Mizoram	25.95	20.58	20.58
19.	Nagaland	36.94	34.94	34.94
20.	Odisha	342.59	334.91	297.87
21.	Punjab	260.50	95.81	70.99
22.	Rajasthan	262.28	261.98	261.68
23.	Sikkim	14.71	14.40	7.43
24.	Tamil Nadu	147.39	204.87	204.68
25.	Telangana	427.85	256.99	171.74
26.	Tripura	34.41	34.41	34.41
27.	Uttar Pradesh	321.98	201.89	149.92
28.	Uttarakhand	46.87	46.57	36.08
29.	West Bengal	352.47	280.78	271.10
TOTAL STATES		5355.56	3876.15	3407.12
30.	Delhi	1.50		
31.	Puducherry	1.51		
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.69	2.35	2.33
33.	Chandigarh	0.33		
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5.42		
35.	Daman and Diu	0.94		
36.	Lakshadweep	0.63		
	CRRI, Cuttack BGREI Cell	20.98	13.57	
GRAND TOTAL		5391.56	3892.04	3409.45

* ₹ 2.35 crore for Andaman and Nicobar Islands fund could not be utilized, fund may be treated as surrendered by the UT.

Training the farmers to follow the instructions of CIBRC

32. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the large number of farmers do not adhere to Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC) list of approved uses; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to educate farmers to follow the instructions of CIBRC regarding use of pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) There seems to exist a lack of awareness among the farmers with respect to the application of pesticides as per the approved label claims and leaflets.

(b) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing 'Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach' (SMPMA) Scheme, wherein, *inter alia*, Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) are organized to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach and to use chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved labels and leaflets. In addition States have been requested in the Zonal Conferences to exhort their extension functionaries to sensitize farmers on application of pesticides as per approved labels and leaflets.

Growth rate in agriculture sector

33. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether Government has launched several schemes to increase growth rate of agriculture sector in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details and the nature of contribution of States in increasing the growth rate in agriculture sector; and

(c) the details of facilities being provided to the States for increasing the growth rate of agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Government has launched several schemes to increase growth of agriculture sector in the country and for welfare of the farmers through increase in production and productivity of

agricultural crops and to improve the income level of farmers. These include Crop Development Programmes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

(b) As per Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, agriculture falls under the purview of State Governments and, therefore, it is primarily the responsibility of States to take necessary steps for development of agriculture in their respective areas. States are taking keen interest as agriculture is the backbone of States' economy and a sizeable section of society is engaged in agriculture, directly or indirectly, for livelihood. Government of India, on its part, is supplementing the efforts of States by extending necessary financial assistance and technical inputs through its various programmes.

State-wise Estimates on Gross State Value Added (GSVA) for Agriculture and Allied Sector are compiled and released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). The latest available State-wise details of the GSVA for agriculture and allied sector (at constant 2011-12 prices) and its rate of growth are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(c) Agricultural development schemes of the centre are implemented through State Governments and funds are allocated for various schemes. The year-wise allocation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Financial Year	Allocation of Budget (BE)			Total
	Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW)	Department of Agriculture, Research and Education (DARE)	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (AHD&F)	
2015-16	16646	3691	1491	21828
2016-17	20400	3700	1600	25700
2017-18	41855	6800	2921	51576

Statement-I

*State-wise details of Gross State Value Added (GSVA) of Agriculture
and Allied Sector at constant (2011-12) prices*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9400805	9783109	10835268	11259968	12175319
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	455505	472794	491472	541984	509780
3.	Assam	2848113	3314074	3209159	3295165	3407054
4.	Bihar	6206655	6803952	5951631	5934907	6093511
5.	Chhattisgarh	2685950	2850360	2930967	3010401	3038667
6.	Goa	204298	195849	222419	222662	224343
7.	Gujarat	10736422	9255884	11713736	11714466	11551307
8.	Haryana	6453886	6326499	6502514	6377952	6562812
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1162627	1244329	1371209	1326899	1377823
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1306347	1250932	1300874	1158897	1447376
11.	Jharkhand	2233546	2364954	2321295	3033187	2249759
12.	Karnataka	7554868	7169531	7687489	8013607	7260062
13.	Kerala	4837594	4906807	4597159	4598265	4409461
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9107231	11339038	11323702	11851830	12060587
15.	Maharashtra	14752607	14675040	16504332	14654555	13987746
16.	Manipur	251623	276425	289684	295331	270894
17.	Meghalaya	282868	313890	326927	376920	393688
18.	Mizoram	149468	145937	157013	329059	341300
19.	Nagaland	373363	396443	435269	452811	419316
20.	Odisha	3899782	4512669	4278068	4657383	4021477
21.	Punjab	7816825	7886831	8147237	7861974	7969097
22.	Rajasthan	11910303	12264217	13102362	13455341	13559909
23.	Sikkim	90137	93361	96740	99226	97920
24.	Tamil Nadu	8773221	7818872	9161070	9831549	10110306
25.	Telangana	5461488	5943354	6179205	5581064	5215906
26.	Tripura	511201	550569	646611	670462	660854

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18325197	19161813	19071717	18685674	19490297
28.	Uttarakhand	1330208	1355631	1339654	1335728	1324961
29.	West Bengal*					
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	59737	61238	65813	68686	70109
31.	Chandigarh	12642	12160	12389	12358	12446
32.	Delhi	285471	222388	199538	187767	225989
33.	Puducherry	75378	79263	80607	89147	90664

*The estimates of West Bengal for new series with base year 2011-12 compiled by the DES, West Bengal are under examination.

Note: Agriculture and allied sector include crops, livestock, forestry and fishing.

Source: Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and PI.

Statement-II

*State-wise details of growth in Gross State Value Added (GSVA) of
Agriculture and Allied Sector at constant (2011-12) prices*

(In percentage)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.07	10.75	3.92	8.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	3.95	10.28	-5.94
3.	Assam	16.36	-3.17	2.68	3.40
4.	Bihar	9.62	-12.53	-0.28	2.67
5.	Chhattisgarh	6.12	2.83	2.71	0.94
6.	Goa	-4.14	13.57	0.11	0.75
7.	Gujarat	-13.79	26.55	0.01	-1.39
8.	Haryana	-1.97	2.78	-1.92	2.90
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.03	10.20	-3.23	3.84
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-4.24	3.99	-10.91	24.89
11.	Jharkhand	5.88	-1.85	30.67	-25.83
12.	Karnataka	-5.10	7.22	4.24	-9.40
13.	Kerala	1.43	-6.31	0.02	-4.11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24.51	-0.14	4.66	1.76

Sl. No.	State/UT	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
15.	Maharashtra	-0.53	12.47	-11.21	-4.55
16.	Manipur	9.86	4.80	1.95	-8.27
17.	Meghalaya	10.97	4.15	15.29	4.45
18.	Mizoram	-2.36	7.59	109.57	3.72
19.	Nagaland	6.18	9.79	4.03	-7.40
20.	Odisha	15.72	-5.20	8.87	-13.65
21.	Punjab	0.90	3.30	-3.50	1.36
22.	Rajasthan	2.97	6.83	2.69	0.78
23.	Sikkim	3.58	3.62	2.57	-1.32
24.	Tamil Nadu	-10.88	17.17	7.32	2.84
25.	Telangana	8.82	3.97	-9.68	-6.54
26.	Tripura	7.70	17.44	3.69	-1.43
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4.57	-0.47	-2.02	4.31
28.	Uttarakhand	1.91	-1.18	-0.29	-0.81
29.	West Bengal*				
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.51	7.47	4.36	2.07
31.	Chandigarh	-3.81	1.89	-0.25	0.71
32.	Delhi	-22.10	-10.27	-5.90	20.36
33.	Puducherry	5.15	1.70	10.59	1.70

*The estimates of West Bengal for new series with base year 2011-12 compiled by the DES, West Bengal are under examination.

Note: Agriculture and allied sector include crops, livestock, forestry and fishing.

Source: Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and PI.

Reduction in agricultural land holding

†34. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the area of agricultural land holdings has been constantly reducing with divisions of land holdings generation to generation in the country which is affecting the agricultural yield;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of farmers who got associated with small land holdings in the last five years and if this trend continues, the number of farmers who would be linked with small land holdings in agriculture sector in coming five years; and

(c) the steps being taken to solve the problems faced by farmers having small land holdings in view of the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) According to the two latest agriculture censuses, the average size of operational holdings in the country has decreased from 1.23 hectare in 2005-06 to 1.15 hectare in 2010-11. However, the total number of operational holding has increased from 129.22 million to 138.35 million during the same period.

Except in the years of adverse weather, rainfall, temperature conditions, natural calamities etc., the production and productivity (per hectare production) of agriculture crops in the country has been generally increasing.

Thus, there is no conclusive evidence to suggest that fragmentation of land holdings has resulted in adverse impact on agricultural production/yield.

(b) As per the two latest agriculture censuses, the number of marginal (below 1.00 hectare) and small (1.00–2.00 hectare) operational holdings in the country is given below:—

Number of operational holdings

(in million)

Category of holding	Agriculture Census 2005-06*	Agriculture Census 2010-11
Marginal (below 1.00 hectare)	83.69	92.83
Small (1.00 – 2.00 hectare)	23.93	24.78

*excluding Jharkhand.

However, data on the number of farmers linked with small land holdings in Agriculture sector for next five years is not maintained.

(c) The Government has taken several measures to make small holdings more viable. These include adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, intercropping and integrated farming systems. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting research programmes to develop location specific varieties and technologies for enhancing the production and productivity of farm holdings. Support is also provided to farmers (including small and marginal farmers) through initiatives and programmes of the Government like interest subvention

scheme, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Neem coated Urea, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

Remunerative price for potato growers

†35. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) the steps taken by Government at present to provide remunerative price to the potato growers;

(b) the procurement policy of Government for potato and the steps being taken to make it more farmer-friendly; and

(c) the details of the obstacles due to which farmers are unable to get remunerative price for their crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Several measures taken by the Government to provide remunerative prices to the potato growers. They are:—

- Launch of National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) on 14th April, 2016 with objective to reduce price gap, induce competition and transparency in sale transactions. e-NAM has been implemented in 470 wholesale markets in 14 States in which competitive online bidding system has been introduced for better price realization by the farmers.
- Further, the Government released a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” on 24th April, 2017 for its adoption by States/UTs. The provisions include setting up of private markets, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, special commodity markets, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storages or such structures as market sub yards. Adoption of these reforms by State, create alternate marketing channels for better price realization by farmers.
- To enable the farmers to get better remunerative prices, AGMARKNET portal is providing information to farmers on prices and arrivals of agricultural commodities in regulated markets.

- Assistance is available under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture for development of infrastructure for post-harvest management and marketing including establishment of cold storages, processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans, integrated cold chain and low cost onion storage. In the country 35.88 MMT of cold storage capacity have been created to store horticultural produce including potato.
- Under post-harvest component credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% to @ 50% of the project cost is available. Assistance for creation of cold storage/cold chain component is provided to individuals, group farmers/growers/consumer, partnership/ proprietary firms, self-help groups, farmers producer organizations, companies, corporations, co-operatives, co-operative marketing federations, agricultural produce market committees and marketing boards, State Governments and local bodies like Panchayats.
- Government is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities, which are generally perishable in nature. The basic objective of MIS 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/UTs Administration willing to share losses with the Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States).
- Government of India is implementing a new Central Sector Scheme – Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for the creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain from farm gate to retail outlet.

(c) The Central Government is advising regularly to the States for bringing about reforms in Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act, for setting up e-auction platforms, so that farmers can enable to directly market their produce.

Downfall in agriculture sector

36. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vehicles entering a rural market yard in Maharashtra dropped, onion prices halved in the biggest onion market in the country, the fishing economy of Goa faced roadblocks, and flower cultivating farmers in Madhya Pradesh lost business in the last financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per information received from Government of Maharashtra, the total number of vehicles entering into markets of Maharashtra has decreased and it ranges between 5.81% to 31.50% depending on type of vehicle. However, number of tractors entering into markets has increased by 11.13%.

It has been observed that Lasalgaon, Pimpalgaon and Bangalore are the biggest onion markets whereby the wholesale price as on 25.01.2018 has increased upto 400% over past one year.

Government of Goa has informed that no roadblock has been noticed by the fishing economy in the State.

Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that there is no report of losses received from any district, where flower growing farmers lost their business.

Sugar subsidy

37. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently withdrawn subsidy being given on sugar, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has received any representation from any State to continue the subsidy being given to sugar;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the matter; and

(d) the stand of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government has reviewed the sugar subsidy scheme and has decided to continue it only for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. The review has been undertaken since the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 is now being universally implemented in the entire country and no identified category of Below Poverty Line (BPL) exists under the NFSA, 2013; whereas the AAY beneficiaries are clearly identified. Under the revised sugar subsidy scheme, the Central Government continues to reimburse a fixed subsidy of ₹ 18.50 per kg @ 1 kg per month per AAY family to participating States/UTs.

(b) to (d) State Governments of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra and NCT Delhi have requested for continuation of earlier sugar subsidy scheme. However, for the reasons cited in reply to part a) of the question above, it has been decided by the Central Government to continue the sugar subsidy scheme with restrictive coverage to AAY families.

Status of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras

38. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) in the country, State-wise and District-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the product basket contains more than 600 medicines and 150 surgicals and consumables; and

(c) if so, the number of medicines and surgicals the central warehouse is able to supply whenever there is a demand for the same from any PMBJK along with the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) As on 25.01.2018, 3,084 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) Kendras' are functional in 33 States / Union Territories of the country. A State-wise and District-wise list of 3,084 functional PMBJP Kendras is given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Presently, the product basket of the scheme covers more than 700 medicines and 154 surgicals and consumables covering all major therapeutic groups. As on 25.01.2018, 656 medicines and 128 surgicals and consumables are presently available in Central Ware House (CWH) of Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) (the implementing agency of PMBJP) for supplying to PMBJP Kendras across the country. 53 Distributors and 8 Carrying and Forwarding (C&F) Agents have been appointed in different parts of the country for smooth supply of medicines, surgical and consumables through CWH to PMBJP Kendras across the country. Recently, an end-to-end supply chain system has also been introduced in the scheme through which a professional agency has been appointed for providing medicines, surgicals and consumables from CWH to PMBJP Kendras directly to save time and cost.

Statement*State-wise and District-wise list of 3084 functional PMBJP Kendras*

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Anantapur	5
2.	Chittoor	14
3.	East Godavari	3
4.	Guntur	19
5.	Ysr Kadapa	3
6.	Krishna	6
7.	Kurnool	13
8.	Potti sriramulu Nellore	8
9.	Prakasam	9
10.	Srikakulam	5
11.	Visakhapatnam	15
12.	Vizianagaram	5
13.	West Godavari	24
TOTAL		129

Arunachal Pradesh

1.	Papumpare	3
2.	Changlang	2
3.	Lohit	1
4.	West Siang	1
5.	Tirap	1
6.	East Siang	2
7.	Kurung Kumey	1
8.	West Kameng	0
9.	Upper Subansiri	1
10.	Lower Subansiri	1
11.	East Kameng	2
12.	Lower Dibang Valley	0
13.	Tawang	1
14.	Upper Siang	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
15.	Anjaw	1
16.	Dibang Valley	1
17.	Longding	1
18.	Namsai	1
19.	Kra Daadi	2
20.	Siang	1
TOTAL		24

Assam

1.	Baksa	0
2.	Barpeta	14
3.	Biswanath	0
4.	Bongaigaon	2
5.	Cachar	2
6.	Charaideo	0
7.	Chirang	0
8.	Darrang	5
9.	Dhemaji	2
10.	Dhubri	1
11.	Dibrugarh	1
12.	Dima Hasao	1
13.	Goalpara	4
14.	Golaghat	0
15.	Hailakandi	0
16.	Hojai	2
17.	Jorhat	1
18.	Kamrup	6
19.	Kamrup Metropolitan	1
20.	Karbi Anglong	1
21.	Karimganj	0
22.	Kokrajhar	0
23.	Lakhimpur	2
24.	Majuli	0

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
25.	Morigaon	0
26.	Nagaon	3
27.	Nalbari	2
28.	Sivasagar	0
29.	Sonitpur	0
30.	South Salmara-Mankachar	0
31.	Tinsukia	0
32.	Udalguri	0
33.	West Karbi Anglong	0
TOTAL		50

Bihar

1.	Araria	2
2.	Arwal	0
3.	Aurangabad	2
4.	Banka	1
5.	Begusarai	1
6.	Bhagalpur	1
7.	Bhojpur	5
8.	Buxar	2
9.	Darbhanga	0
10.	East Champaran	9
11.	Gaya	4
12.	Gopalganj	1
13.	Jamui	1
14.	Jehanabad	1
15.	Khagaria	0
16.	Kishanganj	1
17.	Kaimur	2
18.	Katihar	1
19.	Lakhisarai	0
20.	Madhubani	1
21.	Munger	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
22.	Madhepura	2
23.	Muzaffarpur	5
24.	Nalanda	2
25.	Nawada	0
26.	Patna	13
27.	Purnia	2
28.	Rohtas	2
29.	Saharsa	2
30.	Samastipur	8
31.	Sheohar	0
32.	Sheikhpura	0
33.	Saran	1
34.	Sitamarhi	1
35.	Supaul	1
36.	Siwan	0
37.	Vaishali	9
38.	West Champaran	1
TOTAL		85

Chhattisgarh

1.	Balod	7
2.	Baloda Bazar	8
3.	Balrampur	6
4.	Bemetara	6
5.	Bijapur	2
6.	Bilaspur	15
7.	Dantewada	1
8.	Dhamtari	7
9.	Durg	10
10.	Gariyaband	8
11.	Jagdalpur (Madhya Bastar)	7
12.	Janjgir-Champa	14
13.	Jashpur	6

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
14.	Kabirdham	3
15.	Kanker	6
16.	Kondagaon	6
17.	Korba	8
18.	Koriya	10
19.	Mahasamund	6
20.	Mungeli	3
21.	Narayanpur	2
22.	Raigarh	11
23.	Raipur	16
24.	Rajnandgaon	10
25.	Sukma	1
26.	Surajpur	8
27.	Surguja	7
TOTAL		194

Goa

1.	North Goa	0
2.	South Goa	0
TOTAL		0

Gujarat

1.	Ahmedabad	31
2.	Amreli	3
3.	Anand	10
4.	Aravalli	4
5.	Banaskantha	8
6.	Bharuch	3
7.	Bhavnagar	9
8.	Botad	3
9.	Chhota Udaipur	1
10.	Dahod	0
11.	Dang	0
12.	Devbhoomi Dwarka	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
13	Gandhinagar	15
14.	Gir Somnath	6
15.	Jamnagar	2
16.	Junagadh	20
17.	Kutch	4
18.	Kheda	5
19.	Mahisagar	4
20.	Mehsana	7
21.	Morbi	3
22.	Narmada	1
23.	Navsari	2
24.	Panchmahal	1
25.	Patan	6
26.	Porbandar	2
27.	Rajkot	29
28.	Sabarkantha	11
29.	Surat	39
30.	Surendranagar	6
31.	Tapi	2
32.	Vadodara	20
33.	Valsad	2
TOTAL		260

Haryana

1.	Ambala	1
2.	Bhiwani	10
3.	Charkhi Dadri	1
4.	Faridabad	1
5.	Fatehabad	3
6.	Gurugram	3
7.	Hisar	14
8.	Jhajjar	1
9.	Jind	2

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
10.	Kaithal	2
11.	Karnal	2
12.	Kurukshetra	3
13.	Mahendragarh	0
14.	Nuh	1
15.	Palwal	3
16.	Panchkula	0
17.	Panipat	5
18.	Rewari	1
19.	Rohtak	3
20.	Sirsa	8
21.	Sonipat	4
22.	Yamuna Nagar	1
TOTAL		69

Himachal Pradesh

1.	Bilaspur	6
2.	Chamba	2
3.	Hamirpur	1
4.	Kangra	5
5.	Kinnaur	0
6.	Kullu	3
7.	Lahaul and Spiti	0
8.	Mandi	2
9.	Shimla	3
10.	Sirmaur	2
11.	Solan	2
12.	Una	1
TOTAL		27

Jammu and Kashmir

1.	Doda	2
2.	Jammu	5
3.	Kathua	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
4.	Kishtwar	0
5.	Poonch	0
6.	Rajouri	0
7.	Ramban	2
8.	Reasi	1
9.	Samba	0
10.	Udhampur	1
11.	Anantnag	2
12.	Bandipora	0
13.	Baramulla	1
14.	Budgam	2
15.	Ganderbal	0
16.	Kulgam	1
17.	Kupwara	1
18.	Pulwama	2
19.	Shopian	1
20.	Srinagar	8
21.	Kargil	1
22.	Leh	1
TOTAL		32

Jharkhand

1.	Ranchi	11
2.	Dhanbad	2
3.	Giridih	1
4.	Purbi Singhbhum	1
5.	Bokaro	5
6.	Palamu	1
7.	Hazaribagh	5
8.	Pashchimi Singhbhum	2
9.	Deoghar	3
10.	Garhwa	2
11.	Dumka	2

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
12.	Godda	0
13.	Sahibganj	1
14.	Saraikela Kharsawan	1
15.	Chatra	1
16.	Gumla	1
17.	Ramgarh	2
18.	Pakur	0
19.	Jamtara	1
20.	Latehar	1
21.	Koderma	1
22.	Simdega	1
23.	Khunti	0
24.	Lohardaga	1
TOTAL		46

Karnataka

1.	Bagalkot	6
2.	Bengaluru Urban	16
3.	Bengaluru Rural	9
4.	Belagavi	7
5.	Bellary	0
6.	Bidar	10
7.	Vijayapura	4
8.	Chamarajanagar	4
9.	Chikballapur	4
10.	Chikkamagaluru	9
11.	Chitradurga	3
12.	Dakshina Kannada	9
13.	Devangere	10
14.	Dharwad	8
15.	Gadag	6
16.	Kalaburagi	8
17.	Hassan	9

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
18.	Haveri	12
19.	Kodagu	2
20.	Kolar	6
21.	Koppal	4
22.	Mandya	19
23.	Mysore	27
24.	Raichur	9
25.	Ramanagara	2
26.	Shivamogga	11
27.	Tumkur	16
28.	Udupi	6
29.	Uttara Kannada	2
30.	Yadgir	4
TOTAL		242

Kerala

1.	Malappuram	12
2.	Thiruvananthapuram	41
3.	Ernakulam	36
4.	Thrissur	63
5.	Kozhikode	24
6.	Palakkad	26
7.	Kollam	26
8.	Kannur	13
9.	Alappuzha	22
10.	Kottayam	25
11.	Kasaragod	3
12.	Pathanamthitta	14
13.	Idukki	9
14.	Wayanad	5
TOTAL		319

Madhya Pradesh

1.	Agarmalwa	0
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Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
2.	Alirajpur	1
3.	Anuppur	0
4.	Ashok Nagar	2
5.	Balaghat	1
6.	Barwani	0
7.	Betul	0
8.	Bhind	0
9.	Bhopal	4
10.	Burhanpur	0
11.	Chhatarpur	3
12.	Chhindwara	2
13.	Damoh	5
14.	Datia	1
15.	Dewas	2
16.	Dhar	1
17.	Dindori	0
18.	Guna	1
19.	Gwalior	4
20.	Harda	0
21.	Hoshangabad	1
22.	Indore	5
23.	Jabalpur	3
24.	Jhabua	1
25.	Katni	0
26.	Khandwa	1
27.	Khargone	1
28.	Mandla	0
29.	Mandsaur	2
30.	Morena	0
31.	Narsinghpur	0
32.	Neemuch	1
33.	Panna	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
34.	Raisen	1
35.	Rajgarh	2
36.	Ratlam	4
37.	Rewa	2
38.	Sagar	4
39.	Satna	3
40.	Sehore	0
41.	Seoni	2
42.	Singrauli	2
43.	Shahdol	0
44.	Shajapur	2
45.	Sheopur	0
46.	Shivpuri	0
47.	Sidhi	2
48.	Tikamgarh	1
49.	Ujjain	2
50.	Umaria	0
51.	Vidisha	1
TOTAL		71

Maharashtra

1.	Ahmednagar	5
2.	Akola	12
3.	Amravati	6
4.	Aurangabad	5
5.	Beed	12
6.	Bhandara	2
7.	Buldhana	6
8.	Chandrapur	3
9.	Dhule	8
10.	Gadchiroli	0
11.	Gondia	1
12.	Hingoli	2

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
13.	Jalgaon	6
14.	Jalna	10
15.	Kolhapur	9
16.	Latur	23
17.	Mumbai City	8
18.	Mumbai Suburban	4
19.	Nagpur	2
20.	Nanded	5
21.	Nandurbar	2
22.	Nashik	10
23.	Osmanabad	4
24.	Parbhani	11
25.	Pune	13
26.	Raigad	2
27.	Ratnagiri	0
28.	Sangli	5
29.	Satara	6
30.	Sindhudurg	1
31.	Solapur	4
32.	Thane	11
33.	Wardha	2
34.	Washim	0
35.	Yavatmal	5
36.	Palghar	0
TOTAL		205

Manipur

1.	Bishnupur	3
2.	Thoubal	8
3.	Imphal East	4
4.	Imphal West	6
5.	Senapati	2
6.	Ukhrul	1

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
7.	Chandel	3
8.	Churachandpur	1
9.	Tamenglong	1
10.	Jiribam	1
11.	Kangpokpi	1
12.	Kakching	2
13.	Tengnoupal	0
14.	Kamjong	1
15.	Noney	1
16.	Pherzawl	1
TOTAL		36

Meghalaya

1.	West Jaintia Hills	0
2.	East Jaintia Hills	0
3.	East Khasi Hills	1
4.	West Khasi Hills	0
5.	South West Khasi Hills	0
6.	Ri-Bhoi	0
7.	North Garo Hills	0
8.	East Garo Hills	0
9.	South Garo Hills	0
10.	West Garo Hills	0
11.	South West Garo Hills	0
TOTAL		1

Mizoram

1.	Aizawl	5
2.	Lunglei	1
3.	Champhai	0
4.	Lawngtlai	0
5.	Mamit	0
6.	Kolasib	0

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
7.	Serchhip	1
8.	Saiha	0
	TOTAL	7

Nagaland

1.	Dimapur	1
2.	Kohima	1
3.	Mon	1
4.	Tuensang	1
5.	Mokokchung	1
6.	Wokha	1
7.	Phek	1
8.	Zunheboto	1
9.	Peren	1
10.	Kiphire	1
11.	Longleng	1
	TOTAL	11

Odisha

1.	Angul	4
2.	Boudh	1
3.	Balangir	0
4.	Bargarh	1
5.	Balasore	2
6.	Bhadrak	2
7.	Cuttack	7
8.	Debagarh (Deogarh)	0
9.	Dhenkanal	1
10.	Ganjam	11
11.	Gajapati	1
12.	Jharsuguda	0
13.	Jajpur	6
14.	Jagatsinghapur	1
15.	Khordha	7

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
16.	Keonjhar	5
17.	Kalahandi	1
18.	Kandhamal	3
19.	Koraput	2
20.	Kendrapara	0
21.	Malkangiri	1
22.	Mayurbhanj	3
23.	Nabarangpur	1
24.	Nuapada	2
25.	Nayagarh	1
26.	Puri	3
27.	Rayagada	0
28.	Sambalpur	1
29.	Subarnapur (Sonepur)	1
30.	Sundergarh	2
TOTAL		70

Punjab

1.	Amritsar	8
2.	Barnala	4
3.	Bathinda	7
4.	Faridkot	1
5.	Fatehgarh Sahib	1
6.	Firozpur	3
7.	Fazilka	2
8.	Gurdaspur	1
9.	Hoshiarpur	2
10.	Jalandhar	3
11.	Kapurthala	2
12.	Ludhiana	10
13.	Mansa	4
14.	Moga	2
15.	Sri Muktsar Sahib	4

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
16.	Pathankot	1
17.	Patiala	7
18.	Rupnagar	1
19.	Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar	1
20.	Sangrur	5
21.	Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar	2
22.	Tarn Taran	2
TOTAL		73

Rajasthan

1.	Ajmer	2
2.	Alwar	4
3.	Banswara	2
4.	Baran	0
5.	Barmer	2
6.	Bharatpur	2
7.	Bhilwara	5
8.	Bikaner	1
9.	Bundi	0
10.	Chittorgarh	0
11.	Churu	3
12.	Dausa	1
13.	Dholpur	0
14.	Dungarpur	2
15.	Hanumangarh	4
16.	Jaipur	16
17.	Jaisalmer	0
18.	Jalore	5
19.	Jhalawar	1
20.	Jhunjhunu	4
21.	Jodhpur	6
22.	Karauli	1
23.	Kota	5

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
24.	Nagaur	7
25.	Pali	3
26.	Pratapgarh	1
27.	Rajsamand	1
28.	Sawai Madhopur	0
29.	Sikar	3
30.	Sirohi	2
31.	Sri Ganganagar	4
32.	Tonk	0
33.	Udaipur	5
TOTAL		92
Sikkim		
1.	East Sikkim	2
2.	North Sikkim	0
3.	South Sikkim	0
4.	West Sikkim	0
TOTAL		2
Tamil Nadu		
1.	Ariyalur	3
2.	Chennai	21
3.	Coimbatore	21
4.	Cuddalore	6
5.	Dharmapuri	4
6.	Dindigul	11
7.	Erode	16
8.	Kanchipuram	2
9.	Kanyakumari	8
10.	Karur	1
11.	Krishnagiri	1
12.	Madurai	30
13.	Nagapattinam	2
14.	Namakkal	8

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
15.	The Nilgiris	5
16.	Perambalur	1
17.	Pudukkottai	9
18.	Ramanathapuram	7
19.	Salem	16
20.	Sivaganga	6
21.	Thanjavur	8
22.	Theni	4
23.	Thoothukudi	4
24.	Tiruchirapalli	19
25.	Tirunelveli	15
26.	Tiruppur	5
27.	Tiruvallur	0
28.	Tiruvannamalai	6
29.	Tiruvarur	1
30.	Vellore	4
31.	Viluppuram	4
32.	Virudhunagar	8
TOTAL		256

Tripura

1.	Dhalai	2
2.	Sipahijala	3
3.	Khowai	2
4.	Gomati	1
5.	Unakoti	1
6.	North Tripura	5
7.	South Tripura	3
8.	West Tripura	7
TOTAL		24

Uttar Pradesh

1.	Agra	7
2.	Aligarh	7

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
3.	Allahabad	10
4.	Ambedkar Nagar	6
5.	Auraiya	1
6.	Azamgarh	14
7.	Baghpat	1
8.	Bahraich	1
9.	Ballia	5
10.	Balrampur	4
11.	Banda	2
12.	Barabanki	2
13.	Bareilly	20
14.	Basti	6
15.	Bijnor	5
16.	Budaun	3
17.	Bulandshahr	6
18.	Chandauli	7
19.	Chitrakoot	2
20.	Deoria	7
21.	Etah	2
22.	Etawah	3
23.	Faizabad	16
24.	Farrukhabad	1
25.	Fatehpur	8
26.	Firozabad	3
27.	Gautam Buddha Nagar	5
28.	Ghaziabad	17
29.	Ghazipur	5
30.	Gonda	8
31.	Gorakhpur	27
32.	Hamirpur	0
33.	Hardoi	0
34.	Hathras	0

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
35.	Jalaun	1
36.	Jaunpur	7
37.	Jhansi	8
38.	Kasganj	2
39.	Kannauj	3
40.	Kanpur Dehat	0
41.	Kanpur Nagar	11
42.	Kaushambi	3
43.	Laakhimpur Kheri	6
44.	Kushinagar	4
45.	Lalitpur	0
46.	Lucknow	24
47.	Mahoba	0
48.	Maharajganj	10
49.	Mainpuri	0
50.	Mathura	7
51.	Mau	11
52.	Meerut	20
53.	Mirzapur	4
54.	Moradabad	15
55.	Muzaffarnagar	6
56.	Pilibhit	5
57.	Pratapgarh	4
58.	RaeBareli	11
59.	Rampur	8
60.	Saharanpur	9
61.	Sant Kabir Nagar	0
62.	Sant Ravidas Nagar	4
63.	Shahjahanpur	2
64.	Shravasti	0
65.	Siddharthnagar	4
66.	Sitapur	2

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
67.	Sonbhadra	1
68.	Sultanpur	12
69.	Unnao	3
70.	Varanasi	14
71.	Amroha	22
72.	Shamli	1
73.	Hapur	4
74.	Sambhal	10
75.	amethi	15
TOTAL		484

Uttarakhand

1.	Almora	4
2.	Bageshwar	2
3.	Chamoli	4
4.	Champawat	1
5.	Dehradun	21
6.	Haridwar	24
7.	Nainital	18
8.	Pauri Garhwal	0
9.	Pithoragarh	0
10.	Rudraprayag	2
11.	Tehri Garhwal	1
12.	Udham Singh Nagar	18
13.	Uttarkashi	0
TOTAL		95

West Bengal

1.	Alipurduar	2
2.	Bankura	1
3.	Purba Bardhaman	3
4.	Paschim Bardhaman	0
5.	Birbhum	0
6.	Cooch Behar	0

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
7.	Darjeeling	1
8.	Purba Medinipur	2
9.	Hooghly	2
10.	Howrah	2
11.	Jalpaiguri	3
12.	Jhargram	0
13.	Kolkata	8
14.	Kalimpong	0
15.	Malda	3
16.	Murshidabad	1
17.	Nadia	2
18.	North 24 Parganas	4
19.	Uttar Dinajpur	3
20.	Purulia	0
21.	South 24 Parganas	2
22.	Dakshin Dinajpur	0
23.	West Midnapore	1
TOTAL		40

Telangana

1.	Adilabad	3
2.	Bhadradi	0
3.	Hyderabad	9
4.	Jagtial	6
5.	Jangaon	3
6.	Jayashankar Bhupalapally	4
7.	Jogulamba	4
8.	Kamareddy	1
9.	Karimnagar	5
10.	Khammam	1
11.	Komaram Bheem	0
12.	Mahabubabad	1
13.	Mahabubnagar	9

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
14.	Mancherial	0
15.	Medak	2
16.	Medchal–Malkajgiri	0
17.	Nagarkurnool	2
18.	Nalgonda	3
19.	Nirmal	1
20.	Nizamabad	3
21.	Peddapalli	3
22.	Rajanna Sircilla	0
23.	Rangareddy	6
24.	Sangareddy	0
25.	Siddipet	0
26.	Suryapet	0
27.	Vikarabad	0
28.	Wanaparthy	0
29.	Warangal Rural	1
30.	Warangal Urban	8
31.	Yadadri Bhuvanagiri	0
TOTAL		75
Andaman and Nicobar Islands		
1.	Nicobar	0
2.	North and Middle Andaman	0
3.	South Andaman	0
TOTAL		0
Chandigarh		
1.	Chandigarh	5
TOTAL		5
Dadar and Nagar Haveli		
2.	Silvassa	7
TOTAL		7
Daman and Diu		
1.	Daman	4

Sl. No.	District	Number of PMBJP Kendras
1.	Diu	0
	TOTAL	4
Delhi		
1.	Central Delhi	3
2.	North Delhi	2
3.	South Delhi	2
4.	East Delhi	5
5.	North East Delhi	3
6.	South West Delhi	4
7.	New Delhi	0
8.	North West Delhi	5
9.	West Delhi	11
10.	Shahdara	3
11.	South East Delhi	0
	TOTAL	38
Puducherry		
1.	Karaikal	1
2.	Mahe	1
3.	Pondicherry	8
4.	Yanam	1
	TOTAL	11
Lakshyadweep		
1.	Lakshadweep	0
	TOTAL	0
	GRAND TOTAL	3084

**Setting up of greenfield fertilizer companies
in place of sick fertilizers PSUs**

39. DR.R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing to establish Greenfield Fertilizer Companies in the country instead of reviving sick fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the reason thereof;

(c) whether Government will come forward to put on hold on establishment of Green Field Fertilizer Companies for the time being and pursue sincerely revival of the sick fertilizer PSUs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to establish Greenfield Fertilizer Companies instead of reviving of sick Fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). However, Government had approved to revive closed units namely Gorakhpur, Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) through 'Nomination Route' by nominating Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSU). Each of these units are being revived by installing new Urea Plant having production capacity of 1.27 Million Metric Tone Urea per annum each.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Cases of corruption and conflict of interest under probe

40. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of on-going cases of corruption/conflict of interest under probe in the Ministry for cooperatives fertilizers units, as of now;

(b) The details of status of each case, case-wise;

(c) Whether the Ministry has coordinated with Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to curb conflict of interest activities in cooperative fertilizer units, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) Whether there are any officials who are alleged or under inquiry for involvement in conflict of interest activities in cooperative fertilizer units and still continuing in service, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) (a) and (b) The complaints related to corruption and irregularities in Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd (KRIBHCO) were received in this Department and have been referred to CBI for investigation. The details are given as under:

IFFCO

The complaints mainly alleged gross mismanagement of funds along with siphoning off money and fabricated balance sheet by IFFCO, wrong disclosures in violation of established accounting practices and misleading the stakeholders especially the banks by IFFCO, manipulation of Multi-State Co-operative Act and further manipulating by laws of society and illegal repatriation of Government equity by IFFCO Board, regular money laundering process adopted by U.S. Awasthi, MD and his sons, his relatives and his friends associated with IFFCO, illegal and unlawful methods adopted by U.S. Awasthi to grab the guest house and posh bungalow, subsidy frauds by U.S. Awasthi, MD, IFFCO by opening Kisan International Trading, earning huge illegal commission in imports of raw materials and finished fertilizer thereby creating huge loss to the society.

KRIBHCO

A complaint received from Central Vigilance Commission vide letter dated 29.11.2005 regarding alleged irregularities in acquisition of M/s Oswal Fertilizers Plant by KRIBHCO.

(c) and (d) No case of conflict of interest is under probe in the Department of Fertilizers in respect of cooperatives fertilizers units. However, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has received multiple complaints and on the basis of which certain information relating to subsidiary companies of KRIBHCO, New Delhi has been sought by them from KRIBHCO. Further action, if any, would be taken as per the provisions of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 and rules made there under.

Release of subsidy to GSFC

41. PROF M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the release of subsidy withheld for the year 2010-11 to Gujarat State Fertilizer Corporation (GSFC);

(b) the recommendations of the Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee (FICC) in this regard;

(c) whether Government intends to release the subsidy withheld for the period 2013-17; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) An amount of ₹ 96.84 crore

of subsidy has been withheld against the proposed recovery from Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (GSFC) for the diversion of molten urea for non agricultural purposes, *i.e.* for the production of industrial product.

Department of Fertilizers is the competent authority to take decision in the matter.

(c) No subsidy has been withheld for the period 2013-17 in respect of GSFC.

(d) In view of the above, question does not arise.

Retail margin on generic drugs

42. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of countries that are prescribing generic medicines in place of branded ones;

(b) whether it is a fact that as per a study conducted by Indian Journal of Pharmacology, the retail margin on generic drugs is as high as 1000 per cent of manufacturing cost;

(c) if so, the response of Government on the above study; and

(d) the response of Government to some doctors' view that all generic drugs are not as effective as the branded ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Every country has its own standards and its own laws and regulations for prescribing medicines which are done keeping in view of the particular requirements of the country.

(b) A Research Article published in Indian Journal of Pharmacology in April 2011 said that margins for retailer were very high for branded-generics. The retailer margin for five branded medicines examined in the study was in the range of 25-30%, but for their branded-generics versions manufactured by the same company, it was much higher.

(c) Both generic and branded medicines are treated alike for fixation of ceiling price under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). As per DPCO, 2013, all manufacturers of Scheduled medicines (branded or generic) have to sell their products within the ceiling price fixed by the Government. The DPCO, 2013 provides that 16% of price to retailer shall be allowed as a margin to retailer, while fixing ceiling price of scheduled formulations and retail prices of new drugs.

(d) Manufacturing, sale and distribution of drugs in the country whether branded or generic, are regulated under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945 made thereunder through a system of licensing and inspection. License for manufacturing, sale and distribution of Drugs are granted by State Licensing Authorities appointed by respective State Governments. Licensees are required to comply with all the conditions of license and follow Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to ensure that the drugs manufactured by them are safe and of standard quality.

Supply of generic medicines at affordable rates

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

(a) whether there is adequate supply of generic medicines in the country, particularly in Government hospitals and dispensaries;

(b) whether Government is aware that big pharmaceutical cartels are trying to thrust their highly priced medicines on it and patients;

(c) whether Government proposes to utilise facilities in the public sector pharmaceutical units to produce such medicines at cheaper costs; and

(d) whether it would also arrange for production of vaccines to prevent speeding up of new generation communicable diseases in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) The country is self-sufficient in medicines. However, a facility for reporting shortage of medicines, if any, by the public has been provided by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) through helpline number/Pharma Jan Samadhan/mobile number and twitter handle (https://twitter.com/nppa_india). NPPA is monitoring about 97,000 Stock Keeping Units (SKUs) based on Pharmatrac data.

(b) As per Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013), all manufacturers of Scheduled medicines have to sell their products within the ceiling price fixed by the Government. As regards non-scheduled formulations, the manufacturers are not allowed to increase the price by more than 10 % per annum.

(c) and (d) The facilities of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the country are already being utilised to produce quality medicines/vaccines at affordable prices which would also prevent speeding up of new generation communicable diseases in various parts of the country.

Shortage of urea in Bihar

†44. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a situation of shortage of urea has arisen in Bihar;

(b) the reasons for not making beforehand preparations when Government had the idea that urea is required immediately after irrigation of Rabi crops;

(c) the immediate efforts made by Government to meet the requirements of urea; and

(d) the strategy being adopted by Government to prevent such situation again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. As against sales of 1.88 LMT, 2.86 LMT and 2.39 LMT in Bihar during November 2017, December 2017 and January 2018 availability of Urea in the State of Bihar has been 2.44 LMT, 3.04 LMT and 2.75 LMT respectively.

(b) to (d) Department of Fertilizers ensures availability of all fertilizers at State level as per requirement projected by Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in consultation with States/UTs for each season and distribution within the States is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Before the commencement of each cropping season, DAC&FW, in consultation with all the State Governments, assesses the requirement of fertilizers. After assessment of requirement, DAC&FW projects month-wise requirement of fertilizers.

On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC&FW, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system:

- (i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system called integrated Fertilizer Monitoring System (iFMS);
- (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
- (iv) The gap between demand (requirement) and production is met through imports. The import for the season is also finalised well in advance to ensure timely availability.

Thus, with these steps the availability of urea has been comfortable in the country including Bihar.

Supply of fertilizers to farmers at affordable rates

45. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether chemical fertilizers under the subsidy regime are made available to farmers at the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) fixed by Government;
- (b) whether fertilizers are not being provided by the agents at the price fixed for farmers, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether lower global prices of nutrients as well as inputs/ intermediates such as ammonia, phosphoric acid and sulphur has not translated into cheaper fertilizers for Indian farmers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, including for DAP, MOP and urea and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Urea is provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP) which is at present ₹ 5360/- per MT (exclusive of Central/State Taxes and other charges towards neem coating).

However, MRP of P&K fertilizers are not fixed by the Government under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme.

(b) The Government of India has declared Fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA) and notified Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 under the EC Act. State Governments have been adequately empowered to ensure selling of

fertilizers at MRP besides stopping black marketing/smuggling of fertilizers and no State Government has reported selling of fertilizers above MRP.

(c) and (d) P&K fertilizer companies were encouraged to reduce the MRP during the year 2016-17 to pass on the benefit of lower price of P&K fertilizers and their raw materials in international market to the farmers in the form of lower MRP. Due to the above, farmers were directly benefitted to the tune of about ₹ 5,000 crores during 2016-17.

However, since Natural Gas/Naphtha is used as a feedstock for the production of ammonia used for production of urea, there is no impact of global prices of ammonia on the cost of production of indigenously produced urea. Moreover, urea is being provided to the farmers at a statutorily fixed price.

Amendments to DPCO, 2013

46. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to bring amendments to the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013 to cover non-essential drugs under the price control;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the Department of Pharmaceuticals is divided over amending the DPCO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

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

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, does not arise.

Medical facilities for labourers employed in coal mining sector

47. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers employed in Coal Mining sector are prone to serious health issues despite initiatives taken by Government;

- (b) whether this is due to exploitation of labourers by strong coal mafia;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to nullify the role of coal mafia and to help labourers come out of their clutches; and
- (d) the medical facilities to which the coal labourers of organised and unorganized sectors are entitled to?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir. The labourers employed in coal mining sector are not prone to serious health issues. The specific disease amongst coal mine workers is Coal Worker's Pneumoconiosis (CWP) which is caused by inhalation of coal dust for many years. At present, there are only 19 cases of CWP on roll amongst Coal India Limited employees.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view (a) above.

(d) Coal mine workers of organized and unorganized sectors are getting all type of medical facilities free of cost through hospitals and dispensaries owned and maintained by Coal India Limited spread across the coalfields areas.

Supply of coal to non-regulated sector

48. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure supply of coal to the non- regulated sector *viz.*, steel, cement and sponge iron; and

(b) whether any Memorandum of Understanding was signed in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The coal supply to Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) is through Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) based on their long term linkage /Letter of Assurance (LoA) as recommended by Standing Linkage Committee (Long-Term). The coal supply to the steel Public Sector Units (PSUs) is also through Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Ministry of Coal *vide* letter No. 23011/51/2015-CPD (Pt-I) dated 15.02.2016 issued policy guidelines for Auction of linkages of Non-Regulated Sector. In this policy, it has been stipulated that all allocations of linkages/LOAs for non-regulated sector *viz.* Cement, Steel/Sponge Iron, Aluminum and Others [excluding fertilizer (urea sector)], including their CPPs, shall henceforth be auction based. It is also provided that there will be no renewal of existing FSAs of non-regulated sectors [except FSAs of CPSEs and Fertilizer (urea)]. CIL has accordingly been conducting linkage auctions under Non-Regulated Sector, including for Steel, Cement and Sponge Iron, and FSAs are signed with the successful bidders by the subsidiary coal companies of CIL. In addition to it, coal

is supplied to the NRS through exclusive e- auction of coal, in which only end use consumers of NRS participate.

(b) In the case of steel PSUs, coal supplies through MoU are made to SAIL and RINL. In 2017-18 (up to 31.12.2017), the coal supply through MoU has been 17.97 lakh tonnes.

Supply of coal to thermal power stations

49. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal supplies to thermal power stations are inadequate;

(b) if so, the demand and supply of coal to plants during the last one year, month-wise;

(c) the report of coal stock by Coal India Limited and the expected demand of thermal power plants in the next six months; and

(d) the proposal to bridge the gap, if any, between demand and supply of coal?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Coal supplies are made to the Power Plants in terms of the Fuel Supply Agreement executed between Power Gencos and coal companies. Moreover, the power plants can also take coal through Special Forward E-Auction Scheme where coal is offered exclusively for power plants in regulated sector. Actual supply of coal depends on programme submitted by the Power Plants, logistics and various other factors. Many of the power stations of the country opted to consume coal from their piled up coal stock for power generation and restricted coal supplies from the Coal Companies during major part of the last year and in the initial months of this fiscal. As a result, total stock with the power stations which was 38.87 Million Tonnes (MT) in the beginning of 2016-17 had reduced to about 27.74 MT by the end of 2016-17, while coal stock with CIL increased from 57.64 MT to 68.42 MT during the same period. The supply of coal to the Power Sector has risen to 210.3 MT in first six months of the fiscal against 195.2 MT during the corresponding period of 2016-17, thus recording a growth of 7.74% (provisional). Details of Month-wise supply of coal to power plants by CIL are given in Statement-I (*See below*) and the month-wise coal supply by SCCL to power plants are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The total vendible coal stock of Coal India limited as on 28.01.2018 (provisionally) is 33.5 MT. The demand of coal from CIL for thermal power plants for the first six months of 2018, calculated on the basis of existing Fuel Supply Agreements, is likely to be around 278.2 MT.

(d) The Power Houses have the option to fulfill the gap between their requisite demand and supply by the following means:

1. Taking coal through Special Forward e-Auction conducted by CIL throughout the year.
2. Building up stock during lean period by agreeing to take more coal than their Annual Contracted Quantity, subject to availability and other terms.
3. Importing coal, by Thermal Power Plants which are designed on imported coal.
4. Using the coal produced by captive coal blocks which have been allocated by Government of India, if available.

Statement-I

Details of Month-wise Coal supply to Power sector during 2017 by CIL

(Provisional) (figs in MT)

Month	Contracted qty. at Trigger level	Supply	Materialization against commitment at trigger level (%)
January	38.1	36.4	96
February	38.2	33.8	88
March	38.3	36.7	96
April	34.3	31.9	93
May	34.7	33.4	96
June	34.7	32.2	93
July	30.7	31.1	101
August	30.9	31.2	101
September	31.6	32.3	102
October	33.9	37.0	109
November	36.6	38.5	105
December	36.7	38.6	105
GRAND TOTAL	418.6	413.2	99

In addition to the above supply against contracted quantity, a supply of 34.46 MT is also made to Power Sector under special forward e-auction during this period.

Statement-II*Details of Month-wise Coal supply to Power Sector during 2017 by SCCL*

(Fig in MT)

Month	Contracted qty. at Trigger level	Supply	Materialization against commitment at trigger level (%)
January	4.01	4.975	124.06
February	3.62	4.702	129.89
March	4.01	5.362	133.72
April	3.69	4.516	122.38
May	3.81	4.332	113.70
June	3.69	4.053	109.84
July	3.81	4.104	107.72
August	3.81	3.93	103.15
September	3.69	3.955	107.18
October	3.81	4.194	110.08
November	3.69	4.677	126.75
December	3.81	4.857	127.48
GRAND TOTAL	45.45	53.657	118.06

Supply of coal to Power Sector

50. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of coal by Coal India Limited to the Power Sector in the first six months of this fiscal increased 6.7 per cent to 204.5 million tonnes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the power producers have rued over low coal stocks at their plants, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Supply of coal to the Power Sector has risen to 210.3 Million Tonnes (MT) in the first six months of this fiscal against 195.2 MT during the corresponding period of 2016-17 thus recording growth of 7.74% (provisional).

(b) As per guidelines prescribed by CEA, the thermal power stations are required to keep average coal stock for 22 days consumption for smooth operations. However,

many of the thermal power stations of the country opted to consume coal from their piled up stock for power generation and restricted the intake of fresh coal supplies from Coal Companies during a major part of the last year and in the initial months of the current year. The total coal stock with the thermal power plants was 38.87 MT on 01.04.2016 and the stock reduced to 27.74 MT on 31.03.2017. At the same time, coal stock with CIL increased from 57.64 MT on 01.04.2016 to 68.42 MT on 31.03.2017.

Conversion of Kakatiya Coal Mine into Open Cast Mine

51. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Telangana has proposed to change the name of the Kakatiya Long Wall underground coal mine into Kakatiya Open Cast Mine, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the status of the request as on date;

(c) the reasons for the delay in the matter; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) The Board of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) in its meeting held on 04.03.2017 has approved the Feasibility Report of Kakatiya Opencast Mine-III, phase-I for conversion of Kakatiya Longwall Underground coal mine to Kakatiyakhani OC-III (KTK OC-III, phase-I) in view of safety, conservation, quality and economics.

However, no request has been made to Ministry of Coal by the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), a state PSU of Government of Telangana, to change the name of the Kakatiya Long Wall underground coal mine into Kakatiya Open Cast Mine.

Health facilities available to coal mine workers

52. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare facilities provided to coal mine workers and their family members by Government;

(b) whether it is mandatory for the coal mine workers to undergo medical check-up annually;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the special health facilities available for the coal mine workers?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The focus of welfare activities of Coal India Limited (CIL) is welfare of its employees and their families. The subsidiaries are paying great attention to the welfare of their workers. Every effort is being made to improve the living conditions of coal miners. In order to create a sense of belonging and involvement in work, top priority is given by the management in the following areas:

Housing Facilities

To provide shelter is the main thrust area of the organization. CIL has achieved the goal of "Shelter for All" for workers with landmark of 100% housing satisfaction for fulfilling the basic needs of the workers.

Water Supply

One of the major welfare activities of the company is to provide clean drinking water to the employees and their families. In this direction many water supply schemes have been taken up. Supply of Water through natural resource like river, tank etc. are supplemented by underground mine water after proper treatment.

Education Facilities

The primary responsibility of providing educational facilities lies with the State Government. However, the subsidiary companies of CIL have been providing financial assistance and infrastructure facilities to certain schools like DAV, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Delhi Public School etc. and other educational institutions run by the State Government to provide quality education to the employees' children. In addition, financial assistance and infrastructure facilities are also provided to certain privately managed schools and other educational institutions by the subsidiary coal companies functioning in and around coalfield areas.

CIL is also providing various types of scholarship, cash award and financial assistance to the children of employees.

Medical Facilities

CIL and its subsidiaries are extending medical facilities to the employees and their families through various medical establishments from the dispensary level to the central and apex hospitals in different parts of the coalfields. Special emphasis is also given on occupational health, HIV/AIDS awareness programme.

Statutory Welfare Facilities

In accordance with the provision of the Mines Act, 1952 and rules and regulations framed thereunder, subsidiaries of CIL are maintaining various statutory welfare facilities for the coal mines such as canteen, rest shelters and pit-head baths.

Non-Statutory Welfare Measure

In order to supply essential commodities and consumer goods at a cheaper rate in the collieries, Central Co-operative and Primary Co-operative Stores are functioning in the coalfield areas of CIL. In addition, Co-operative Credit Societies are also functioning in the coal companies.

Banking Facilities

The Management of Coal companies are providing infrastructure facilities to the various nationalized banks for opening their branches and extension counters in the coalfields for the benefit of coal workers. Workers are educated to draw their salaries from the banks and they are also encouraged to practice thrift for the benefit of their families.

Holiday Homes

Coal India Ltd. has maintained Holiday Homes in important spots across the country.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. It is not mandatory for the Coal Mine Workers to undergo Medical Checkup annually. Coal mine workers have to undergo medical checkup every 5 years as per provisions of Mine's Rule, 1955. Those who are more than 45 years old have to undergo medical checkup after every 3 years as per recommendation of 10th Conference on Safety in Mines.

(d) Coal Mine workers and their eligible dependent family members are getting all types of medical facilities free of cost through hospitals and dispensaries owned and maintained by CIL spread across all the coalfields areas. In case of super-specialty treatment and non-availability of treatment in company hospitals, coal mine workers and their family members are referred to private hospitals empanelled by CIL.

Investment for telecom connectivity in North-East

53. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an investment of around ₹ 15,000 crore is in the offing for telecom connectivity in the North-East, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a modified strategy to implement the Phase-II through State-led and private sector models is being implemented in the region and if so, the details of impact of its implementation;

(c) the details of the comprehensive strategy of BharatNet in the region and achievements of the strategy; and

(d) whether the project is slow in achieving results and if so, the remedies being adopted to have the desired outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Government has approved an investment plan of about ₹ 10,000 crore for improving the telecom connectivity in the North-East Region (NER). The plan consists of following components:

1. Provision of mobile services in uncovered villages and seamless mobile connectivity along National Highways.
2. Strengthening of transmission media network between State Head Quarter (SHQ) to District Head Quarter (DHQ) and District Head Quarter to Block Head Quarter (BHQ).
3. Provision of broadband connectivity in all the Gram Panchayats(GPs).

(b) and (c) In the North-Eastern Region, the phase-II of BharatNet is being implemented in Assam and Sikkim under Central Public Sector Unit (CPSU) model through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). Keeping in view certain basic challenges, in other six States viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura, a comprehensive strategy has been adopted for providing broadband connectivity on satellite media, and to build up reliable high speed Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) network for the future. Accordingly, in these six States, 4240 GPs are being provided connectivity on Satellite media at an estimated cost of ₹ 733 Crore. This strategy envisages expediting the completion of the BharatNet phase-II by March, 2019.

(d) Since May 2016, with the constitution of the following committees, the issues on BharatNet implementation are being resolved in a timely manner:

- (i) Empowered Committee under Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- (ii) Steering Committee under Administrator, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
- (iii) State Committee under Chief General Manager (CGM), BSNL for resolution of State level issues.

Re-verification of existing mobile subscribers

54. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether re-verification of existing mobile subscribers is being done under provisions contained in the licence issued to telecom service providers under Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885;

(b) if so, how does a more than 130 years old law provide for linking Aadhaar with mobile SIMs;

(c) in what manner the rules, regulations issued under old Act are still valid; and

(d) whether any need is being felt to change the law as per modern requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Central Government grants telecom licenses on such conditions and in consideration of such payments as it thinks fit, to any person to establish, maintain or work a telegraph within any part of India.

The Policy, Licensing and Coordination matters relating to telegraphs, telephones, wireless, data, facsimile and telematic services and other like forms of communications are allocated to the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules.

The Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has mandated the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in the licenses issued to them to ensure traceability of their subscribers. The provision contained in the Unified License, *inter alia*, states as under: "The Licensee shall ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as a subscriber; instructions issued by the Licensor in this regard from time to time shall be scrupulously followed."

Pursuant to the above mentioned license condition, instructions have been issued by the Government to the TSPs from time to time for verification of identity of prospective subscribers at the time of enrolling them for providing the service.

In order to achieve better subscriber verification norms, DOT issued Aadhaar based Electronic-Know Your Customer (E-KYC) process on 16.08.2016 for issuing new mobile connection to subscribers. Further, in pursuance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 06.02.2017 in *Writ* Petition (Civil) No. 607/2016 (Lokniti Foundation V/s Union of India), DOT issued initial instructions on 23.03.2017 to

all TSPs for re-verification of existing mobile subscribers through Aadhaar based E-KYC process.

(d) The Ministry of Communications makes necessary amendments in the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 or frames/amends the Indian Telegraph Rules made under the provisions of the Act, to cater to the modern requirements, as and when the need arises.

Improving the broadband speed in the country

55. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to improve the poor status of broadband speed in the country and the details thereof;

(b) why TRAI has not increased the minimum broadband speed in the country from 512 kbps despite an order by the Chhattisgarh High Court in 2015; and

(c) whether Government is aware that India ranks as one of the slowest countries for Internet speed among the middle to high income countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) BharatNet project is being implemented to provide broadband services in all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country in phases through optical fibre, radio and satellite media. Last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is to be provided in all the GPs (approximately 2,50,000) in the country by providing Access Points(hotspots) in each GP by leveraging the BharatNet infrastructure targeted to be completed by 31.03.2019. It is expected that implementation of BharatNet will improve broadband speed particularly in remote and rural areas.

Spectrum resources have been made available to various Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) through auctions held from time to time. These allocations include spectrum allocated for 3G and Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) services. In the latest auction held during October 2016, around 965 MHz has been allotted to the TSPs which will help in improving coverage and access speed of wireless broadband services.

(b) As per Department of Telecommunications notification dated 18.07.2013, broadband definition has been revised as under:

‘Broadband is a data connection that is able to support interactive services including internet access and has the capability of the minimum download speed of 512 kbps to an individual subscriber from the Point of Presence (PoP) of the service provider intending to provide broadband service.’

TRAI recommendation regarding review of definition of broadband to increase minimum download speed to 2 Mbps is under discussion.

(c) As per the Akamai's State of Internet Report for the first quarter (Q1) of 2014, average internet speed in India was 1.7 Mbps and India ranked 118th globally. As per Akamai's State of Internet Report for the first quarter (Q1) of 2017 average internet speed in India was 6.5 Mbps with which, India improved its position globally to 89th rank.

Performance of BSNL

56. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL is facing the dearth of latest state-of-the-art infrastructure; and

(b) if so, whether Government is considering any concrete steps to address such issues which are hampering performance of BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is deploying latest state-of-the-art infrastructure in its Wireline and Wireless Network. The details of ongoing wireline and wireless projects are as follows:

Mobile Services: At present GSM Phase VII+ expansion project is under roll out with state of the art equipment, which will enhance the data carrying capabilities in BSNL network to provide faster data speeds to its customers. Also, a GSM Expansion project with latest equipment under name Phase VIII.4, has been planned. This will replace old 2G equipment, add 3G capacity and introduce 4G services. The project presently envisages to provide 20035 2G BTS, 22517 3G Node Bs and 10000 4G E-Node Bs across BSNL serviced areas.

Broad Band Services: To augment the broadband core network BSNL has planned for procurement of 238 number of Broadband Network Gateway (BNG) and associated policy manager and authentication platform (RPOP-regional point of presence). For replacing old RPR (Resilient Packet Ring) /OCLAN (Other City Local Area Network) switches of BSNL Broadband core network, BSNL has procured new technology MPLS (Multiprotocol Label Switching) based MNG-PAN (Managed Network Gateway-Packet Aggregation Network) switches. CGNAT (Carrier Grade Network Address Translation) solution is planned at various locations to address the problem of shortage of IPv4 (Internet Protocol version 4) addresses in BSNL Broadband Network.

Complaints against ISPs for not following net neutrality guidelines

57. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by TRAI from subscribers against Internet Service Providers (ISPs) for not following the Net Neutrality guidelines created by TRAI;

(b) whether Government has found that ISPs are at fault in the said complaints and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether TRAI has any mechanism to regulate ISPs in the country to ensure Net Neutrality and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which Government intends to make Net Neutrality guidelines made by TRAI legally enforceable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) TRAI has submitted its recommendations on Net Neutrality to Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on 28th November 2017. The recommendations of TRAI are being examined by the Government.

Government is committed to the fundamental principles and concept of net neutrality and strives for non-discriminatory access to internet for all citizens of the country. TRAI has *inter alia*, recommended that Internet access services should be governed by a principle that restricts any form of discrimination or interference in the treatment of content, including practices like blocking, degrading, slowing down or granting preferential speeds or treatment to any content. TRAI has also recommended an amendment to the license agreements to clarify the principle of unrestricted access given under the appropriate license agreements.

Dwindling of telecom subscribers

58. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of telecom subscribers dwindled by 1.58 crore to 118.5 crore in November, 2017;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the decline was mainly on account of closure of mobile services by some of the operators; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The number of telephone subscribers as on 30th October, 2017 was 120.21 crore. The figure as on 30th November, 2017 was 118.62 crore. The decline of 1.59 crore subscribers was pre-dominantly due to shutdown of 2G services by Reliance Communications Limited in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh (West), Uttar Pradesh (East), Haryana and Tamil Nadu circles. Other operators which also saw a decline in subscriber base in November, 2017 are TATA Teleservices Ltd., Aircel, Sistema Shyam Teleservices Ltd. and Telenor.

Improving the customer satisfaction by telecom operators

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey, the telecom operators have failed to meet customer satisfaction benchmark;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has asked the telecom service providers to improve the level of customer satisfaction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has conducted a customer satisfaction survey through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) outbound calls as a pilot project in Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka Licensed Service Areas for assessing customer perception of services with regard to Quality of Service parameters during February, 2017. A total of 3,83,537 successful calls were made by the IVRS. As per the survey, the Service Providers have failed to meet the benchmark for all the parameters for assessing Customer perception of service.

(c) and (d) Though TRAI has not specifically asked the telecom service providers to improve the level of customer satisfaction, the results of these surveys are also published on TRAI website for information of all stakeholders and action by service providers. Further, TRAI has launched two apps, namely TRAI “MySpeed” app and TRAI “MyCall” app to assess customer perception of service. The TRAI - “MySpeed” app allows the users to explore the mobile data experience of consumers across India and report the same to TRAI “MySpeed” Portal, which also forms a part

of the TRAI Analytics Portal. The application also sends coverage, data speed and network information along with device and location of the test to TRAI servers at frequent intervals. The customers can view the data experience of all Telecom Service Providers from the TRAI “MySpeed” Portal. The TRAI “MyCall App” is intended to measure the call quality through crowd sourcing. TRAI “MyCall” is an Android application for Crowd sourced Voice Call Quality Monitoring. The Application will help Mobile phone users to rate their experience about voice call quality in real time and to help TRAI gather customer experience data along with Network data.

Public wi-fi hotspots

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

(a) whether Government has decided to give a major push to Wi-Fi deployment across the length and breadth of the country;

(b) whether Government has decided to set up 7.5 lakh public Wi-Fi hotspots by the end of 2018;

(c) whether Government will come out with a tender on kickstarting the mega Wi-Fi rollout;

(d) whether Government wants to have three Wi-Fi hotspots per Gram Panchayat and is aiming to provide 1GB of data per Panchayat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) BharatNet Project is being implemented to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs), approximately 2,50,000, in the country. As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is to be provided at all the GPs in the country. The project is targeted to be completed by March 2019.

Further, the following steps have already been taken for providing broadband services through Wi-Fi hotspots:

- (i) Wi-Fi Choupals are being set up in 5,000 GPs by Common Service Centres Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC-SPV) under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
- (ii) Public Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) at its 25,000 Telephone Exchanges in rural areas funded by USOF.

(iii) As a pilot project, RailTel is setting up Wi-Fi hotspots at 200 rural railway stations with funding from USOF.

(c) to (e) Government has approved last mile connectivity through Wi-fi or any other suitable broadband technology at all the GPs in the country under the BharatNet project. The strategy is to provide last mile connectivity for which tender to select the Implementing Agency for provision of last mile connectivity has been floated on 26.12.2017 by Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL).

The last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, on a need basis is to be provided at all the GPs.

Growth of telecom subscriber base

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the telecom subscriber base in the country grew by about half a per cent to cross the 121 crore mark;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the mobile segment accounted for the lion's share of growth with a net addition of over 60 lakh customers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The total number of telephone connections was 121.12 crores as on 30th June, 2017 reflecting a growth of 1.35% over the preceding quarter. The growth has been mainly in the mobile segment and the number of mobile phone connections added during the period April-June 2017 was 1.66 crores.

Committee to review service matters of Gramin Dak Sevaks

62. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any Committee to look into the salary structure, other service matters and problems of Gramin Dak Sevaks, if so, the details and the composition thereof;

(b) whether the said Committee has since submitted its report, if so, the recommendations thereof; and

(c) by when these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A One Man Committee was constituted to look into the salary structure, other service matters and problems of Gramin Dak Sevaks under the Chairmanship of Shri Kamlesh Chandra Retired Member of the Postal Service Board in November 2015.

(b) Yes, Sir, the Committee submitted its report to the Government in November 2016. The salient features are given in the annexure.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Department. These are currently under approval within the Government. Once necessary approvals have been obtained, the recommendations will be implemented.

Statement

*Salient features of the One Man Committee Report headed
by Shri Kamlesh Chandra*

- The old system of payment of Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) is dispensed with and replaced with a new wage payment system. Under the new wage payment system, 11 TRCA slabs are subsumed into 3 Wage Scales with two Levels each for BPMs and for other than BPMs. One wage scale would be common for both the categories of GDSs.
- The minimum working hours of GDS Post Offices and GDSs are increased to 4 hours from 3 hours.
- The new working hours for GDS Post Offices will be 4 hours and 5 hours only.
- The Level 1 GDS Post Offices/GDSs will have 4 hours as working hours and Level – 2 will have 5 hours as working hours.
- The Point System for assessment of workload of BPMs has been abolished.
- The new wage payment system is linked to revenue generation of GDS Post Offices. Under the new system, there will be no increase in wages of BPMs from Level -1 to Level -2 on the basis of workload but the same will be increased based on achievement of prescribed revenue norms which is fixed at 100% for normal areas and 50% for special areas.
- The GDS Post Offices not achieving the prescribed revenue norm within the given working hours will have to open GDS Post Offices for minimum of additional 30 minutes beyond the prescribed working hours.
- The GDS BPMs will be paid Revenue Linked Allowance @10% beyond level-2 wage scale if they will be successful in achieving revenue beyond prescribed norms

- The GDS Post Offices has been categorized into A, B; C and D categories based on the revenue generation norms. The GDS Post Office in A category will achieve 100% revenue norm. The Committee has recommended a set of actions for each category of GDS Post Offices.
- The six approved categories of GDSs are subsumed into two categories only. One category will be Branch Post Master and all other 5 categories of GDSs are subsumed into one Multi Tasking Category.
- The GDSs working in the GDS Post Offices will be known as Assistant Branch Post Master (ABPMs) and those working in the Departmental Post Offices will be known as Dak Sevak (DS).
- The minimum wage has been increased to ₹ 10000/- per month and maximum pay to ₹ 35480/- per month.
- The rate of annual increase is recommended as 3%.
- A Composite Allowance comprising of support for hiring accommodation for GDS Post Offices as well as mandatory residence, office maintenance, mobile and electricity usage charges etc. has been introduced for the first time.
- Children Education Allowance @ ₹ 6000/- per child per annum has been introduced for GDSs.
- Risk and Hardship Allowance @ ₹ 500/- per month for GDS working in the special areas has also been introduced.
- A Financial up-gradation has been introduced at 12 years, 24 years and 36 years of services in form of two advance additional annual increases.
- The Ceiling of *ex-gratia* gratuity has been increased from ₹ 60,000 to ₹ 5,00,000.
- The GDS contribution for Service Discharge Benefit Scheme (SDBS) should be enhanced maximum up to 10% and minimum up to 3% of the basic wage per month, whereas the Department should contribute a fixed contribution of 3% of the basic wage of the GDSs.
- The coverage of GDS Group Insurance Scheme has been enhanced from ₹ 50000/- to ₹ 5,00,000/-
- The contribution of Department in Circle Welfare Fund (CWF) has been increased from ₹ 100/per annum to ₹ 300/per annum.
- The scope of CWF is extended to cover immediate family members such as spouse, daughters, sons and dependent daughters in law in the scheme.
- The Committee also recommended 10% hike in the prescribed limits of financial grants and assistances in the Circle Welfare Funds.

- The Committee has recommended addition of ₹ 10,000/- for purchase of Tablet/ Mobile from the Circle Welfare in the head “Financial Assistance of Fund by way of loans with lower rate of interest (5%)”.
- Provision of 26 weeks of Maternity Leave for women GDS has been recommended.
- The wages for the entire period of Maternity Leave is recommended to be paid from salary head from where wages of GDSs are paid.
- The Committee has also recommended one week of Paternity Leave.
- Leave accumulation and encashment facility up to 180 days has been introduced.
- Online system of engagement has been recommended.
- Alternate livelihood condition for engagement of GDSs has been relaxed.
- Voluntary Discharge scheme has been recommended.
- The Discharge age has been retained at 65 years.
- The Limited Transfer Facility has been relaxed from 1 time to 3 times for male GDSs. There will be no restriction on number of chances for transfer of women GDSs. The powers for transfer has been delegated to the concerned Divisional head.
- The *ex-gratia* payment during put off period should be revised to 35% from 25% of the wage and DA drawn immediately before put off.
- The Committee has recommended preferring transfer before put off duty.

Launch of 4G services by BSNL

63. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is planning to launch 4G services in all the 22 circles in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL has submitted a detailed project report to Government for acquiring another 5 MHz in the 2100 MHz band in 22 circles; and

(d) whether the cost for this is around ₹ 9600 to ₹ 10,000 crore for which 50 per cent will be through more equity for Government in BSNL while the rest will be paid in annual installments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has plans

for introduction of 4G services in its network by installing 10,000 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in its Licensed Service Areas (LSAs).

(c) and (d) BSNL has submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for allotting 5MHz spectrum in 2100 MHz band in all its LSAs except for Rajasthan where it has asked 5MHz in 800 MHz band. BSNL has sought from the DoT ₹ 6652 crore as equity infusion out of total spectrum cost of ₹ 13885 crore. BSNL will pay the balance ₹ 7233 crore of spectrum cost in ten annual installments from its internal accruals.

**Relaxing of spectrum holding caps and extended payments tenure
for auctioned airwaves**

64. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved Telecom Commission's decision to relax spectrum holding caps and extended payments tenure for auctioned airwaves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TRAI's suggestion to increase the overall airwaves holding limit is also approved, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the impact of these decisions on the service providers, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Based on the decision of Committee of Secretaries (CoS), an Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) was constituted with the following terms of reference:—

- To examine systemic issues affecting viability and repayment capacity in telecom sector and furnish recommendations for resolution of stressed assets.
- Policy reforms and strategic interventions for Telecom sector.

As per the recommendations of IMG, the Telecom Commission has concurred with the following:—

- Restructuring of Deferred Payment Liabilities of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) on spectrum from currently 10 instalments to maximum 16 instalments.
- Revision of the overall spectrum cap from the current limit of 25% to 35%.
- Removal of the current intra-band cap and introduction of a new spectrum cap of 50% on the combined spectrum holding in the sub-1 GHz bands (700 MHz, 800 MHz and 900 MHz bands).

- Continuation of the principles applied in Notice Inviting Application (NIA) of August 2016 for calculation of spectrum cap while calculating revised overall as well as sub-1GHz spectrum cap.
- Revisit of above spectrum cap after Final Acts of World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2019.

The above recommendations of the Telecom Commission are under process for the approval of the Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. TRAI's suggestion to increase the overall airwaves holding limit has been concurred with by the Telecom Commission. Details are given in (a) and (b) above.

(d) With the restructuring of the deferred payment liability, the cash flow for the telecom service providers will increase in the immediate time-frame providing them some relief, and will reduce stress in the telecom sector. Revising the limit for the spectrum cap holding will facilitate consolidation of telecom licensees, and may encourage the competition in the future auction.

Timeline for completion of BharatNet Phase-II

65. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the timeline set for the completion of Phase-II of BharatNet to provide broadband connectivity and services to all Gram Panchayats in the country;

(b) the details of hi-speed broadband connectivity provided in the first phase of BharatNet;

(c) whether financial incentives and disincentives are proposed in the contract clauses in Phase-II;

(d) the estimated employment opportunities so far generated in Phase-I and expected to be generated in Phase-II; and

(e) the impact it will have on the digital delivery of services for the rural poor along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The Phase-II of BharatNet is targeted to be completed by March, 2019.

(b) As on 28.01.2018, a total of 1,11,084 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been connected by laying 2,59,856 km. Optical Fiber Cable (OFC). The number of service ready GPs are 1,02,326.

(c) Yes, Sir. A model Request for Proposal (RFP) has been shared with the States as well as with BSNL and other implementing agencies involved in implementing BharatNet Phase-II. In the model RFP, provision for financial incentive and disincentive has been provided.

(d) The estimated employment approximately generated in Phase-I between 2014- 15 and 2016-17 is 144.76 lakh person-days and the employment to be generated in Phase-II is expected to be around 276.61 lakh person-days.

(e) BharatNet is being implemented for providing broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats in the country. The infrastructure created will be a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to the service providers. The project aims to provide affordable broadband services to citizens and institutions in rural and remote areas, in partnership with States and the private sector, towards realisation of the vision of 'Digital India'.

Vacancies in Post Offices of Andhra Pradesh

66. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are nearly 2000 vacancies of postmasters, supervisors, postal assistants, postman, etc., in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, circle-wise;

(c) how postal services are getting impacted by such huge vacancies; and

(d) since when the above vacancies are lying vacant and the steps taken by the Ministry to fill up all the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) There are 1922 vacant posts in Andhra Pradesh Circle in the posts of Multi Tasking Staff, Postman, Postal Assistant/Sorting Assistant, Postmaster Grade, Inspector Posts etc.

(b) The entire State of Andhra Pradesh is a single Postal Circle. Details of vacant posts in different categories in Andhra Pradesh Circle are as under:-

Name of Post	Sanctioned Strength	Number of vacant posts
Multi Tasking Staff	1135	281
Postman	2227	452
Postal Assistants	4615	717

Name of Post	Sanctioned Strength	Number of vacant posts
Sorting Assistants	699	182
Lower Selection Grade	225	153
Higher Selection Grade-II	76	34
Higher Selection Grade-I	77	37
Postmaster Grade-I	95	25
Postmaster Grade-II	20	6
Postmaster Grade-III	23	1
Inspector Posts	132	25
Assistant Superintendent Posts	104	9
TOTAL	9428	1922

(c) Vacant posts are being manned by appropriately redeploying the available staff to ensure that postal services are not affected.

(d) Shortage of staff is due to vacancies arising on account of retirement, promotion, death and deputation. Recruitment to fill up vacant posts is an ongoing process. It is done by holding departmental examination, direct recruitment through Staff Selection Commission and also by individual Circle as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules.

Funds collected under USOF

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

(a) the quantum of funds collected under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) through the Universal Access Levy since 2014, year-wise;

(b) the details of the quantum of funds collected from telecom service providers since 2014, year-wise; and

(c) the quantum of funds utilised and the purposes for which the utilization has taken place since 2014, specifying any projects undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The funds collected under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) through the Universal Access Levy since 2014 is as under:—

Year	Universal Access Levy (₹ in crore)
2014-15	7537.88
2015-16	9835.70
2016-17	9763.87
2017-18	3712.40
(upto December, 2017)	

(b) The details of the funds collected from Telecom Service Providers since 2014 is as under:—

Year	Licence Fee collection from TSPs (₹ in crore)
2014-15	12358
2015-16	15771
2016-17	15615
2017-18	6867
(upto December, 2017)	

(c) The quantum of funds utilised and the purposes for the utilization of funds since 2014 is given in Statement.

Statement

The quantum of fund utilised and the purpose for which the utilization has place since 2014

(₹ in crore)

Activity	Funds	Purposes for utilization of funds
BharatNet	12796.97	Provision of affordable broadband services to citizens and institutions in rural areas.
Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas	1856.10	Provision of Mobile services at locations identified by Ministry of Home Affairs in areas affected by Left Wing Extremism.
WiFi Hotspots at Exchanges	187.50	To set up 25000 Public WiFi Hotspots at rural telephone exchanges of BSNL.
WiFi Choupal	90.00	Provision of last mile connectivity by leveraging BharatNet infrastructure for providing Broadband services in 5000 Gram Panchayats.

Activity	Funds	Purposes for utilization of funds
Satellite Augmentation (A&N)	8.10	Enhancement of satellite bandwidth from 260 Mbps to 1 Gbps between Mainland India and Port Blair and other Islands.
Satellite Augmentation (LKD)	4.65	Augmentation of Satellite Bandwidth from existing 102 Mbps to 318 Mbps between Mainland India and Lakshadweep.
Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) for Assam and North East Region	62.86	Strengthening the OFC network.
Rural Wireline Broadband	179.66	Provision of wire-line broadband connectivity to rural and remote areas by leveraging the existing rural exchanges infrastructure and copper wire-line network.
Village Public Telephones in newly identified uncovered villages as per Census 2001	18.95	Village Public Telephones provided in inhabited uncovered villages in newly identified uncovered villages as per Census 2001.
Shared Mobile Infrastructure	32.52	Provision of mobile coverage in villages or cluster of villages having population of 2000 or more and not having mobile coverage.
Rural Household Direct Exchange Lines	14.31	Utilization for operation and maintenance by the USP for RDELs installed between 01.04.2002 and 31.03.2007 in the specified areas.
Rural Household Direct Exchange Lines-installed prior to 1.4.2002	1250.00	Subsidy support as compensation for deficit incurred in operating Rural Wire line connections installed prior to 1st April, 2002.
Amarnath Yatra	6.91	Creation of infrastructure for providing mobile services on the route of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.
Solar Mobile Charging Facilities	1.75	Provision of Solar Photo Voltaic Phone Charging Facilities in 5000 villages.
Sanchar Shakti	0.79	Provision of Mobile Connectivity and Value added Services to Rural Women Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Spam calls

68. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that Indians are spending more than 63 million hours a year in attending Spam calls;

(b) whether it is a fact that India is the top spam-plagued country in the world;

(c) whether it is also a fact that if the time lost in spam calls is put into productive use, India can gain US \$ 414 million annually; and

(d) if so, the steps the Ministry has taken/going to take to contain spam calls in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Sir, the Ministry of Communications does not collect data about such calls. However, unsolicited calls are a matter of concern world over and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) does take steps to address this issue.

(d) For addressing the menace of Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) including Spam calls, TRAI has laid down a regulatory framework through the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010. These regulations have been amended sixteen times to address implementation issues and to further tighten the regulatory framework.

The main features of the framework are:

- Establishment of National Consumer Performance Register (NCPR) by TRAI for registering the request of customers for not receiving UCC.
- Registration of Telemarketer by TRAI.
- A graded system of financial disincentive on registered telemarketers for violations of the regulations by way of recovery from the security deposit by service providers and depositing the same with TRAI.
- After six violations, the telemarketer is blacklisted for a period of two years and all its telecom resources throughout India are disconnected.
- The telemarketer name is not removed from the blacklisting before a period of two years.
- To discourage unregistered telemarketers from sending UCC, the regulations provide for disconnection of telephone on first complaint and blacklisting name

and address of the unregistered telemarketers for a period of two years. Upon blacklisting all the telecom resources will be disconnected and no new telephone connection can be taken by them for a period of two years.

- A separate number series starting from '140' has been allotted to telemarketers for making promotional calls to customers who have not registered their number for not receiving UCC. Customers who have registered in the NCPR for not receiving UCC cannot be called using this number. The number series '140' will also enable customers who have not registered in the NCPR to identify spam or promotional calls.

The above steps have been effective in controlling UCC to a large extent.

Rolling out of BharatNet Phase-II

69. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has rolled out BharatNet Phase II;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the targets fixed;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the BharatNet Phase I is yet to be completed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) if not, the number of unconnected villages connected upon implementation of Phase I, State/Union Territory-wise including Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) BharatNet Phase II is being rolled out for providing broadband connectivity to the remaining 1,50,000(approx.) Gram Panchayats (GPs). The implementation of Phase II is to be done through States, Private Sector and CPSUs by using an optimal mix of media (OFC, Radio and satellite) for connecting GPs. BharatNet Phase II is targeted to be implemented by March 2019.

(c) and (d) Under Phase I, 1,00,000 GPs were targeted to be connected by broadband. As on 28.01.2018, 1,11,084 GPs have been connected by Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) and 1,02,326 GPs are Service Ready.

(e) The State/Union Territory-wise status is given in Statement.

Statement*State/UT-wise Status of BharatNet (as on 28.01.2018)*

Sl. No	State/UT	GPs for which Cable laid	Service Ready GPs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	283	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	423	14
4.	Assam	1435	1419
5.	Bihar	5206	4788
6.	Chandigarh	12	13
7.	Chhattisgarh	3834	3559
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	5	0
10.	Gujarat	5370	4326
11.	Haryana	5957	5764
12.	Himachal Pradesh	204	162
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	249	168
14.	Jharkhand	2041	1471
15.	Karnataka	6071	6071
16.	Kerala	1129	1129
17.	Lakshadweep	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	11987	10501
19.	Maharashtra	13713	13437
20.	Manipur	269	123
21.	Meghalaya	267	122
22.	Mizoram	94	18
23.	Nagaland	556	61
24.	Odisha	3280	2402
25.	Puducherry	98	101
26.	Punjab	7413	6747

1	2	3	4
27.	Rajasthan	8130	8117
28.	Sikkim	12	4
29.	Tamil Nadu	0	0
30.	Telangana	2042	2036
31.	Tripura	816	489
32.	Uttar Pradesh	26647	25903
33.	Uttarakhand	1468	1361
34.	West Bengal	2073	2020
TOTAL		111084	102326

False promises of high internet speed by telecom operators

†70. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecom companies provide internet data at very low speed in the country contrary to their claim of high speed and due to this, the consumers are being cheated due to poor internet speed;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to check the claims made by telecom companies in terms of internet speed so that it could be ascertained whether the consumers are getting internet speed as per the claims made by telecom companies; and

(c) the steps being taken by the TRAI at present to improve the internet speed and the effects thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Internet data is provided through wireline as well as wireless. In the case of wireline, as per Quality of Service (QoS) Regulations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Internet Service Providers (ISPs) have to provide at least 80% of the subscribed speed, from ISP Node to the user. TRAI monitors the performance through quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports, and it has been observed that the service providers are meeting the benchmark.

In the case of data provided through wireless medium by mobile operators, the speed of mobile internet is dependent on a number of factors such as closeness to the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

base station serving the customer, the number of users being served, the traffic handled, and the user equipment/mobile handset used by the customer. Because of various factors which may affect the data speed, the mobile users may experience different speeds at different locations and at different time of usage. Although the mobile operators advertise the maximum speed that can be provided by the network, but the actual speed experienced by the user may differ on account of the above factors.

(b) Though as per information available, no study has been conducted by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) or TRAI to check the claims made by telecom companies in terms of internet speed, for protecting the interest of consumers, TRAI monitors the performance of Wireless Data Service Providers through quarterly report of their performance against the benchmark for various parameters including average throughput and minimum download speed, for the service area as a whole. The customers are also made aware of these performances through publication of the same on TRAI's website.

Further, TRAI also has given an option to consumers through "My-Speed" application, which allows the consumers to explore the mobile data experience across India and report the same on TRAI My-Speed Portal. The customers can also view the data experience of all TSPs on this portal.

(c) TRAI had issued a Consultation Paper on 'Data Speed under wireless Broadband Plan' on 01.06.2017. The last date of receiving the comments and counter comments were 10th August, 2017 and 24th August, 2017 respectively. 32 comments and 3 Counter comments have been received. TRAI has also conducted an Open House Discussion (OHD) on 03.10.2017 at New Delhi. The comments received in the OHD are under consideration.

Setting up of high-tech silos

71. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware that the Government of West Bengal is setting up hi-tech silos that can preserve rice for two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Government desires to take up this technology and preserve rice for two years in other parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Government of West Bengal has shown interest for construction of silos for storage of rice when the technology for rice silos is finalized. At present pilot projects for rice silos have been undertaken by Food Corporation of India (FCI) at two places namely Kaimur and Buxar in Bihar.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Central Government would like to have rice silos in West Bengal and other rice producing states, once the technology for rice silos is established.

Clearance of huge stock of pulses

72. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked NAFED and Food Corporation of India to off load the huge stock of pulses at present wholesale rate in the open market in its bid to prevent these going waste and becoming unfit for human consumption;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the sale price of Arhar, which has maximum share in the 1.9 million tonnes buffer stock, is likely to be around ₹ 40 per kilogram while Government had procured it at ₹ 50-55 per kilogram; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R.CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Pulses from the buffer are released to States/UTs, Central Government and its organs and central agencies. In addition, pulses are also released through strategic open market sale based on considerations such as prices, availability, storability and appropriate stocks management. Government had procured pulses for buffer at Minimum Support Price (MSP) or rate higher than MSP rates benefiting farmers. Market disposal is at rates as received in auctions/tenders, if these rates match the reserve price arrived at based on pre-decided criteria.

Coverage of population under TPDS

73. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population covered under TPDS, as per the National Food Security Act, during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the allocation of foodgrains under PDS/TPDS, including ad-hoc allocation, during the last five years;

(c) whether it is a fact that in certain States only less than 50 per cent of the population is covered under TPDS whereas the NFSA stipulates that 75 per cent of village population and 50 per cent of urban population should be under the coverage of TPDS; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population, *i.e.* about two-thirds of the total population of the country, for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. Corresponding to the above coverage of the all India level, State/Union Territory-wise coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) using the 2011-12 NSSO data. The percentage coverage therefore differs across States/UTs. NFSA came into force w.e.f. July, 2013 and thereafter States/UTs have joined its implementation at different points of time. The State/UT-wise details of percentage coverage of population determined under the Act and the current actual percentage coverage, with respect to Census 2011 population, are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Details of the allocation of foodgrains under TPDS, including ad-hoc allocation, during the last five years are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

*Details of State/UT-wise percentage coverage under
the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA)*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Percentage Coverage (as % to Census, 2011 population)	
		Determined under the Act	Current actual coverage
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54.32	54.32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	62.98	59.37
3.	Assam	80.82	80.73
4.	Bihar	83.92	82.57
5.	Chhattisgarh	78.61	78.61

1	2	3	4
6.	Delhi	43.44	43.42
7.	Goa	36.49	36.49
8.	Gujarat	63.40	63.35
9.	Haryana	49.89	49.89
10.	Himachal Pradesh	53.70	41.77
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	59.07	59.07
12.	Jharkhand	80.16	79.99
13.	Karnataka	65.75	65.75
14.	Kerala	46.36	46.36
15.	Madhya Pradesh	75.27	75.27
16.	Maharashtra	62.31	62.31
17.	Manipur	87.78	75.58
18.	Meghalaya	72.40	72.43
19.	Mizoram	64.71	61.25
20.	Nagaland	74.66	70.91
21.	Odisha	77.77	77.12
22.	Punjab	51.06	51.06
23.	Rajasthan	65.09	65.09
24.	Sikkim	66.78	62.30
25.	Tamil Nadu	50.56	49.53
26.	Telangana	54.32	54.30
27.	Tripura	68.16	67.63
28.	Uttar Pradesh	76.19	75.15
29.	Uttarakhand	61.22	61.24
30.	West Bengal	65.88	65.88
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.58	14.28
32.	Chandigarh	47.01	26.55
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	68.80	60.64

1	2	3	4
34.	Daman and Diu	48.97	36.05
35.	Lakshadweep	34.38	34.38
36.	Puduchery	50.96	49.49
TOTAL		67.21	66.69

Statement-II

Allocation of foodgrains under TPDS including ad-hoc allocation from the year 2013-14 to 2017-18

(In lakh tons)

Year	Total
2013-14	501.34
2014-15	550.15
2015-16	564.71
2016-17	544.36
2017-18 (tentative)	552.86

Plan to prevent damage to foodgrains in FCI godowns

74. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed loss/damages to foodgrains by pests/rodents in godowns under the control of Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan to prevent damages to foodgrains by pests/rodents in godowns under the control of FCI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) No damage/loss of foodgrains has been reported due to pests/rodents in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI).

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

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to avoid the damage due to various reasons including pests/rodents in storage of foodgrains are given in Statement.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government to avoid damage due to various reasons
including pests/rodents in storage of foodgrains.*

The following steps were taken by the Government to avoid the damage due to various reasons including pests/rodents in storage of foodgrains:

- (i) All godowns are constructed on scientific lines to make them rodent proof by having proper height and damp proof by providing pucca floor plinth.
- (ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
 - (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant
 - (b) Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)
 - (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)
 - (d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs. Squads.
- (ix) The principle of "First In First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.

Storage and transportation of foodgrains

†75. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds and vegetables in the country during the years 2015, 2016 and 2017;

(b) the total quantity of agri produces that perished during the said years due to lack of storage and transportation before its use or reaching the market;

(c) the arrangements made by Government for storage and transportation of foodgrains; and

(d) whether the arrangements made by Government are sufficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The total production of foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds and vegetables in the country during the years 2015, 2016 and 2017 is given in the Statement (*See* in below).

(b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has not conducted any study regarding the quantity of agri-produces that perished during 2015, 2016 and 2017 due to lack of storage and transportation before its use or reaching the market.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been implementing a subsidy linked central sector scheme *i.e.* Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) – sub scheme of Integrated Scheme of Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) in order to improve/create scientific storage capacity for storing farm produce, processed farm produce and agricultural inputs etc., to reduce post harvest storage losses. Under this scheme, 65.14 Million MT storage capacity has been sanctioned so far.

On the basis of peak stock requirement during procurement season in respect of wheat and rice, the overall storage capacity required in the country is about 600 Lakh MT. Against this, the total capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies for storage of foodgrains as on 31.12.2017 is 725.39 Lakh MT. Thus on the overall, there is sufficient capacity for storage of foodgrains in the country.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The foodgrains (Wheat and Rice) are transported throughout the country from surplus regions to deficit regions by rail, road and waterways. The movement of foodgrains is planned based on stocks available in surplus regions, demand by deficit regions, likely procurement, vacant storage capacity and monthly allocation/off-take.

The quantity of foodgrains (wheat and rice) dispatched/transported by FCI in the country during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Quantity (in LMT)
2015	353.77
2016	359.46
2017	380.16

Statement

(A) Details of Production of Foodgrains and Pulses (Crop-Year wise)

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

Crop	Season	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 4th Advance Estimates	2017-18 1st Advance Estimates
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rice	Kharif	91.39	91.41	96.39	94.48
	Rabi	14.09	13.00	13.76	
	TOTAL	105.48	104.41	110.15	94.48
Wheat	Rabi	86.53	92.29	98.38	
Jowar	Kharif	2.30	1.82	1.85	2.15
	Rabi	3.15	2.42	2.72	
	TOTAL	5.45	4.24	4.57	2.15
Bajra	Kharif	9.18	8.07	9.80	8.66
Maize	Kharif	17.01	16.05	19.24	18.73
	Rabi	7.16	6.51	7.02	
	TOTAL	24.17	22.57	26.26	18.73
Ragi	Kharif	2.06	1.82	1.40	1.61
Small Millets	Kharif	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.33
Barley	Rabi	1.61	1.44	1.74	

1	2	3	4	5	6
Coarse Cereals	Kharif	30.94	28.15	32.71	31.49
	Rabi	11.92	10.37	11.48	
	TOTAL	42.86	38.52	44.19	31.49
Cereals	Kharif	122.34	119.56	129.10	125.96
	Rabi	112.53	115.66	123.63	
	TOTAL	234.87	235.22	252.73	125.96
Tur	Kharif	2.81	2.56	4.78	3.99
Gram	Rabi	7.33	7.06	9.33	
Urad	Kharif	1.28	1.25	2.17	2.53
	Rabi	0.68	0.70	0.63	
	TOTAL	1.96	1.95	2.80	2.53
Moong	Kharif	0.87	1.00	1.62	1.32
	Rabi	0.64	0.59	0.55	
	TOTAL	1.50	1.59	2.16	1.32
Other Kharif Pulses	Kharif	0.77	0.72	0.86	0.86
Other Rabi Pulses	Rabi	2.77	2.47	3.02	
TOTAL PULSES	Kharif	5.73	5.53	9.42	8.71
	Rabi	11.42	10.82	13.53	
	TOTAL	17.15	16.35	22.95	8.71
TOTAL FOODGRAINS	Kharif	128.06	125.09	138.52	134.67
	Rabi	123.96	126.47	137.16	
	TOTAL	252.02	251.57	275.68	134.67

(B) Details of Production of Oilseeds and Vegetables (Crop-Year wise)

(Figures in Lakh Tonnes)

Crop	Season	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 4th Advance Estimates	2017-18 1st Advance Estimates
1	2	3	4	5	6
Groundnut	Kharif	59.30	53.68	62.21	62.13
	Rabi	14.71	13.66	13.43	
	TOTAL	74.02	67.33	75.65	62.13

1	2	3	4	5	6
Castorseed	Kharif	18.70	17.52	14.21	13.96
Sesamum	Kharif	8.28	8.50	7.84	6.64
Nigerseed	Kharif	0.76	0.74	0.83	1.02
Rapeseed and Mustard	Rabi	62.82	67.97	79.77	
Linseed	Rabi	1.55	1.25	1.54	
Safflower	Rabi	0.90	0.53	0.78	
Sunflower	Kharif	1.11	0.66	0.97	0.88
	Rabi	3.23	2.30	1.43	
	TOTAL	4.34	2.96	2.41	0.88
Soyabean	Kharif	103.74	85.70	137.94	122.17
Total Nine Oilseeds	Kharif	191.89	166.80	224.01	206.79
	Rabi	83.21	85.71	96.96	
	TOTAL	275.11	252.51	320.97	206.79
Cotton#	TOTAL	348.05	300.05	330.92	322.73
Jute##	TOTAL	106.18	99.40	100.88	98.32
Mesta##	TOTAL	5.08	5.83	5.12	4.95
Jute and Mesta##	TOTAL	111.26	105.24	106.00	103.28
Sugarcane	TOTAL	3623.33	3484.48	3067.20	3376.95
Vegetables		1694.78	1690.64	1781.72	1806.84
Fruits		866.02	901.83	929.18	944.84

#Lakh bales of 170 kgs. Each

##Lakh bales of 180 kgs. Each

Protecting consumers post GST implementation

76. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has intervened to protect consumers from traders *vis-a-vis* GST;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction;

- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to handle GST regime; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) On account of implementation of GST there may be instances where the retail sale price printed on a pre-packaged commodity is required to be revised. To protect the interests of consumers the Department has issued an order according to which, manufacturers/packers/importers of pre-packaged commodities are allowed to declare the revised retail sale price (MRP), after implementation of GST by way of stamping or putting sticker or online printing, as the case may be, on the unsold stock manufactured/packed/imported, if any, in addition to the existing retail sale price (MRP), upto 31st March, 2018. Use of un-exhausted packaging material/wrapper has also been similarly allowed upto 31st March, 2018 after making necessary corrections.

The said information has been disseminated to all the stakeholders and Controllers of Legal Metrology of all States/UTs for immediate action.

Forfeiting of MRP written items before applying GST

†77. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering upon forfeiting MRP written items before applying GST;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps so far in this direction; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY) (a) No, Sir.

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

Distribution of essential commodities through Government outlets

78. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the States which have taken steps to distribute essential commodities at subsidized rates through Government outlets; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the subsidized price index of pulses and edible oils, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the States/UTs are providing subsidized foodgrains through PDS outlets. Central Statistical Office (CSO) does not compile Consumer Price Indexes (CPIs) separately based on subsidized prices of pulses and edible oils.

However, States/UTs are also selling other essential commodities. Details are given in Statement.

Statement

Details indicating essential commodities distributed by State Governments in addition to wheat, rice, coarse-grain, sugar and SKO through PDS outlets. (Compilation of information received from States/UTs by 31.12.2017)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Essential Commodity (other than wheat, rice, coarse-grain, sugar and SKO)	Qty. allotted per family per month	Issue price per kg./ltrs	Scheme operational since	Date of Reporting by the State/UT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Chana Dal	1 kg	₹ 50/- per kg	February, 2017	20.06.2017
		Red Gram Dal	1 kg	₹ 50/- per kg	February, 2017	
		Black Gram Dal	1 kg	₹ 50/- per kg	February, 2017	
		P.oil	1 ltr	₹ 70/-per ltr	February, 2017	
		Salt	1 kg	₹ 12/- per kg	February, 2017	
2.	Chhattisgarh	Chana (in Tribal Area)	2 kg	₹ 5/-	2013	26.07.2017
		Salt (in Tribal Area)	0	0	0	
		Salt (in Non-Tribal Area)	0	0	0	
3.	Gujarat	Iodized Salt	1 kg upto 6 member/ 2kg above 6 member per BPL/AAY card	₹ 1/- per kg	02.09.2009	03.11.2017

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Haryana	Dal (under Dal Roti Scheme)	2.5 kg per ration card (At subsidized rate to AAY and BPL families)	₹ 20/- per kg	September, 2013	20.09.2017
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Three Pulses out of Seven Pulses:- 1. Urd Sabut 2. Moong Sabut 3. Chana 4. Malka 5. Black Masar 6. Rajmah 7. Kabuli Channa Edible oil (Any one out of Mustard Oil or Refined Oil) Iodised Salt	3kg pulses are being provided on one ration card per month 1 ltr for 1 & 2 family members & 2 ltr for 3 and above family members 1kg per ration card	1. ₹ 40/- per kg 2. ₹ 40/- per kg 3. ₹ 50/- per kg 4. ₹ 40/- per kg 5. ₹ 30/- per kg 6. ₹ 55/- per kg 7. ₹ 70/- per kg ₹ 68/- per ltrs. (Mustard Oil) ₹ 58/- per ltrs. (Refined Oil) ₹ 4 per kg/ per ration card	01.04.2007	14.12.2017
6.	Karnataka	Tur Dal	1 kg	₹ 38/- per kg	2017	14.07.2017

7.	Kerala	Wheat Flour (Fortified)	1 kg	₹ 15/- per kg	July, 2017	31.08.2017
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Toor Dal	500gm per family per month	₹ 100/- per kg	Distributed only in the months of Sept,16 & Oct, 16	09.07.2017
9.	Maharashtra	Tur Dal	1 kg each for every Yellow ration card holder (AAY &BPL Cards)	₹ 103/- kg	For August, 2016 only	09.08.2017
10.	Tamilnadu	Rice	0	0.00	-	30.09.2016
		Sugar	0	₹ 13.50/-		
		Wheat	0	₹ 7.50/-		
		Tur Dal	0	₹ 30/-		
		Urad Dal	0	₹ 30/-		
		Palm Oil	0	₹ 25/-		
		Kerosene	0	₹ 13.60/-		
11.	Telangana	Salt	1 kg	₹ 5/-	2013	28.11.2017

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Tripura	Salt	500gm per member	₹ 7/-	-	06.01.2018
13.	West Bengal	Mustard Oil (For festival season)	2 ltr	₹ 101.50/- in pouch ₹ 105.50/- in Bottle	2001	09.11.2017
		Edible Oil	500ml and 1 ltr	₹ 78 per 500ml ₹ 76 per 1 ltr.	2016	
		CTC Tea	50 gm & 100 gm	₹ 180 per 50gm ₹ 170 per 100gm.	2004	
		Iodised Salt	1kg	₹ 8/-	2014	
14.	Daman & Diu	Dal, Oil, Tooth-paste, match box etc.	-	-	-	20.11.2012
15.	Pudducherry	Single Boiled Rice	20 kg	-	01.08.2016	03.11.2017

Note:

- 20 State/UT Governments namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep have reported that they are not distributing essential commodities in addition to wheat, rice, coarse-grain, sugar and SKO through PDS outlets.
- Rajasthan-updated information has not been received since 2013

Implementation of NFSA in Rajasthan

79. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criteria for coverage of beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA) for different States;

(b) whether coverage of beneficiaries under NFSA in Rajasthan is less than other States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar and Chhattisgarh;

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

(d) whether Government is taking any steps to increase the coverage of beneficiaries under NFSA in Rajasthan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) The National Food Security Act provides for coverage of 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. Corresponding to the above coverage at the all India level, the State/Union Territory-wise coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) using the 2011-12 NSSO Households Consumption Expenditure Survey data. The details of coverage so determined for Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bihar and Chhattisgarh are as under:

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Percentage Coverage	
		Rural	Urban
1.	Bihar	85.12	74.53
2.	Chhattisgarh	84.25	59.98
3.	Gujarat	74.64	48.25
4.	Maharashtra	76.32	45.34
5.	Rajasthan	69.09	53.00

Government of Rajasthan had requested to re-consider and re-calculate the percentage of population to be covered for Rajasthan. However, in view of a formula based approach applied uniformly to all States/Union Territories for determining coverage under NFSA, it was not found feasible to agree to this request.

Distribution of nutritional and hygienic food to people

80. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken by Government to provide safe and healthy food both in rural and peri-urban areas in the country;

(b) the details of proposals of Government to meet food challenges and distribution of nutritional hygienic food in the country therefor; and

(c) the proposal of Government to support adequate and diversified diets to all the people in the country along with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The Government is implementing the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), which provides for coverage of 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population to receive foodgrains at highly subsidized prices of ₹1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains/wheat/rice respectively. The Act is being implemented in all the States/UTs and 80.72 crore persons are covered for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. The Act also has provision for nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers and children upto 14 years of age.

Further, for safe and healthy food, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has developed science-based standards for various categories of food products under the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 in order to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food in the country.

FSSAI has also operationalized draft regulations on fortification of food articles that include standards for fortification of food staples - oil, milk, double fortified salt, wheat flour and rice, and also introduced +F Logo for fortified foods. To ensure that the most vulnerable sections of the society receive appropriate and timely nutrition, the use of fortified wheat flour, oil and double fortified salt have been mandated under Mid-Day-Meal and Integrated Child Development Schemes.

To promote awareness among consumers on Nutrition, mandatory labeling requirements for pre-packaged foods, including list of ingredients, nutritional information, energy value in Kilo calorie etc. is prescribed under Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labeling) Regulations, 2011.

FSSAI has also undertaken 'Safe and Nutritious Food (SNF)' initiative to promote awareness towards consumption of safe and nutritious food.

Linking of Aadhaar with ration cards

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

(a) the detail of the total number of Aadhaar-linked ration cards and the number of fake ration cards identified, as of 30 October, 2017, State-wise; and

(b) the number of deaths occurred because of denial of ration to individuals along with the reasons for denial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Details of State/UT-wise number of ration cards seeded with Aadhaar and deleted ration cards during years 2013 to October, 2017 are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) In the recent past a few reports have been published in print media about starvation deaths in the States, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. However, the State Governments reported that deaths could not be attributed to starvation/denial of subsidised foodgrains.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of seeding of Aadhaar with Ration Cards and Deleted number of Ration Cards during year 2013 up to October 2017

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Number of Ration Cards	Total Number of Ration Cards with seeded Aadhaar	Total Number of Deleted/Cancelled Ration Cards during 2013 to Oct' 2017
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	94,27,381	94,27,381	11,50,212
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12,922	12,922	37
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,76,342	78,473	14,911
4.	Assam	57,48,000	0	1,11,182
5.	Bihar	1,54,01,000	1,27,14,407	41,369
6.	Chandigarh	63,187	63,187	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	53,50,000	52,92,000	11,66,000
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	42,218	42,218	549

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Daman and Diu	24,253	24,253	363
10.	Delhi	19,41,970	19,41,970	30,096
11.	Goa	1,39,620	1,39,165	1,57,461
12.	Gujarat	72,14,981	69,80,428	1,49,092
13.	Haryana	29,63,939	26,35,258	1,63,013
14.	Himachal Pradesh	7,13,096	6,63,471	3,260
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	16,62,335	9,85,607	0
16.	Jharkhand	57,25,982	55,58,234	4,53,958
17.	Karnataka	1,15,71,715	1,15,54,076	31,48,117
18.	Kerala	35,02,509	34,44,042	0
19.	Lakshadweep	5,110	5,005	1,390
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1,15,09,814	1,05,09,015	4,18,509
21.	Maharashtra	1,48,28,050	1,29,11,973	21,62,391
22.	Manipur	5,55,528	1,69,829	0
23.	Meghalaya	4,21,548	0	0
24.	Mizoram	1,44,769	1,07,194	1,503
25.	Nagaland	2,84,934	1,28,860	0
26.	Odisha	86,56,736	79,15,947	6,61,372
27.	Puducherry	1,69,784	1,69,784	95,393
28.	Punjab	36,09,184	35,07,333	1,01,249
29.	Rajasthan	98,90,365	94,62,373	13,23,406
30.	Sikkim	96,419	82,563	12,569
31.	Tamil Nadu	95,22,960	95,18,105	4,22,746
32.	Telangana	49,27,847	49,27,847	20,97,564
33.	Tripura	5,88,455	5,74,650	1,76,986
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3,37,25,800	2,93,44,382	41,70,894
35.	Uttarakhand	13,30,404	11,97,364	0
36.	West Bengal	6,01,85,752	3,79,30,606	66,13,961
TOTAL		23,21,34,909	19,00,19,922	2,48,49,553

Shortage of trained manpower in organisations under the ministry

82. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various organisations/autonomous bodies under the Ministry are facing shortage of staff/trained manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for keeping such shortage; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Ministry to fill up the vacant positions therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The relevant information is given in Statement.

Statement*Details of shortage of staff in the organizations under the ministry and the reasons therefor***(A) Department of Food and Public Distribution**

Sl. No.	Organization	Sanctioned Strength	In position	Vacant Position	Reasons for Shortage and Steps taken/being taken to fill up the vacant positions
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Food Corporation of India (FCI) (as on 31.12.2017)	42038	22732	19306	<p>Process for recruitment has been started after obtaining approval of the Government since 2015 and 2016. Some of the vacant posts are promotional posts which could not be filled up due to non availability of eligible personnel.</p> <p>FCI has recruited Category-I, II and III officers/officials through Recruitment agency. During last 03 years, 5250 candidates have joined in FCI (17 Category I, 256 Category II & 4977 Category III) under Direct Recruitment.</p> <p>The Sanctioned Strength for Category IV was approved by the Government of India in 2016 and recruitment against 3500 approx is under progress.</p> <p>The steps have been initiated for appointment of a new recruitment agency for undertaking next recruitment as well as for Direct Recruitment Vacancies.</p>

2.	Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) (as on 25.01.2018)	21	9	7	<p>The WDRA is a Regulatory Body constituted on 26.10.2010 under the provisions of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007.</p> <p>Since its constitution, the WDRA had advertised the posts eight times for filling up on deputation basis. However some of the posts could not be filled up as no suitable applications were received. For some posts, the staff after joining the WDRA have left within short period of 1-2 years. 5 posts are now deemed abolished.</p> <p>The WDRA is trying to fill up the posts again on deputation basis through advertisement after giving relaxations in eligibility conditions for the posts of Deputy Director (Marketing and Credit) and Deputy Director (Legal) with the approval of the Authority.</p>
3.	National Sugar Institute (NSI) Kanpur (as on 01.01.2018)	306	142	164	<p>Various posts are falling under deemed abolished category.</p> <p>As per recruitment rules, most of the posts at the Institute are to be filled up by promotion/ deputation only. Due to non-availability of eligible feeder cadre official for promotion and further, non-availability of suitable candidate for deputation with requisite qualifications, these posts could not be filled up.</p> <p>Being a sub-ordinate office, pay-scales of various posts in the Institute are lower than that of Central Government, therefore, prospective eligible candidates do not apply on deputation. Also, the Institute</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6
					<p>requires technical manpower in the field of Sugar Technology and Sugar Engineering disciplines which is not available in other Government Departments/ organizations' since NSI, Kanpur is the only Institute rendering teaching and technical advice to sugar sector.</p> <p>There is stay on appointment of some posts as the incumbents have challenged the appointment on Direct recruitment.</p> <p>Recruitment Rules are being examined to enable filling of posts.</p> <p>Recruitment action is in process to fill up posts through UPSC, SSC and Employment Exchanges.</p> <p>Proposal for revival of posts under deemed abolished category is under consideration in this Department which would be sent to Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for approval.</p>
4.	Storage and Research Division (S&R Div)	252	101	151	<p>The steps have been taken/are being taken for filling up of Group 'A' posts in consultation with UPSC. Similarly, efforts are being made on regular basis for filling up of Group 'B' & 'C' posts in consultation with SSC.</p>

(B) Department of Consumer Affairs

Sl. No.	Organization	Sanctioned Strength	In position	Vacant Position	Reasons for Shortage and Steps taken/being taken to fill up the vacant positions
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	2258	1411	847	Reasons for Shortage:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Group-A–Out of 20 vacant posts, 14 posts are promotional posts and are vacant due to non-availability of eligible/feeder grade. And, for the remaining 06 vacant posts, recruitment process has already been initiated. (ii) B,C (including erstwhile Group-D) – 122 posts belonging to Direct Recruitment Quota have been deemed abolished. (iii) 254 posts are vacant because as per 6th CPC, all the posts under erstwhile Group D are to be re- designated as Multi Tasking Staff (MTS). The posts of Group D which would fall vacant shall not be filled. Accordingly, Group-D posts are re-designated as Multi Tasking Staff (MTS) in the proposed regulations. (iv) 81 vacant posts of Group B could not be filled as no candidate are available/eligible in the feeder grade (v) 27 DR posts of Group-B could not be filled due to inconsistency in educational qualification in the existing recruitment regulations.

1	2	3	4	5	6
					Steps taken/being taken to fill up the vacant positions:- <p>(i) During the period 2015-16, the recruitment process for 97 vacancies of Scientific Cadre Officers was carried out, in which 76 officers were recruited. The recruitment process for the existing vacancies will be carried out during the year 2018-19.</p> <p>(ii) In the year 2015-16, a total of 107 direct recruitment vacancies in various Group-C posts were advertised out of which only 78 vacancies could be filled up due to non-availability of suitable candidates.</p> <p>(iii) Recruitment Rules are being amended so as to enable filling up of maximum vacancies.</p> <p>(iv) Recruitment process to fill approximately 160 direct recruitment vacancies in Non-Scientific Cadre Group-A, B & C has already been initiated.</p>
2.	National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)	169	110	59	NCDRC is in the process of filling up of the newly created posts. Besides in exigencies of services, as many as 65 persons have been inducted on out-sourcing basis and a few are on contractual basis.
3.	National Test House (NTH)	705	384	321	Necessary steps have already been taken to fill up all the vacant posts in different categories. Selected candidates recommended by UPSC/SSC have started joining NTH.

Hindrances in procurement of Tur pulse in Maharashtra

83. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Tur pulse in the State of Maharashtra during the recent crop season;

(b) the quantity of Tur procured by Government agencies in the State at MSP;

(c) whether it is a fact that Tur producers faced hindrances in selling their produce and cases of connivance of Government agencies and private traders have also come to light;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action Government has taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), State-wise 1st Advance Estimates of Production of Foodgrains during 2017-18, the estimated production of Tur in Maharashtra is 11.17 lakh metric tonne (LMT).

(b) to (e) During Kharif 2017, Government has approved procurement of 4.468 LMT Tur in Maharashtra at Minimum Support Price (MSP) under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) implemented by DAC&FW to provide remunerative prices to the farmers to encourage higher investment and production. PSS is implemented at the request of State Government, which agrees to exempt the procured commodity from levy of Mandi tax and assist Central Nodal Agencies in logistics arrangement including providing gunny bags; working capital to State agencies, etc., as required under the Scheme.

Impact of automation and artificial intelligence on IT jobs

84. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess and mitigate the qualitative and quantitative extent of impact on IT jobs due to new technologies like automation and Artificial Intelligence, and

(b) the steps taken by Government to enhance the skill of IT workforce to improve their employability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The industry, both globally and in India, is witnessing unprecedented technology driven changes. These demand new sets of skills and are opening opportunities for newer job roles. The stakeholders covering industry, academia and Sector Skills Councils are working to ensure that the existing workforce is re-skilled/up-skilled in emerging technologies and job roles. Most companies (large, medium and small) are also implementing rigorous training programs to re-skill/up-skill their existing employees in new and emerging technologies.

In addition, various skilling/training initiatives are being taken under the aegis of MeitY to enhance the skill of IT workforce and improve its employability in the manufacturing and service sectors of electronics and IT industry. The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C- DAC), the autonomous societies of MeitY, offer both short and long term, industry specific courses. Further, other organizations/attached offices of MeitY such as ERNET India, Media Lab Asia, CSC E-Governance Services India Limited, STQC and NIC are also engaged in training of various stakeholders in small numbers.

Access to information stored in IT servers

85. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any information stored by us in servers can be accessed by others;

(b) to what extent Government has ensured privacy of citizens information stored in IT apparatus;

(c) to what extent Government information is protected; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that interested countries and entrepreneurs are capitalizing on citizens information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (c) The Government websites host information for public dissemination and no sensitive information is hosted on such portals. As per the guidelines of the Government, the computer systems with sensitive information are isolated from the internet. Also, user level access control is built-into the systems so that only authorized users can access information to the extent intended. In tune with the dynamic nature of Information Technology and emerging cyber threats, continuous efforts are required to be made to protect information stored on servers by way of appropriate security controls.

Government has taken the following measures to protect information and securing Information Technology infrastructure:—

- (i) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis. CERT-In has published guidelines for securing IT infrastructure, which are available on its website (www.cert-in.org.in).
- (ii) Government has formulated Cyber Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.
- (iii) Government has issued general guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) for securing applications and infrastructure and their key roles and responsibilities for compliance.
- (iv) CERT-In has empanelled 54 security auditing organizations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (v) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network/system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks.
- (vi) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly by CERT-In to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organizations in Government and critical sectors. 15 such drills have so far been conducted where 148 organisations from different States and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ ITeS, etc participated. In addition 3 drills were conducted in coordination with The Reserve Bank of India and The Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology.
- (vii) National Information Centre (NIC), which provides IT/E-Governance related services to Government departments, protects the cyber resources from possible compromises through a layered security approach in the form of practices, procedures and technologies that are put in place. NIC has deployed state-of-the-art security solutions including firewalls, intrusion prevention systems, and antivirus solution. Additionally, periodic security audits of resources are performed followed by subsequent hardenings. These are complemented by round-the-clock monitoring of security events and remedial measures are carried out for solving the problems subsequently.

- (viii) Cyber Security is a continuous process and the protection elements are updated on a regular basis. A 24×7 security monitoring centre is in place at NIC, for detecting and responding to security incidents, including NIC-CERT.
- (ix) Government has issued Guidelines for Indian Government Websites, details of which are available at <http://www.guidelines.gov.in>. Compliance Testing and certification of Government websites is done through STQC directorate.
- (d) No such instance has been reported to Government.

Re-skilling of IT Staff

86. SHRI N.GOKULKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 40 per cent of country's IT staff need re-skilling;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this is also one of the reasons that we are not able to take maximum advantage of IT revolution in IT-related service employments; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken up by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (d) A survey of Information Technology companies presented in NASSCOM–McKinsey Report titled 'Perspective 2025: Shaping the Digital Revolution' (published in October, 2015) indicates that around 30% of workforce will not be relevant in 2020 and 50-60% of the remaining workforce will need to be re-skilled.

Further, as per NASSCOM, Indian Information Technology - Business Process Management (IT-BPM) Industry continued to be a net hirer with an addition of 1,70,000 new jobs in Financial Year 2016-17 (6,00,000 in last 3 years) with a total employee base of around 3.9 million. However, automation and emerging technologies are affecting some jobs and new jobs which are being created require newer skill-sets.

The Indian IT-BPM Industry is increasingly looking at new skill-sets and subject matter experts to continue on the evolution growth path. New job roles such as cyber security, mobile app development, new user interfaces, social media, data scientists, platform engineering are evolving, which is giving rise to a new breed of domain experts.

It is also indicated that with changing paradigms of talent deployment, re-skilling of employees is becoming the key agenda for IT Industry. As per NASSCOM many firms have already established dedicated programs to re-skill their existing employees and the top companies have already re-skilled an average 50% of their employee base.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) takes up several capacity building activities to ensure availability of trained human resources for the manufacturing and service sectors of Electronics and IT industry. Initiatives include identifying gaps emerging from the formal sector and planning programmes in non-formal and formal sectors for meeting these gaps. Various schemes/activities pertaining to Human Resource Development for IT sector are as under:-

- (i) Visvesvaraya Ph.D Scheme for Electronics and IT: This scheme provides support for 3000 Ph.Ds (1000 Full Time and 2000 Part Time), to promote innovation and development of new products. So far, a total of 1153 Ph.D (970 full time + 183 part time) candidates have been enrolled at the institutes.
- (ii) Scheme of Financial Assistance for setting up of Electronics and ICT Academies: Under this scheme 07(Seven) Academies have been setup for faculty/mentor development/up gradation to improve the employability of the graduates/diploma holders. So far, 11,564 participants have been trained under 308 Faculty Development Programs (FDPs).
- (iii) Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project Phase-II: This project aims at capacity building in Information Security, training of Government personnel and creation of mass Information Security awareness. So far, 27,344 candidates are under-going training/trained in various formal/non-formal programs at 52 institutions, 4,457 Government officials have been trained and 565 awareness workshops have been conducted covering 60,029 participants.
- (iv) National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), an Autonomous Scientific Society under the administrative control of MeitY was set up to carry out Human Resource Development and related activities in the area of Information, Electronics and Communications Technology (IECT). NIELIT is engaged both in Formal and Non-Formal Education in the area of IECT besides development of industry oriented quality education and training programmes in the state-of-the-art areas through its own centres located at 40 locations and 700+ accredited centres spread across the country. NIELIT through its various courses have trained a cumulative 5,13,841 number of candidates and 2,72,438 candidates are certified from April, 2017 to November, 2017. Some of the areas taught include Big Data, Internet

of Things, Artificial Intelligence, cyber security, cyber forensics, Machine learning, e-Waste management, etc.

- (v) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is the premier R&D organization of the MeitY for carrying out R&D in IT, Electronics and associated areas. CDAC through its various courses has enrolled 3485 candidates and trained 2918 candidates from April, 2017 to August, 2017. Some of the courses conducted by C-DAC include Practical Machine Learning and Big Data Analytics Tools, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Analytics, Cyber Security with Python (components of Machine Learning, deep learning, Neural networks), Predictive Analytics and Text Analytics, etc.

Illegal Aadhaar Enrolment Centres

87. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of unauthorised Aadhaar enrolment Centres detected till December, 2017;
- (b) whether Government has a mechanism to verify and audit Aadhaar enrolment centres for misuse;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Aadhaar enrolment centres are run by the Registrars and Enrolment Agencies duly authorised by UIDAI. As per Aadhaar architecture and design, enrolment can only be done on the software provided by UIDAI and by the UIDAI certified and on-boarded operators engaged by these authorised registrars and enrolment agencies. As such, without such authorization, no enrolment centre can function. In case, these centres or operators are found guilty of violation of prescribed processes and guidelines or indulging in corrupt practices for enrolment etc., then suitable action is taken against them, *inter alia* including blacklisting of operators, and financial disincentives on enrolment agency running the centres.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. In accordance with Regulation 21(6), 23(6) and 26(2) of Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, UIDAI conducts audit and inspection of the enrolment centres for any irregularities or violation of laid down processes and guidelines.

Fall in hiring by IT companies

88. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a 24 per cent fall in hiring by the IT companies, if so, State/UT-wise details thereof and the reasons behind this sharp decline; and

(b) whether Government has any plans in supporting the IT sector to arrest unemployment, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) No such matter has been reported to the Ministry. The IT sector is expected to continue to be a net hirer in FY 2017-18.

(b) The industry, both globally and in India, is witnessing unprecedented technology driven changes. These demand new sets of skills and are opening opportunities for newer job roles. The stakeholders covering industry, academia and Sector Skills Councils are working to ensure that the existing workforce is re-skilled/up-skilled in emerging technologies and job roles. Most companies (large, medium & small) are also implementing rigorous training programs to re-skill/up-skill their existing employees in new and emerging technologies.

In addition, various skilling/training initiatives are being taken under the aegis of MeitY to enhance the skill of IT workforce and improve its employability in the manufacturing and service sectors of electronics and IT industry. The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C- DAC), the autonomous societies of MeitY, offer both short and long term, industry specific courses. Further, other organizations/attached offices of MeitY such as ERNET India, Media Lab Asia, CSC E-Governance Services India Limited, STQC, and NIC are also engaged in training of various stakeholders in small numbers.

National mission on food processing

89. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP);

(b) the status of implementation of NMFP in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(c) the entrepreneurs who were provided with financial/other assistance for technology upgradation, establishment and modernisation of Food Processing Industries during last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) the quantum of employment NMFP has so far generated, State-wise, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and

(e) whether not even a single project has been sanctioned in Telangana in 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) was launched by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)—implemented through States/UTs in 12th Plan. The aims and objectives of NMFP was the decentralisation of the schemes so far operated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) for substantial participation of State Governments/UTs in order to take into account the requirements suitable to the local needs. The establishment of NMFP as National Mission in the State and District level was likely to improve significantly the Ministry's outreach in terms of planning, supervision and monitoring of various schemes in the States including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The CSS-NMFP has since been de-linked from the Central Government support w.e.f. 01.04.2015 and the State Governments were to decide since then to continue or not to continue NMFP out of their increased resources resulting from the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.

(c) to (e) National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) was a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, wherein Ministry of Food Processing Industries used to place funds at the disposal of respective State Governments. State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) chaired by Chief Secretary of the State had been vested with all the powers of approving/sanctioning of the applications received under NMFP from applicants/entrepreneurs. As per information uploaded by different States on NMFP Portal, the details of sanctioned projects of Technology Upgradation/Modernisation and Establishment of Food Processing Industries under NMFP for the year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given in Statement.

Statement

Details of the Tech Upgradation/Moderinization/Establistment of FPI projects sanctioned under National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) by State/UT Governments during 12th Plan

(Amount in ₹)

Sl. No.	State Name	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
		Number of Sanctioned Projects	Sanctioned Amount	Number of Sanctioned Projects	Sanctioned Amount	Number of Sanctioned Projects	Sanctioned Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6	2,38,21,000	0	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	1,50,55,000	3	1,00,74,500	0	0
4.	Assam	8	2,60,79,243	19	1,56,17,126	4	25,36,093
5.	Bihar	3	57,89,000	0	0	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	2	1,00,00,000	0	0	9	3,49,74,000
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11. Goa		0	0	0	0	0	0
12. Gujarat		51	18,55,96,400	23	8,93,84,100	1	50,00,000
13. Haryana		9	3,86,64,000	4	1,78,24,000	9	4,14,05,000
14. Himachal Pradesh		5	1,35,25,000	12	4,59,04,000	4	1,35,16,000
15. Jammu and Kashmir		10	4,54,09,000	4	1,70,96,000	8	3,10,39,000
16. Jharkhand		0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Karnataka		36	13,92,07,500	14	4,71,10,200	14	4,48,46,500
18. Kerala		7	2,58,52,000	14	5,87,62,500	2	1,00,00,000
19. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Madhya Pradesh		20	6,25,53,000	23	8,56,01,000	0	0
21. Maharashtra		58	19,74,59,000	27	8,28,82,000	4	1,07,35,000
22. Manipur		37	2,08,23,000	0	0	0	0
23. Meghalaya		3	35,15,139	9	2,24,17,908	1	30,18,732
24. Mizoram		2	35,27,047	2	40,11,000	7	1,15,63,717
25. Nagaland		7	89,26,000	0	0	0	0
26. Odisha		11	4,49,85,000	12	4,64,08,750	9	2,32,88,880
27. Puducherry		3	1,41,00,000	2	73,47,508	1	50,00,000

28. Punjab	3	1,27,23,000	5	88,99,000	1	50,00,000
29. Rajasthan	9	3,22,95,514	39	14,17,12,120	31	11,91,44,677
30. Sikkim	0	0	0	0	1	1,00,00,000
31. Tamil Nadu	5	1,74,74,000	0	0	0	0
32. Telangana	3	1,00,00,000	0	0	0	0
33. Tripura	1	75,00,000	1	98,71,500	1	1,00,00,000
34. Uttar Pradesh	39	15,13,27,000	7	60,85,580	0	0
35. Uttarakhand	4	1,34,88,410	1	75,00,000	0	0
36. West Bengal	10	3,95,05,223	36	16,26,30,400	21	9,56,88,000
TOTAL	359	1,16,91,99,476	257	88,71,39,192	128	47,67,55,599

Employment generation by FPIs

90. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) When the last Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) was conducted by the Ministry;

(b) the total number of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) registered in the country;

(c) the quantum of employment generated by the registered FPIs from January, 2015 to December, 2017; and

(d) in what manner Government proposes to expand the scope of employment generation by the end of financial year 2019?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) (a) The Annual Survey of Industries is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The latest Survey was conducted for the year 2014-15.

(b) and (c) As per the latest Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), 2014-15, Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, the total number of registered food processing units (factories) is estimated at 38,603. The estimated employment generated in these registered food processing units (factories) is about 17.73 lakh during the same period.

(d) To boost Food Processing Industries and value addition activities and to increase employment generation in the sector the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has re-structured its schemes under the new Central Sector Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for period 2016-20 co-terminus with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. In addition to the existing scheme components of Mega Food Park, Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure and Human Resources and Institutions, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana encompasses three new schemes namely Infrastructure for Agro- Processing Clusters, Creation of Forward and Backward Linkages and Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities with the objective to create robust modern infrastructure along the entire value chain. The farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations, entrepreneurs, cooperatives, societies, Self Help Groups, Private Companies and State PSUs etc. are eligible to avail financial assistance under these schemes for setting up food processing projects in the country.

Achievement of investment target set in World Food India 2017

91. SHRI R.VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has attracted investment commitments of about US \$ 10 billion in the food processing sector ahead of the mega World Food India 2017 event, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had set a target of US \$10 billion investment and the said target has been achieved; and

(c) by when the said commitment would materialize and become fruitful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) The World Food India 2017 event has attracted investment intent of about USD 13.56 billion from domestic and foreign investors. No specific target was set for World Food India 2017. Efforts are being made to ground these investment intents at the earliest by facilitating the investors/potential investors.

Aims and objectives of KSY

92. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Kisan Sampada Yojana (KSY);

(b) how KSY helps farmers to be more vigorous in processing their vegetables and fruits so produced;

(c) whether any special emphasis is made on States like Andhra Pradesh which are doing good work in food processing; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Government of India has approved a new Central Sector Scheme—Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (earlier known as Kisan Sampada Yojana) on 3rd May, 2017 with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for the period 2016-20 coterminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. Under the PMKSY following Central Sector Schemes are being implemented:

(a) Mega Food Parks;

(b) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure;

(c) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities;

- (d) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters;
- (e) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages;
- (f) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure; and
- (g) Human Resources and Institutions.

The aims and objectives of the “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana” are a big step towards doubling of farmers income, providing better prices to farmers, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas and for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country. The Yojana is a comprehensive package for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet. It will not only provide a big boost to the growth of food processing sector in the country but also help in reducing wastage of agricultural produce including vegetables and fruits, increasing the processing level, enhancing the export of the processed foods, enabling availability of hygienic and nutritious food to consumers at affordable price.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana is expected to leverage investment of ₹ 31,400 crore, handling of 334 lakh MT agro-produce valuing ₹ 1,04,125 crore, benefit 20 lakh farmers and generate 5,30,500 direct/indirect employment in the country by the year 2019-20.

(c) and (d) No special emphasis is made on any State(s). The scheme of the Ministry is project oriented, demand driven applicable throughout the country and not region, location specific. The Ministry provides grants-in-aid to the eligible Proprietorship/Partnership firms, Cooperatives, Corporations, Self Help Groups, Farmers Producer Organizations, Central/State PSUs, Public and Private Companies etc. in accordance with guidelines of the Schemes. The schemes are private sector driven and provide freedom to the entrepreneurs to choose the project location based on availability of raw material, techno-economic feasibility and viability of the project.

Uniform civil code

†93. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Constitution of India provides for introduction of Uniform Civil Code in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary statutory measures are yet to be taken for introducing the said constitutional provision;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has taken any steps in this direction in phased manner during the last three years; and

(f) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (f) Article 44 of the Directive Principles of Constitution provides that State shall endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, and the matter requiring in-depth study of the provisions of various personal laws governing different communities, the Government has requested the Law Commission of India to undertake examination of various issues relating to uniform civil code and to make recommendation thereon.

Use of Tamil as official language in Madras High Court

94. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a resolution was passed in the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu way back in 2006 urging the Central Government to get Presidential Assent to make Tamil as official language in Madras High Court;

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

(c) if no steps are taken, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Government of India had received a proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu in 2006 requesting permission to use Tamil language in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras. This proposal was referred to the Chief Justice of India for advice. The Chief Justice of India *vide* his letter dated 16.10.2012 intimated that the Full Court of Supreme Court, after due deliberations held on 11.10.2012, decided not to accept the proposal. The Full Court of Supreme Court had adopted similar resolutions earlier on 07.05.1997 and 15.10.1999. In view of the Full Court decision of the Supreme Court no further action has been taken in the matter.

Filling up of vacancies in Bombay High Court

95. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of vacancies in the Bombay High Court; and

(b) by when Government proposes to fill up all the vacancies in the said High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As on 29.01.2018, 24 posts of Judges were lying vacant in Bombay High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in the strength of the Judges of High Courts. Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process of the Judiciary and the Executive. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Hence, the time frame for filling up of the vacancies cannot be indicated.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment and transfer of Chief Justice and Judges of High Courts, when a permanent vacancy is expected to arise in any year in the Office of a Judge, the Chief Justice will as early as possible, but at least six months before the date of occurrence of the vacancy, communicate to the Chief Minister of the State, his views as to the persons to be selected for appointment.

Litigations involving Departments of Government

96. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has turned out to be the biggest litigant in the country's courts accounting for a larger share in pendency of cases;

(b) whether the Department of Justice has initiated moves within Departments of Government to desist from adding to the burden at the slightest of provocation; and

(c) whether the Department of Justice had sought the extent of pending litigations involving different Ministries and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. The 100th report of the Law Commission of India observed that bulk of litigation in the courts, including, in particular, writ petitions in the Supreme Court and the High Courts, consists of cases in which the Government is a party.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Law & Justice has suggested to various Government Departments and Organisations and other related bodies to explore options for settlement of their disputes through alternate methods, like mediation, arbitration,

conciliation, etc. either online or otherwise. For the purpose, the Government has made available information about Agencies/Institutions/Organisations working in the field of such alternate methods of dispute resolution on the website of the Department of Justice to provide information about them to the users. The relevant Government Ministries were requested in April, 2017 to take necessary action for reducing the number of court cases in which Government is a party. It was followed by a series of meetings held with various Ministries and Departments in the months of June and August 2017 requesting them to review their pending cases with a view to reduce the number of cases and to consider contempt cases in particular so as to weed out vexatious and unnecessary litigation pending in courts. All the Central Government Ministries and Departments have been asked to update data on pending litigations involving them on the web-portal created by Department of Legal Affairs, namely, Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS).

All India Service for lower judiciary

97. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nine High Courts have opposed a proposal to have an All India Service for the lower judiciary;

(b) whether it is also a fact that eight High Courts have sought changes in the proposed framework and only two have supported the idea;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of the High Courts want the administrative control over the subordinate judiciary to remain with the respective High Courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was recommended by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 wherein it was decided that the issue needed further deliberation and consideration. Views on the proposal were, *inter alia*, sought from the High Courts.

Only the High Courts of Sikkim and Tripura have concurred with the proposal approved by Committee of Secretaries for formation of All India Judicial Service. High Courts of Allahabad, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa and Uttarakhand have suggested changes mainly in age at

induction level, qualifications, training and quota of vacancies to be filled through All India Judicial Service. Rest of the High Courts have not favoured the idea. Most of the High Courts want the administrative control over the Subordinate Judiciary to remain with the respective High Courts. The High Courts of Jharkhand and Rajasthan have indicated that the matter regarding creation of AIJS is pending consideration. No response has been received from the High Courts of Calcutta, Jammu and Kashmir and Gauhati.

Separate Bench for bankruptcy and insolvency

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

(a) whether Government proposes to set up separate Bench for insolvency and bankruptcy;

(b) if so, whether National Company Law Tribunal has received any proposal from RBI therefor; and

(c) if so, the details of plan of Government to speed up proceedings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) At present, the Government has not proposed setting up of any separate National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Bench for cases under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Press Conference by four senior SC Judges

99. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the unprecedented act of four senior Judges of the Supreme Court holding a Press Conference accusing the Chief Justice of India (CJI) of selective assigning cases to Judges of his choice, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction to the issues raised in a letter addressed to the CJI prior to this incident which was released to the Press?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The Government has not received any information from the Supreme Court of India in this regard. Judiciary being an

independent organ under the Indian Constitution is capable of handling its internal matters. The Government is committed to the independence of Judiciary.

Women's Reservation Bill

100. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in favour of giving 33 per cent reservation for women in State Assemblies and Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons for not introducing Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament during the last three years;

(c) whether Government would introduce the Constitution Amendment Bill during the current Session to provide 33 per cent reservation for women; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue needs careful consideration on the basis of the consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before Parliament.

Electoral reforms to decriminalize politics

101. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national and regional consultations on electoral reforms have yielded any tangible suggestions concerning criminalization of politics;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the current electoral rules to keep criminalization of politics in check?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The issue of electoral reforms in its entirety was referred to the Law Commission of India in the year 2013. After consultation with various stake-holders, the Law Commission submitted its 244th report containing recommendation that a person shall be disqualified for membership of legislatures upon framing of charges against him for specified offences, subject to certain other conditions.

(c) As per section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, a person convicted of offences specified therein shall be disqualified for membership of the legislatures from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release.

Status of National Judicial Appointments Commission

102. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of National Judicial Appointments Commission Act;
- (b) whether the Act is being considered for implementation; and
- (c) whether the Centre is still considering the proposal for setting up an independent Judicial Appointments Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Supreme Court *vide* Judgement dated 16.10.2015 struck down the Constitution (Ninety–ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointment Commission, Act, 2014 as “unconstitutional and void” and declared the system of appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts as existing prior to the Constitution (Ninety–ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 *i.e.* the “Collegium System” will remain operative. There is no proposal under consideration for setting up an independent Judicial Appointments Commission.

Legislation on direction of the Supreme Court

†103. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cases in which the Supreme Court has directed the Government to make legislation during the years 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017; and
- (b) the total number of cases in which Government has made legislation as directed by the Supreme Court during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Credit points to advocates giving legal aid to the poor

104. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating of giving a sort of credit points for every legal aid an advocate, who aspires to become a judge, gives to the poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is applicable to all courts or to only High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(d) whether any consultation have been held on this with Chief Justices of High Courts and the Chief Justice of India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) The Government is not contemplating giving any credit points for the legal aid provided by the advocates for their consideration for High Court Judgeship. However, the format to obtain Bio-data/details of advocates recommended by High Court Collegium for Judgeship has been revised in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium which, *inter alia*, includes the pro-bono work done by the recommendee advocate during the last ten years.

Providing legal aid and advice to undertrial inmates

105. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by Government to find out the number of undertrial inmates lodged in different jails across the country for petty crimes in the absence of legal aid and advice;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to address the problems faced by such inmates; and

(c) whether Government is considering any policy response to resolve these problems, including overcrowding of jails, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The National Crime Record Bureau compiles data in respect of all prison inmates including undertrials in various jails of the

country. Government has not conducted any specific study to find out the number of undertrial inmates lodged in jails for petty crimes.

Government has been very committed to the cause of ensuring that every undertrial prisoner receives a fair trial and does not languish in jail longer than is absolutely necessary, as per the law. In this regard, the steps taken are as under:

- (i) Minister for Law & Justice, through a letter dated 3 February 2017, has appealed to Chief Justices of all 24 High Courts in the country to ensure effective implementation and regular monitoring of section 436A CrPC by the lower judiciary of the states – thus ensuring prompt and timely release of undertrial prisoners under this provision. The Minister has also stressed the need for proper functioning of Undertrial Review Committees (UTRC) to achieve this purpose.
- (ii) The Ministry has also communicated to the States the need for uniform adoption and application of NIC's e-Prisons software in jails across the country for enhanced streamlining, integration and ease of access of prisoner information.

Apart from the above steps of the Government, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has undertaken following initiatives to address the problems of undertrial inmates:

- (i) Legal services clinics have been opened in jails to provide legal services to inmates. Recently, NALSA has started digitization of jail clinics. One of the objectives of digitization is also to ensure that no prisoner remains unrepresented, and legal aid and advice is provided to him/her. Legal Services Clinics in jails are manned by Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and Panel Lawyers. Any inmate can seek legal advice in such clinics.
- (ii) Awareness camps are being held in jails to make prisoners aware about the availability of free legal aid, plea-bargaining and Lok Adalats. Awareness programmes are also carried out at regular intervals to inform the inmates about their legal rights including right to bail.
- (iii) Regular visits by functionaries of Legal Services Authorities to jails to identify prisoners who require legal aid and advice. The PLVs and Lawyers also help in drafting bail applications.
- (iv) Under Trial Review Committees (UTRC) headed by District Judge have been set up in all the districts, in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. These Committees meet once in a quarter to review the cases of all under trials who have completed half of the maximum sentence provided for the offences they are charged with.

Comments of four senior Judges on the working of CJI

†106. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether four senior Judges of the Supreme Court have recently made any comments against the working of Chief Justice of India (CJI);

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the steps taken by Government to maintain good faith among Judges of the Supreme Court; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government has not received any information from the Supreme Court of India in this regard. Judiciary being an independent organ under the Indian Constitution is capable of handling its internal matters. The Government is committed to the independence of Judiciary and does not intervene in its functioning.

Demand of One Rank One Pension Scheme by retired Judges

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

(a) whether it is a fact that retired Judges are demanding One Rank One Pension, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a huge difference in the pension of the Judges who are appointed from the Bar and the Judges who are promoted from lower courts, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to implement the norms fixed by the Supreme Court in the 2014 case of Ramkrishnam Raju; and

(d) whether Government has worked up any formula to resolve the anomalies in pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government is not aware of any demand made by retired Judges for One Rank One Pension.

(b) The pension entitlement of High Court Judges, appointed directly from the Bar as well as elevated from the District Judiciary, are governed by the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954.

(c) and (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court had, *inter alia*, allowed the prayer in a Writ Petition (Civil) No. 521/2002 titled as P. Ramakrishnam Raju Vs Union of India and Others vide judgment dated 31st March, 2014 directing that "for pensionary benefits, ten years practice as an advocate be added as qualifying service for Judges elevated from the Bar with effect from 1st April, 2004. Government has implemented the said order of the Supreme Court.

Policy for cutting down inter-departmental litigations

108. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any National Litigation Policy for cutting down inter-departmental litigations, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total number of inter-Departmental litigations filed between 2004-14 and 2014-17; and

(c) the measures being taken to reduce the number of inter-Departmental litigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Formulation of National Litigation Policy/Guidelines is under the consideration of Government.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A D.O. letter dated 07.08.2014, by the then Law Secretary was sent to all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India requesting them to desist from inter-ministerial/departamental litigations in any Court of Law and for issuing necessary instructions in this regard to all Public Sector Undertakings/Boards/Authorities under their administrative control. It has been the endeavour of the Government to see that disputes between various Ministries/Departments/Boards/Authorities under the control of the Government do not go to court, and are resolved by mutual consultations or through the good offices of Empowered Agencies of the Government or through Arbitration.

Suggestions on welfare of administrative staff of judiciary

109. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the lower cadre employees working in subordinate courts across the country are in repressive conditions;

(b) if so, whether Government has received any suggestion/recommendation/report on the administrative staff of judiciary to cater to their welfare and needs;

(c) the proposal of Government for systematic redressal of their grievances and to boost the morale of this workforce; and

(d) the proposal of Government for recruitment and appointment according to the workload and the details of vacancies, court-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The administrative control including recruitment and setting terms and conditions of service of employees working in Subordinate Courts fall within the domain of State Governments and respective High Courts who take appropriate action as and when necessary in related matters.

Differences among the judicial dispensation

110. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the impact of the rift in the upper echelons of the country's judiciary on the credibility and probity in the judicial system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Question does not arise.

Ideas for turnaround of railways

111. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have started working on to increase speed to convert more trains into super fast category, fit bio-toilets in all trains by January, 2018 total electrification of railway network in about a year, drastically bring down turnaround time of trains and improve the look and feel of coaches;

(b) whether each Railway Board Member is preparing 10 big ideas in respective fields for a turnaround of the state of affairs; and

(c) whether the biggest challenge Railways are facing is to find the required manpower?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Speeding up of trains is a constant endeavour and continuous process on Indian Railways (IR) and is dependent on constant optimization of the investments made by Railways in modernization of technology, high powered locos, modern coaches and better tracks. During the year 2017-18, 48 trains have been speeded up to the category of superfast trains with average speed of 55 kmph and above.

As on 01.04.2017, 25367 route kilometer of railway routes are commissioned on electric traction (electrified). Further, 1733 route kilometer have been commissioned on electric traction till December 2017 during the year 2017-18 against the target of 4000 route kilometer.

It has been planned to complete the work of fitment of Bio toilets in passenger coaches by the end of the year 2018-19.

Regarding improving the look and feel of coaches, it has been decided to progressively convert all conventional coaches to LHB coaches and the following steps are being taken:

- (i) Various premium services like Humsafar, Tejas, Antyodaya and coaches like Deen Dayalu and Anubhuti, which have improved passenger amenities, have been introduced in service.
- (ii) IR has launched Project Swarn with the objective of significantly improving the passenger experience. In total, 14 Rajdhani and 15 Shatabdi trains will be covered. The work is already underway at various divisions of IR.
- (iii) Two rakes of Shan-e-Bhopal Express (Train No. 12155/12156) have been upgraded at division level. Upgradation of 66 trains (140 rakes) in divisions on lines of Shan-e-Bhopal Express shall be taken up from the year 2018-19 onwards.
- (iv) IR has planned to improve the interior of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches. New interiors with better facilities will be provided in the existing coaches by refurbishing them during Mid Life Rehabilitation (MLR). Work in 700 such Model rake coaches is being progressively carried out, out of which more than 100 Model rake coaches have already been turned out.

(b) Turnaround of the state of affairs in the Railways is a constant endeavour and continuous process on Indian Railways and is being done regularly. New ideas are mined and evaluated and then used to improve efficiency and economy of Railways.

(c) No, Sir. Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and is done through various modes of intake. The policy of the Government is to fill up the vacancies as per operational requirement. The vacant posts in Zonal Railways are filled up as per laid down procedure through Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs).

Making railways disabled-friendly

112. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG had recently pointed out that railway stations were not disabled-friendly and no significant improvement was seen over the years in this regard;

(b) the amount spent on making railway stations and trains disabled-friendly over the past five years, region-wise; and

(c) whether there has been an increased effort by Government to make Railways disabled-friendly, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG)'s Report No.13 of 2016 (Railways) has mentioned about the deficiencies in few facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) viz. wheelchairs at railway stations, standard ramps, exclusive toilets, separate ticket window etc. In order to provide better accessibility to Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), short term facilities as detailed below have been planned at all stations, beginning with 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations:—

- Standard ramp for barrier free entry
- Earmarking at least two parking lots
- Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building
- Signages of appropriate visibility
- At least one toilet (on the ground floor)
- At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)
- 'May I help you' Booth

In addition, long term facilities, as detailed below, have also been planned at 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations:—

- Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer
- Engraving on edges of platform

In order to facilitate easy movement of elderly, sick and Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) and for smooth access to platforms at major railway stations, escalators have been planned at all 'A-1', 'A' and 'C' category stations with footfall of 25,000 and above and stations of tourist importance. These escalators shall be provided progressively at all such stations.

So far, 456 escalators at 170 stations and 298 lifts at 132 stations have been provided. Further, work is in progress for about 320 nos. of escalators at 129 stations and 338 nos. of lifts at 102 stations. Additionally 372 escalators have been sanctioned for Mumbai Sub-urban sections in current Financial Year (2017-18) on Out-of-Turn basis. In addition, proposal to install additional lifts and escalators on stations covering 'A-1', 'A' and important 'C' category stations are being planned.

Availability of Wheelchairs on Platforms: Instructions already exist for provision of Wheelchair at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Zonal Railways have also been instructed to provide one wheelchair per platform and in case of island platforms one wheelchair per two platforms at all 'A-1' and 'A' category stations.

Battery Operated Cars (BOCs): Zonal Railways have been authorized to introduce Battery Operated Cars at major railway stations for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), elderly and ailing passengers on 'first come first served' basis through sponsorship from individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable Institutions, Corporate and PSUs/Corporate Houses under their Corporate Social Responsibility free of charge to passenger or to the Railway. 110 Battery Operated Cars have already been provided at 63 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 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; preference shall however be given to Senior Citizens, Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), pregnant women and medically sick passengers.

Yatri Mitra Sewa: 'Yatri Mitra Sewa' is being provided at major stations for enabling passengers to book wheelchair services cum Porter services etc. The responsibility of providing Yatri Mitra Sewa is entrusted to IRCTC who may provide this service 'Free of cost' through some NGOs, PSUs etc. under CSR or on payment basis. This service can be booked on IRCTC e-ticketing website and 139 (IVRS and SMS) or through a mobile.

Indian Railways have manufactured more than 3,700 SLRD/SRD coaches (SLRD-Second Class Cum Luggage Cum Guard Van and Disabled friendly compartment,

SRD-Second Class Cum Guard Van & Disabled friendly compartment) which have a suitably designed compartment and toilet adapted to the needs of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)/wheelchair borne passengers. In SLRD/SRD coaches, wider entrance door, wider berths, wider compartments, larger lavatory and lavatory doors etc. have been provided. Inside the toilets, additional grab rails on the side walls for support, wash basin and mirror at lower height have been provided. It is endeavored to have at least one such Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coach in each Mail/Express train running with ICF coaches. Further, the fully air conditioned (WRRMDAC) Garib Rath trains have been provided with an Air conditioned Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) friendly compartment in the power cars. For assistance to visually impaired travellers, Integrated Braille signages, *i.e.* signages superimposed with Braille scripts, are being provided in the newly manufactured coaches. Further, retrofitment of the same in existing coaches has also been taken up in a phased manner.

The expenditure on development of Passenger Amenities works including those for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) at Railway Stations is generally funded under Plan Head-‘Passenger Amenities’. Zone-wise details of expenditure (Gross) under this Plan Head during the last five years are as under:—

	(₹ in crores)				
Zonal Railway	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Central	30.81	59.70	67.88	78.74	74.07
Eastern	119.27	99.61	70.71	62.98	48.41
East Central	35.31	45.15	44.89	63.75	65.76
East Coast	29.10	36.92	40.53	57.46	56.42
Northern	58.08	73.57	85.46	109.33	94.93
North Central	63.18	62.33	74.95	52.62	60.34
North Eastern	13.87	19.57	22.34	71.94	109.84
Northeast Frontier	64.82	41.89	44.71	54.09	45.81
North Western	22.57	30.12	35.58	66.07	55.60
Southern	73.15	70.25	69.87	95.91	70.68
South Central	88.34	96.51	77.33	94.82	68.56
South Eastern	59.33	47.26	53.23	65.60	60.08
South East Central	60.76	44.69	36.12	31.38	31.49
South Western	37.88	29.47	31.88	60.22	41.93

Zonal Railway	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Western	47.67	49.36	42.65	49.61	47.96
West Central	31.32	48.46	54.65	63.50	43.78
Metro	6.33	7.55	5.83	3.19	5.58
TOTAL	841.79	862.41	858.61	1081.21	981.24

Reasons for Utkal Express Accident

113. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Northern Circle has concluded that the Utkal Express accident occurred due to gross negligence and human error; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government is taking to prevent such incidents in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) In order to determine the causes of the accident of Train No.18477 (Puri-Haridwar Kalinga Utkal Express) derailed on 19.08.2017 between Khatauli-Mansurpur stations of Delhi Saharanpur Section of Delhi Division of Northern Railway, a statutory inquiry has been ordered to be conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Northern Circle, New Delhi under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(b) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and safety inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Preventive and predictive maintenance of the Railway assets is undertaken to ensure safe train operation. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include Electronic Interlocking, track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters, Colour Light LED Signals, Train Protection and Warning System, Vigilance Control Device, Fog Pass Device, usage of 52 kg/60 kg, 90 or higher UTS rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, use of Ultrasonic Flaw Detection of rails and welds at predefined periodicity to detect internal flaws in rails/welds. Electronic monitoring of track geometry is carried out to detect defects and plan maintenance. Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges is being

used while carrying out primary track renewals. Further, it has been decided to lay Thick webs switches, Weldable Cast Maganese Steel crossings on identified routes. Progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch Coaches, use of Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory Coaches, etc. Railway tracks are replaced on age cum condition basis through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Other measures include training of loco pilots and other safety category staff, improvement of their working conditions including proper rest and periodic medical examination etc. Besides, patrolling of tracks, footplate inspections and safety reviews at various levels, etc. are regularly conducted to continuously monitor and improve safety aspects of the Indian Railways.

Elphinstone bridge stampede

114. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Elphinstone bridge, where stampede occurred, had been in existence since 1867;

(b) if so, why have Railways not conducted worthiness of the bridge from time to time; and

(c) the steps Railways are taking for better crowd management and widening of over bridges as per the standards laid down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Foot Over Bridge (FOB) at Elphinstone Road railway station where unfortunate incident of stampede occurred, was constructed in the year 1972. Repair and maintenance of infrastructure including FOBs is a continuous process and is undertaken regularly as per needs. Regular annual inspections are carried out to assess the need of maintenance.

(c) Instructions already exist that all new FOBs at 'A-1' category, 'A' category and 'C' category (suburban) railway stations shall be 6m wide, wherever feasible. FOBs have been included in the safety items by Railways and a large number of FOBs have been processed for inclusion in Works Programme 2018-19. 30 nos. of FOBs are proposed for new construction/widening/replacement on Out-of-Turn basis in Mumbai area. The following measures are being taken by the Railways for better crowd management:—

1. There are separate entry and exit points at stations to facilitate easy ingress and egress of passengers. The entry and exit points are being manned by staff of Railway Commercial Department and RPF/GRP at major and important Railway stations, round the clock.

2. Queue system is maintained for hassle free boarding of passengers in general coaches of important trains at originating stations.
3. Commercial/GRP/RPF Staff are deployed on Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) at Major Railway Stations to avoid assembly/gathering of passengers on FOBs and to ensure smooth access of passengers in Railway during peak hours.
4. Parking and non-parking areas have clearly been demarcated to avoid haphazard parking and overcrowding.
5. Traffic regulations are implemented in coordination with Traffic/Local Police.
6. During festive seasons, special deployment of Commercial and Security personnel is made.
7. Close Circuit Television Surveillance System, Access Control Mechanism are used to regulate and monitor the crowd at major railway stations in general and specifically during festive seasons and other such occasions, in addition to adequate deployment of Commercial/GRP/RPF staff in co-ordination with concerned Government Railway Police/Local Police and Station Manager.

Blasts at Doikallu railway Station

115. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Maoists triggered blasts at the Doikallu railway station in Rayagada district of Odisha recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total loss suffered by Railways due to the said blasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On 31.03.2017, Maoists triggered two low intensity tiffin bombs, one at the Office of Station Master and another in the Engine of a goods train which was stabled at line No. 04 of the Doikallu Railway Station over Sambalpur Division of East Coast Railway. In this connection, Government Railway Police Station/Rayagada has registered a case *vide* No. 08/2017 dated 31.03.2017 u/s 121, 121(a), 395, 506 of Indian Penal Code read with section 3, 4 and 5 of Explosive Act. Due to these blasts, Railways suffered a total loss of ₹ 21.71 lakh.

**Development of railway stations in Rayalaseema
region of Andhra Pradesh**

116. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has taken a decision to develop the railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has made any funds allocated under this project to each State, particularly to develop the railway stations in the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Development/upgradation of passenger amenities at stations in Indian Railways is undertaken under various schemes. At present, stations are undertaken for development under Adarsh Station Scheme and 1253 stations have been identified under this Scheme. Out of 1253 stations, 1046 railway stations have been developed so far and the remaining stations are planned to be developed by 2017-18. Upgradation of stations is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon need, volume of the passenger traffic and *inter-se* priority subject to availability of funds.

State-wise number of stations identified to be developed under the scheme is as under:—

State	No. of Stations	State	No. of Stations
Andhra Pradesh	44	Jharkhand	30
Assam	28	Karnataka	44
Bihar	59	Kerala	77
Chhattisgarh	17	Madhya Pradesh	44
Delhi	04	Maharashtra	110
Goa	02	Nagaland	01
Gujarat	32	Odisha	47
Haryana	16	Puducherry	02
Himachal Pradesh	02	Punjab	32
Jammu and Kashmir	05	Rajasthan	40

State	No. of Stations	State	No. of Stations
Telangana	25	Uttar Pradesh	152
Tamil Nadu	48	Uttarakhand	08
Tripura	01	West Bengal	383

(c) and (d) Works of development of Railway Stations are generally funded under Plan head—‘Passenger Amenities’. State-wise details of funds are not maintained. Funds are maintained Zone-wise. Details of funds allocated during the current financial year *i.e.* 2017-18, under this Plan Head to East Coast Railway, Southern Railway, South Central Railway and South Western Railway which cover the State of Andhra Pradesh are as under:

(₹ in crores)

Railway	Allocation
East Coast Railway	75.09
Southern Railway	148.57
South Central Railway	90.96
South Western Railway	64.19

Increasing the speed of trains between New Delhi and Chennai

117. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to increase the speed of trains between New Delhi and Chennai from existing 90 to 140 kilometres per hour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of safety measures proposed to be taken for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Gauge conversion of Pathankot-Jogindernagar section

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the unnecessary delay in the gauge conversion work of Pathankot-Jogindernagars section;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to expedite the work and complete the project in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Survey for gauge conversion of Pathankot–Jogindernagar line has been completed. As per survey report, cost of the project is ₹ 18686.34 crore with Rate of Return (ROR) of (-) 4.17%. This project is not financially viable.

(c) Since the project is not sanctioned, the question for time line of completion of project does not arise.

Vacancies in safety-related posts

119. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that out of nearly one lakh posts relating to security and safety in the SCR, there are 15,500 vacancies which constitutes nearly 16 per cent;

(b) whether Railways are following the policy of abolishing posts if they are more than 1-2 years old;

(c) if not, the reasons for such huge vacancies in security-related departments; and

(d) whether Railways are conducting special drives once or twice in a year to fill posts relating to safety and security, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There are 3,309 and 58,622 posts sanctioned in security and safety departments respectively in South Central Railway (SCR). However, there are 784 and 9,372 vacancies in security and safety departments respectively against the above said sectioned strength of SCR.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Arising of vacancies is an ongoing process in security department (Railway Protection Force) due to retirements, promotions, deaths, resignations, etc., the same are filled up through open recruitments and departmental promotions as per the existing rules.

(d) Special drives are not conducted in security and safety department. However, as and when vacancies arise in security department same are filled through open

recruitments and departmental promotions. Regarding filling up of safety related posts, Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) are regularly providing panels of successful candidates to Railway/Production Units concerned.

Closure of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company

120. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided for the closure of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company, a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Railways;

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

(c) the plans of Government for the employees of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited (BWEL) was incorporated on 4th December, 1978 as a CPSE after taking over two sick private sector companies—Arthur Butler and Company, Muzaffarpur and Britannia Engineering Company, Mokama. The Company became a 100% subsidiary of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. in 1987 under the administrative control of Department of Heavy Industries (DHI). The Company was referred to BIFR (Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction) on 18th December, 2000 and was declared sick in the year 2002. The Company continues to be a sick Company since then, in spite of efforts and financial assistance provided to the Company. Ministry of Railways (MoR) had sanctioned a financial support of ₹ 43.63 crore in 2012-13. Further interim financial assistance of ₹ 42.33 crore for the company was provided in July, 2016 for clearing salary dues, statutory dues and as working capital. In addition to order for manufacturing of new wagons, MoR also provided work of rehabilitation of wagons to BWEL to support the company.

The company is totally dependent on wagon order from Railways and is not involved in any other business. Due to aggressive pricing by the private wagon manufacturers, manufacturing of wagons in the Company became financially unviable and the company stopped manufacturing wagons from October, 2014. The performance of the company over the years has shown decline. In the well-developed competitive market for wagons, the company lacks the competitive edge to survive and there

is no prospect of revival/turn around in future as BWEL is primarily engaged in Wagon manufacturing.

(c) The employees of the Company have been offered VRS/VSS package. Employees not opting for the same are being retrenched under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

App-based cabs at railway stations

†121. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that app-based cabs have been given permission on railway stations in National Capital Delhi, the details thereof including the terms of contract;

(b) the estimated annual income to Railways by giving permission to app-based cabs, the details thereof;

(c) the arrangements made to check overcharging from passengers and fares remaining low by app-based cabs at railway stations, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to link app-based cabs facility with online ticket booking, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. App-Based Cabs have been given permission on railway stations in Delhi. The details are as follows:—

Zonal Railway	No of stations	No of locations	Tenure	Average earning per annum	Remarks
Northern Railway (Delhi Division)	5	6	3 years	₹ 14,20,76,250/-	For three years (Approximate earning ₹ 42.00 crore)
	New Delhi	Ajmeri gate side			
		Paharganj side			
	Delhi	1st Entry			
	Anand Vihar	Main side			
	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Main Side			
	Nizamuddin	1st Entry			

(b) The details are as follows.

App-Based Cabs-Zone-wise Position (31.01.2018)

Zonal Railways	No of STNS/ Location	Average earning per annum. (In ₹ crore)	Tenure	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Central Railway	5	00.90	3 years	2 Pune, 1 Nashik, 1 Solapur, 1 CST Mumbai
Eastern Railway	7	01.15	3 years	3 at Howrah, 1 Sealdah, 1 Kolkata Terminal, 1 Dumdum Jn, 1 Dumdum Cantt
East Central Railway	0	0	3 years	1 Rajinder Nagar, 1 Danapur, 1 Pataliputra—All under process
East Coast Railway	2	02.41	1 year	1 Vishakapatnam, 1 Bhubneshwar
Northern Railway	10	14.00	3 years	2 New Delhi, 1 Delhi, 1 Anand Vihar, 1 Delhi Saria Rohilla, 1 Nizamuddin, 2 Lucknow, 1 Varanasi, 1 Ludhiana
North Central Railway	0	0	0	No locations
North Eastern Railway	0	0	0	7 under finalization. Tender opening on 15.02.2018 for Bareilly, Mathura, Gorakhpur, Badshahnagar, Manduadhi
Northeast Frontier Railway	0	0	0	No locations
North West Railway	6	00.30	3 months	2 Jaipur, 1 Ajmer, 1 Udaipur City, 1 Jodhpur, 1 Bikaner
Southern Railway	8	00.75	3 months	3 Coimbatore, 1 Salem, 1 Podanur, 1 Thiruchirappalli, 2 Mangalore, 5 more locations are being processed for long term tenders (Chennai, Erode, Ooty, Coonoor, Mettaupalayam)

1	2	3	4	5
South Central Railway	5	2.76	3 years	2 Secunderabad, 1 Hyderabad, 1 Kacheguda, 1 Guntur
South Eastern Railway	0	0	0	6 stations identified and tendering process initiated. Tata, Rourkela, Kharagpur, Shalimar, Santragachi, Ranchi
South East Central Railway	1	00.02	3 months	1 plus 3 stations identified and tendering process initiated
South West Railway	22	17.00	3 years	5 Bangalore, 4 Yeshvantpur, 1 Krisnrajpuram, 2 Bangalore Cantt, 1 Kenigiri, 1 Banaswadi, 1 Yelayanka, 1 Malleswaram, 1 Baiyyaplnhalli, 2 Whitefield, 1 Hebbal
Western Railway	6	04.00	6 months	Mumbai Central, Bandra, Surat, Borivalli, Indore, Ahmedabad
West Central Railway	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	72			72 plus 24 locations under finalisation

(c) Under the General conditions of contract, the licensee shall be responsible to comply with the law of the land relating to the contract. The pricing of rides depends on the current demand and supply. Every State has its own regulations for cab service providers.

(d) The integrated app of the Railway will provide App Based Cabs as well as ticketing from one singular app.

Indigenous manufacturing of metro coaches

122. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the production of railway coaches in the country, the year-wise details for past three years; and

(b) if so, whether there are any plans of Government to start manufacturing of the metro coaches indigenously, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. The production/acquisition of the coaches by Indian Railways in the country during the last three years is as under:—

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Coaches	3731	4126	4321

(b) Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai under Ministry of Railways is already manufacturing coaches for Kolkata Metro indigenously.

Commissioning of dedicated freight corridors

123. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dedicated Freight Corridor project will start getting commissioned in parts by the end of this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the segments that are in near completion, as on date;

(d) whether Railways have prioritized the segments of the Dedicated Freight Corridor project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) is targeted for commissioning in phases and the following sections are targeted during 2018-19:

(i) Eastern DFC (EDFC): Khurja-Kanpur.

(ii) Western DFC (WDFC): Ateli-Phulera.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Project phasing, corridor-wise, has been done as per the priority fixed by Railways as under:

(i) EDFC: Khurja-Kanpur (Phase-I), Kanpur-Mughalsarai (Phase-II), Khurja-Sanehwal and Khurja-Dadri (Phase- III).

(ii) WDFC: Rewari-Makarpura (Phase I), Makarpura-Jawahar Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and Rewari-Dadri (Phase-II).

Commission of railway safety

124. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission of Railway Safety, established as the Railway Inspectorate along with the Railway Board, still functions under the administrative control of Ministry of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, whether Government would take corrective measures to bring the Commission of Railway Safety under the control of Ministry of Railways for better co-ordination in governance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Commission of Railway Safety works under the control of Ministry of Civil Aviation to function in an independent manner. The role of Commission of Railway Safety is well defined in the Railways Act, 1989. The existing system is running smoothly and there is no problem of co-ordination in governance. There is no plan to bring the Commission of Railway Safety under the control of Ministry of Railways.

Installation of CCTV cameras in coaches and at stations

†125. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to install CCTV cameras in every railway coach and at stations to ensure the safety of the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed in this regard based on the short-term/long-term targets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) All stations and passenger carrying trains are planned to be provided with CCTV based surveillance system.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Railways has proposed to provide CCTV based surveillance system in passenger carrying trains and balance stations using Nirbhaya Fund. Based on the availability of the funds, this work will be taken up.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Theft cases in trains

126. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Protection Force (RPF) has decided to deploy its personnel in plain clothes in select trains to prevent crimes;

(b) whether theft in running trains has increased in the recent past;

(c) if so, the total number of theft cases reported in trains during the last three years;

(d) whether Railways are considering to enhance the strength of RPF personnel at both stations and in trains; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/ District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP in providing better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith. RPF has not decided to deploy its personnel in plain clothes in select trains to prevent crime, however, RPF staff posted in Crime Intelligence Branch of RPF are deployed in plain clothes in vulnerable trains for surveillance on criminals and prevention of crime.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Policing, including registration of First Information Report (FIR) and its investigation being State subject, Railways does not maintain any data on Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes. As per the data received from the Government Railway Police Stations, 16180, 17925 and 31920 cases of theft of passengers' belongings have been reported in train over Indian Railways during the years 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively.

(d) and (e) The deployment of RPF staff is assessed regularly and as per existing strength optimum deployment is made in trains and at stations for prevention of crime in Railways in coordination with GRP. As regards augmentation of strength of RPF, the existing strength is reviewed from time to time keeping in view the operational requirement and the proposal for creation of fresh posts are approved by Ministry of Railways and forwarded to Ministry of Finance for sanction.

Major rail accidents

127. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were 27 major rail accidents in the past three years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government increased railway fares by 70 per cent during the last three years but no concrete blueprint had been laid down to secure the lives of passengers;

(c) whether Railways had compromised with the safety protocols and there was criminal negligence which led to these major rail accidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. During the last three years *i.e.* 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and the current year 2017-18 (upto 15th January, 2018), there have been 14 major consequential train accidents over Indian Railways. These include four accidents at unmanned level crossings and one case of trespassing caused due to the negligence of road vehicle users.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Common digital platform for integrating information

128. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways will invest about ₹ 12,000 crore in developing a common digital platform for integrating information from all its departments, leading to savings of about ₹ 60,000 crore;

(b) whether it is also a fact that once this digital platform is put into place, the entire operations can be monitored on a single platform; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that it will take at least two to three years to complete the first phase of common digital platform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Indian Railways has implemented several IT applications in various domains *viz.*, Ticketing and Passenger Service, Train Operations and Asset Management. With the advancement in technology, it is now feasible to integrate the various applications and reap benefits in terms of

greater customer satisfaction, increased revenue, reduction in costs and improved efficiency in train operations.

In this direction, Indian Railways has embarked on the path of integration of IT applications. Some new IT projects *viz.*, Master Data Management, Rail Cloud, Enterprise Service Bus for application integration and Enterprise Architecture have been sanctioned which will help in integration of various IT applications.

The proposed integration will help in timely availability of information for decision making.

Change in existing guidelines on monetizing its assets

129. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to change some of the existing guidelines on monetizing land and station assets as well as contemplating on extending the lease period from 45 years to 99 years among others;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to come out with a guideline to penalize officials for every day of delay in giving approvals as far as the involvement of developers are concerned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) has recently been allowed to lease out the Railway land for monetization up to a maximum period of 99 years based on the specific requirement of the site, project or local real estate market. Residential development has also been permitted on land parcel not required by Railways for operational purposes. RLDA has also been allowed to have an agreement with the Developer for multiple sub-leases of the assets made by the Developer on the Railway land. The instructions have already been issued to the Zonal Railways/ Divisions to furnish their comments within 07 days from the date of submission of final plans by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC).

New land acquisition policy

130. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is aware that Railways' new land acquisition policy which stipulates completion of land acquisition prior to starting railway line construction is delaying new projects;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps are under consideration to address such delays; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Indian Railways have a number of projects where considerable investments have been made but returns are not forthcoming due to land acquisition problems. Therefore, it has been decided that the commencement of physical work for New Line projects shall be taken up only after completion of land acquisition. However, General Managers of Zonal Railways have been empowered to invite tenders if they are certain of the possibility of land acquisition in a reasonable time frame. For this, a written assurance from the State Government will be required by General Managers of Zonal Railways. General Managers of Zonal Railways have also been empowered to review further investment in projects where State support is not forthcoming and the projects have remained in limbo for long period. Chief Secretaries of State Governments have also been requested to take necessary steps in this regard to expedite execution work of New Lines.

Renewal of tracks in Andhra Pradesh

131. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are embarking on the process of track renewals on war-footing to reduce derailments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the tracks that have been selected for renewal in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the quantum of funds allocated and released so far for the purpose; and

(e) the targets fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Railway tracks are replaced through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Track renewal works are undertaken as and when stretch of track becomes due for renewal on age/condition basis. Track Renewal works are planned in advance every year and their execution is prioritized according to the condition of track. If any stretch of track is not renewed in time due to various reasons, suitable speed restrictions, if required, are imposed to ensure safe running of trains. For the year 2017-18, a target of 3600 km in Complete Track Renewal (CTR) units has been kept for track renewal on Indian Railways.

Details of track renewals are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise. The State of Andhra Pradesh falls in East Coast Railway, Southern Railway, South Central Railway and South Western Railway. The targets fixed, actual track renewal, funds allocated and expenditure incurred for track renewal for these Zonal Railways for the year 2017-18, are as under:—

Zonal Railway	Target (in km of CTR units)	Actual Renewal (in km of CTR units) (upto December, 2017)	Funds allocated (Revised Estimates) (₹ In crore)	Expenditure incurred (₹ in crore) (upto December, 2017)
East Coast	243	144	741.92	313.11
Southern	406	203	703.00	471.16
South Central	147	128	594.07	392.97
South Western	170	120	377.93	240.99

Alleged fraudulent disbursement to victims of accidents

132. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scam relating to fraudulent disbursements to victims of accidents has surfaced with the Chairman of the Principal Bench of Railway Claims Tribunal sounding the Government of the involvement of a Member of the Tribunal's Patna Bench;

(b) if so, the details of the alleged scam involving siphoning off around ₹ 50 crore between 2015-2017 from the railway coffers; and

(c) whether five lawyers of Patna, who represented 91 per cent of all applicants during May, 2015 to August, 2017, have been named in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A complaint against a Member of Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT), then working in Patna Bench relating to fraudulent disbursement of compensation to victims of accidents, in collusion with a group of lawyers to derive unlawful monetary benefits, has been received from the Principal Bench of RCT at Delhi.

This case has been referred to the Chief Justice of India for his orders as to holding an inquiry into the matter and nomination of a Judge of Hon'ble Supreme Court for conducting an inquiry into the allegation. The names of five lawyers of Patna have been mentioned in the report.

Merger of MRTS, Chennai with Chennai metro rail limited

133. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any final decision regarding merging of MRTS, Chennai with Chennai Metro Rail Limited, including the surface rights of the land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Consequent to the request of Government of Tamil Nadu, Ministry of Railways has agreed for a study on the proposed merger of Chennai Metro Rail project with MRTS, Chennai to be undertaken by Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) on 01.10.2015. The detailed Terms of Reference for the study have also been advised to CMRL on 26.07.2016. The study report is awaited.

**Compulsory keeping of books on Indian culture
at Railway Station bookstalls**

†134. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government proposes to make it compulsory to keep books based on Indian culture and morality at bookstalls of railway stations;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) A new Multipurpose Stall Policy has been issued on 05.09.2017 wherein all miscellaneous/curio stalls, bookstalls, chemist stalls/corners have come under Multi Purpose Stalls (MPS). Books pertaining to Indian Tradition, Culture, Values, Morals and History are also permitted for sale through Multi Purpose Stalls. Further, instructions have also been issued on 17.10.2017 *vide* Commercial Circular No.-71/2017 for allotment of bookstalls to Social and Philanthropic organizations which have their own publications of books and periodicals for promoting social and cultural values in society.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Lease rights of railway stations to private parties

135. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has given 43 railway stations to 45 year long lease rights for private parties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this action is leading the people to believe that Railways are moving away from the transportation services; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures being taken to preserve the past glory of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Union Cabinet approved Railways' proposal for redevelopment of 'A-1' and 'A' category stations (total about 400 stations) on 'as is where is' basis, by inviting open bids from interested parties with their designs and business ideas duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways including permitting commercial development of real estate by Zonal Railways.

Accordingly, station redevelopment program by Zonal Railways was launched on 08.02.2017. Following 23 stations were taken up for bidding in first phase:—

Sl. No.	Name of Station	State	Sl. No.	Name of station	State
1.	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Maharashtra	13.	Faridabad	Haryana
2.	Pune	Maharashtra	14.	Jammu Tawi	Jammu and Kashmir
3.	Thane	Maharashtra	15.	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Mumbai Central	Maharashtra	16.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Bandra Terminus	Maharashtra	17.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
6.	Borivali	Maharashtra	18.	Chennai Central	Tamil Nadu
7.	Howrah	West Bengal	19.	Kozhikode	Kerala
8.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	20.	Yashwantpur	Karnataka
9.	Kanpur Central	Uttar Pradesh	21.	Bangalore Cantt	Karnataka
10.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	22.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
11.	Kamakhya	Assam	23.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
12.	Udaipur City	Rajasthan			

In the first phase of redevelopment for 23 stations, bids only for Jammu Tawi and Kozhikode Railway Stations have been received and are under evaluation. The other stations did not receive any bid.

A dedicated organization viz. Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) was set up in the year 2012 for the purpose of station redevelopment on Indian Railways. Six stations viz., Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, Chandigarh, Habibganj (Bhopal), Shivaji Nagar (Pune) and Gandhinagar have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment.

An MoU has been signed by Ministry of Railways with Ministry of Urban Development for integrated planning for station redevelopment projects in cities identified as SMART cities in association with Smart City authorities. Ten (10) stations i.e. Tirupati, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Nellore, Madgaon, Lucknow, Gomtinagar, Kota, Thane New, Ernakulam Jn. and Puducherry have been taken up for redevelopment under this scheme, jointly by Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Building Construction Company (NBCC).

Rail Land Development Authority has been entrusted to redevelop Safdarjung Station in New Delhi along with IRCON.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Wagon workshop at Visakhapatnam

136. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for wagon workshop at Visakhapatnam, announced in 2014-15 Budget, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the project not taking off even after three years of its announcement; and

(c) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Wagon Periodical Overhauling workshop (POH) was sanctioned in the year 2015-16. The year-wise Budget grant is as under:

Year	Budget Grant
2015-16	₹ 5 crore
2016-17	₹ 30 crore
2017-18	₹ 80 crore
2018-19	₹ 150 crore

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Contract has been awarded. Work is in progress at the site.

Use of broad gauge for speedier trains

137. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bullet trains, being planned on Mumbai-Ahmedabad route, belong to a gauge other than metre and broad gauge;
- (b) the logic in introducing another gauge when all over the country, metre gauge is being changed into broad gauge;
- (c) whether it is more economic and scientific to develop broad gauge further for speedier trains; and
- (d) whether Government would concentrate more on using broad gauge for expansion of metropolitan rail lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) World over, High Speed Rail (HSR) network are operated mainly on Standard Gauge. Accordingly Standard Gauge has been adopted for dedicated HSR lines.

(c) Indian Railways has already taken decision to have Broad gauge on their existing network except for Hill/heritage/deadend railway lines for smooth movement of trains in the country.

(d) Metro-railways function under administrative control of State Governments and coordinated by Ministry of Urban Development. The decisions regarding their gauge are taken by the concerned Metro Railway Authorities who are independent as their network is not integrated with Indian Railways.

Construction of Sambhal-Gajraula railway route

†138. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved the construction of Sambhal-Gajraula railway route;
- (b) if so, the amount allocated therefor: and
- (c) the details of progress made in work on the above project?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No Sir. This project was included in Capital Investment Programme of 2017-18 in anticipation of investments through Joint Ventures/Special Purpose Vehicle/Partnerships with State Governments and Stakeholders. So for, Government of Uttar Pradesh has not signed any Joint Venture Agreement with Ministry of Railways.

However, survey for construction of Sambhal-Gajraula (43 km) Railway line has been completed. As per survey report, cost of project has been assessed as 562.83 crore with a Rate of Return (ROR) of (-) 4.59%. As the Project was not financially viable, it could not be taken up further.

Purchase of rails

139. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rails purchased by Railways during 2014-15 to 2016-17 from Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Jindal Steel and Power and from foreign companies; and

(b) the number of exceptions granted to Railways to purchase rails from private companies after the declaration of Make in India along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The quantity of rails supplied to Indian Railways during 2014-15 to 2016-17 by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is as under:

Year	Supply of Rails by SAIL (in Metric Tonnes)
2014-2015	583787
2015-2016	645514
2016-2017	620050

Quantity of Rails purchased by Indian Railways from Jindal Steel and Power Company Limited and from foreign companies during 2014-15 to 2016-17 is NIL.

(b) Only one exception has been granted to Ministry of Railways.

Waiver from “Policy for Providing Preference to Domestically Manufactured Iron &Steel Products (DMI&SP) Policy” has been granted to Ministry of Railways, by Ministry of Steel for procurement of 4.87 lakh Metric Tonnes rails through open global tender to meet the shortfall in supply of rails by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), subject to placement of developmental order of 20% of quantity under procurement on domestic producer in line with “Make in India” vision.

Constitution of Committee to review flexi-fare scheme

140. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to introduce the Flexi-Fare Scheme in trains, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any Committee has been functioning to examine the feasibility of Flexi-Fare Scheme, if so, the details of the Committee and its Members; and

(c) whether the above Committee has submitted any report, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Flexi fare system has been introduced in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains with effect from 09.09.2016. Under this system, the base fare increases by 10% with every 10% of berths sold subject to maximum ceiling limit of 1.5 times in classes Second AC, Sleeper, Second Sitting (Reserved), AC Chair Car and 1.4 times in 3rd AC class. No change has been made in the fares for Ist AC and Executive class of travel.

(b) An eight member Committee comprising General Manager/West Central Railway, Principal Financial Advisor/East Central Railway, Executive Director Passenger Marketing, Railway Board, Executive Director Traffic Commercial (Rates), Railway Board, Advisor (Transport)/Niti Ayog, Executive Director/Revenue Management and Marketing Automation/Air India, Director/Revenue/Le Meridian and Professor of Transport Economics/Walchand Hirachand was constituted to review the flexi fare scheme.

The terms of reference of the Committee were to examine all options and recommend best option keeping in mind interest of passengers and Railways. The Committee was mandated to examine the following issues:

Impact of implementation of flexi fare in its current form with respect to:

- (i) Impact on Revenue generated for Railways.
- (ii) Impact on Passenger in terms of their choice of Railway as means of transport (with increased fare).
- (iii) Competitiveness of flexi fare *viz-a-viz* other means of transport.
- (iv) Amendment/modification if any in:
 - Flexibility of rates in peak and lean season/week days and weekend/festival season.

- ‘Add on’, if any, to be provided with flexi fare for better patronage of the scheme like loyalty points/deferred benefits etc.
 - Any other aspects deemed fit by the Committee.
- (v) Fare of special trains like Humsafar etc. also to be reviewed.
- (vi) Implementability of suggestions.
- (c) The Committee has submitted its report on 16.01.2018. The Report has been put up to the Board.

Amount of funds earmarked for Railways

141. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of funds earmarked for Railways for the year 2017-18;
- (b) how much, out of it, has been spent on safety, security and development of Railways; and
- (c) how much amount has been spent on account of salaries and pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) ₹ 1,87,425 crore (Net) has been provided under the Revenue Section and ₹ 1,20,000 crore (Net) under the Capital Section in Revised Estimates 2017-18.

(b) The amount spent upto December, 2017 towards safety, both from Revenue and Capital, is ₹ 40,009 crore. The amount spent on development of Railways during this period has been ₹ 75,886 crore. The expenditure on Security on Railways is a part of sub-major head-10 of Ministry of Railways' Demands for Grants, under which ₹ 4,711 crore has been spent upto December 2017.

(c) The amount spent upto December, 2017 towards staff cost is ₹ 54,523 crore and towards pension is ₹ 34,626 crore.

Global tender for procurement of rails

142. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have floated global tender for procuring rail worth over 3,500 crore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Railways were not able to meet the demand for track renewal due to shortage of rail;
- (d) whether Railways have been purchasing the rail solely from SAIL and now have decided to purchase it from abroad instead of from SAIL; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways has invited an open global tender for procurement of 4,87,000 Metric Tonnes of 60 Kg UIC rails to meet the shortfall in supply of rails by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for track renewal, construction projects etc.

(d) and (e) Indian Railways have been procuring rails from SAIL. However, to meet the shortfall in supplies of rails from SAIL, global tender has been invited by Indian Railways.

Use of satellite phones

†143. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to procure the satellite phones to establish quick dialogue;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways has procured 202 nos. of Satellite phones from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for establishing communication in case of any accident/disaster.

(c) Zone-wise list of Satellite phones procured is given in Statement.

Statement

Zone-wise list of Satellite phones procured

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	No. of Satellite Phones
1.	Central Railway	12
2.	Eastern Railway	10
3.	Northern Railway	15
4.	North Eastern Railway	9
5.	Northeast Frontier Railway	14
6.	Southern Railway	10
7.	South Central Railway	21

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	No. of Satellite Phones
8.	South Eastern Railway	10
9.	Western Railway	16
10.	East Central Railway	13
11.	East Coast Railway	8
12.	North Central Railway	15
13.	North Western Railway	10
14.	South East Central Railway	9
15.	South Western Railway	10
16.	West Central Railway	20
TOTAL		202

Action plan for modernisation of Railways

†144. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the time-bound action plan for the next three years in the field of modernisation of railway passenger coaches, speed-safety and security of railway stations and passengers and catering facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): It is the continual endeavor of Indian Railways (IR) to take measures for modernisation of railway passenger coaches, strengthening and upgradation of security infrastructure and stations and improvement of catering facilities. Following steps have been taken/are being taken for the same:

1. Modernisation of railway passenger coaches and speed:

- (i) Large scale proliferation of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches: IR has decided to proliferate LHB coaches, which are technologically superior and have better riding and aesthetics. The Production Units of IR would be producing only LHB coaches from the year 2018-19 onwards.
- (ii) Improvements in EMU (Electric Multiple Unit)/MEMU (Mainline Electric Multiple Unit) rakes:
 - (1) One air conditioned EMU rake with 3 phase Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT) based propulsion has been introduced on 25.12.2017 in Western Railway. Electrics for production of 6 more air conditioned EMU rakes are also being procured.

- (2) Passenger Information System (PIS) has been provided in newly manufactured Alternating Current/Direct Current (AC/DC) and Air Conditioned (AC) EMU stock for Mumbai area.
- (iii) Speed of train coaches:
- (1) IR has decided to proliferate LHB coaches, which coaches are fit to run at a speed of 160 kmph for AC coaches and 130 kmph for non-AC coaches.
 - (2) Semi high speed Gatimaan Express between Delhi and Agra is running at a maximum speed of 160 kmph.
 - (3) One rake of LHB coach for Tejas Express running between Mumbai and Goa has been designed for a maximum speed of 200 kmph.
 - (4) A Special Rajdhani Express (No. 09004/09003) between Hazrat Nizamuddin and Bandra Terminus has been introduced on 16.10.2017 with a composition of 18 LHB coaches. It is hauled by 2 electric locos to provide greater acceleration which has resulted in the run time of about 13 hours 50 minutes.
- (iv) Manufacture of electric train set coaches: 141 Electric Train set coaches in 2018-19 and 11 in 2019-20 have been included in the Production Programme. The train sets will be semi high speed with distributed power, with quicker acceleration and contemporary passenger amenities.
- (v) Mid-Life-Rehabilitation (MLR) of coaches: MLR work of Broad Gauge (BG) non-AC and AC coaches is carried out in three workshops, namely Parel (Central Railway), Jhansi (North Central Railway) and Bhopal (West Central Railway). The work includes complete overhauling of interiors of coaches. Considering the present scenario, around 1000 coaches per annum are likely to be given MLR during the next three years.
- (vi) Model Rake Coaches: IR has planned to improve the interior of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches. New interiors with more pleasing colours, aesthetically designed fittings, panelling, improved toilets, etc. will be provided in the existing coaches by refurbishing them during MLR. Work in 700 such Model rake coaches is being progressively carried out, out of which more than 100 Model rake coaches have already been turned out. Work of refurbishment of 3,000 ICF type coaches each has been given to ICF/Chennai and Central Organisation for Modernisation of Workshops (COFMOW)/New Delhi for awarding centralized tenders. Modern Coach Factory/Rae Bareli

floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) for world class interiors of LHB coaches on 16.01.2018 and plans to begin manufacture of such coaches in 2018-19.

(vii) New coaches and train services with better amenities:

- (1) Various premium services like Humsafar, Tejas, Antyodaya and coaches like Deen Dayalu and Anubhuti, which have improved passenger amenities, have been introduced in service. More such coaches/services shall be introduced in the coming years. Utkrisht Double Decker Air-conditioned Yatri (UDAY) trains have been conceptualized as double-decker rakes with improved amenities and shall be inducted from 2018-19 onwards.
- (2) IR has launched Project Swarn with the objective of significantly improving the passenger experience. In total, 14 Rajdhani and 15 Shatabdi trains will be covered.
- (3) 2 rakes of Shan-e-Bhopal Express (Train No.12155/12156) have been upgraded at division level. Upgradation of 66 trains (140 rakes) in divisions on lines of Shan-e-Bhopal Express shall be taken up from 2018-19 onwards.

2. **Safety and security of railway passengers and stations:**

(i) Safety and security in Railway coaches:

- (1) Proliferation of LHB type coaches, which have better safety features, as compared to the conventional ICF type coaches.
- (2) Improving fire retardancy in coaches by providing fire retardant furnishing materials in coaches.
- (3) Progressive fitment of Double Acting AC compartment doors in select existing AC coaches and in all new manufacture AC coaches to enable passengers to quickly evacuate from in the event of emergency.
- (4) Progressive fitment of Automatic plug type doors in select existing coaches to prevent accidental falling of passengers from running trains.
- (5) Progressive fitment of fire suppression and detection system in existing and all new manufacture Power Cars and Pantry Cars.
- (6) Provision of fire extinguishers in all AC coaches, Second class-cum-guard and luggage van and Pantry cars. Progressive fitment of fire extinguishers in balance existing non-AC coaches and all new manufacture non-AC coaches.

- (7) Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in Mainline coaches/EMU/MEMU and Metro coaches are being provided in a phased manner to improve security of passengers.
- (ii) Safety and security in Railway stations:
- (1) Provision of CCTV cameras has been made over 394 railway stations. Installation of CCTV cameras is also under progress over 983 stations with allocation of budget under Nirbhaya Fund.
 - (2) Railway Protection Force (RPF) Security helpline 182, installed to assist Railway Passengers especially women in distress, is planned to be upgraded by making it automated. This Information Technology (IT) enabled upgraded system shall make the distress response efficient by introducing features like automated phone call system, acknowledgement through SMS, computerized registration of complaint and further processing, voice recording, monitoring of call attending and optimum call capacity utilization.
 - (3) Networking of Posts and Security Control Rooms of the RPF is under progress for faster dissemination of data/feedback/Complaints. Pilot project has successfully been completed over Western and Central Railways and Roll-out phase is under progress.
 - (4) Other measures initiated to ensure security of passengers, in coordination with Government Railway Police (GRP), include escorting of 4,700 mail/express trains (2,500 by RPF and 2,200 by GRP), regular drives against antisocial elements under the provisions of the Railways Act, regular coordination meetings with State Police to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP, etc.

3. **Catering facilities:**

To improve the standard of food being provided to passengers, new Catering Policy has been issued on 27th February, 2017 wherein *inter alia* Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has been mandated to carry out the unbundling by creating a distinction primarily between food preparation and food distribution. In order to upgrade quality of food preparation, IRCTC is to set up new kitchens and upgrade existing ones. Further steps being taken to ensure that good quality and hygienic food is served to the passengers *inter alia* include:

- (i) Optional catering service has been introduced as a pilot project, on 32 Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto trains under the management of IRCTC with effect from 01.08.2017 for an initial period of 180 days.

- (ii) Introduction of station based E-Catering for widening the range of options available to passengers for ordering food of their choice.
- (iii) Pilot for introduction of precooked food ('ready to eat' meals) in the range of options available to passengers.
- (iv) Operation of centralized Catering Service Monitoring Cell (CSMC) (toll free number 1800-111-321) for prompt redressal of passenger grievances relating to the catering activities and real time assistance to travelling public.
- (v) Operation of all India Helpline (No.138) for rail-users to lodge complaints/suggestions regarding food and catering services
- (vi) A Twitter handle @ IRCATERING has also been made operational to cater to the complaints/suggestions with regard to catering services.

Operationalisation of new trains

†145. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of trains announced during the year 2017-18 and the date for each of the trains on which the train commenced its operations, and by when the remaining trains will be operationalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): During 2017-2018, 120 train services have been introduced. Further, it has been decided to introduce 08 services of Antyodaya Express trains and 14 services of Humsafar Express trains during the course of the year. The details of trains introduced and those yet to be introduced are given in Statement.

Statement*List of trains introduced during 2017-2018*

Sl. No.	Train No.	From	To	Nature	Frequency	w.e.f.
1.	56927/56928	Hubli	Chikkabenal	Passenger	Daily	1-Apr-2017
2.	22991/22992	Veraval	Bandra (T)	Express	Weekly	3-Apr-2017
3.	22993/22994	Mahuva	Bandra (T)	Express	Weekly	3-Apr-2017
4.	19029/19030	Mahuva	Bandra (T)	Express	Weekly	3-Apr-2017
5.	74029/74030	Jind	Sonipat	DEMU	6 days a week	4-Apr-2017
6.	16575/16576	Yesvantpur	Mangalore Jn.	Gomoteshwara Express	Tri-weekly	9-Apr-2017
7.	16791/16792	Punalur	Palakkad	Palaruvi Express	Daily	19-Apr-2017
8.	19041/19042	Bandra (T)	Ghaziपुर City	Express	Weekly	20-Apr-2017
9.	22867/22868	Durg	Nizamuddin	Humsafar Express	Bi-weekly	22-Apr-2017
10.	22143/22144	Mumbai CST	Bidar	Express	Tri-weekly	26-Apr-2017
11.	12085/12086	Guwahati	Dibrugarh	Shatabdi Express	Tri-weekly	30-Apr-2017
12.	22919/22920	Ahmedabad	Chennai Central	Humsafar Express	Weekly	2-May-2017
13.	12087/12088	Guwahati	Naharlagun	Shatabdi Express	Tri-weekly	7-May-2017
14.	22123/22124	Ajmer	Pune	AC Express	Weekly	9-May-2017

15.	22125/22126	Nagpur	Amritsar	AC Express	Weekly	9-May-2017
16.	22117/22118	Pune	Amravati	AC Express	Weekly	9-May-2017
17.	53375/53376	Barkakana	Sidhwar	Passenger	Daily	18-May-2017
18.	22119/22120	Mumbai CST	Karmali	Tejas Express	5 days a week	22-May-2017
19.	17323/17324	Hubli	Varanasi	Express	Weekly	23-May-2017
20.	17325/17326	Hubli	Mysuru	Express	Daily	23-May-2017
21.	22705/22706	Tirupati	Jammu Tawi	Humsafar Express	Weekly	15-Jun-2017
22.	77405/77406	Cuddapah	Pendlimarri	DEMU	6 days a week	15-Jun-2017
23.	20889/20890	Howrah	Vijayawada	Humsafar Express	Weekly	15-Jun-2017
24.	14021/14022	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Sikar	Express	Tri-weekly	20-Jun-2017
25.	74849/74850	Ratangarh	Sadarshahar	DEMU	Daily	20-Jun-2017
26.	74851/74852	Ratangarh	Sadarshahar	DEMU	Daily	20-Jun-2017
27.	74853/74854	Ratangarh	Sadarshahar	DEMU	Daily	20-Jun-2017
28.	59735/59736	Sikar	Fatehpur Shekhawati	Passenger	Daily	20-Jun-2017
29.	19305/19306	Indore	Guwahati	Express	Weekly	7-Jul-2017
30.	22833/22834	Bhubaneswar	Krishnarajapuram	Humsafar Express	Weekly	13-Jul-2017
31.	22163/22164	Bhopal	Khajuraho	Mahamana Express	Daily	13-Jul-2017

Sl. No.	Train No.	From	To	Nature	Frequency	w.e.f.
32.	59169/59170	Anand	Vadtal	Swaminarayan Passenger	Daily	13-Jul-2017
33.	16793/16794	Rameswaram	Faizabad	Express	Weekly	27-Jul-2017
34.	22147/22148	Dadar	Shirdi	Express	Weekly	30-Jul-2017
35.	15549/15550	Patna	Jaynagar	Intercity Express	6 days a week	12-Aug-2017
36.	22165/22166	Bhopal	Singrauli	Express	Bi-weekly	12-Aug-2017
37.	22167/22168	Nizamuddin	Singrauli	Express	Weekly	12-Aug-2017
38.	22433/22434	Anand Vihar (T)	Ghazipur City	Express	Bi-weekly	13-Aug-2017
39.	22921/22922	Bandra (T)	Gorakhpur	Antyodaya Express	Weekly	13-Aug-2017
40.	22913/22914	Bandra (T)	Patna	Humsafar Express	Weekly	13-Aug-2017
41.	75271/75272	Ara	Sasaram	DEMU	6 days a week	22-Aug-2017
42.	75273/75274	Ara	Sasaram	DEMU	6 days a week	22-Aug-2017
43.	14611/14612	Katra	Ghazipur City	Express	Weekly	20-Sep-2017
44.	20903/20904	Vadodara	Varanasi	Mahamana Express	Weekly	22-Sep-2017
45.	15563/15564	Jaynagar	Udhna	Antyodaya Express	Weekly	8-Oct-2017
46.	22151/22152	Pune	Kazipet	Express	Weekly	20-Oct-2017

47.	20501/20502	Agartala	Anand Vihar(T)	Rajdhani Express	Weekly	28-Oct-2017
48.	55817/55818	New Bongaigaon	Guwahati	Passenger	6 days a week	1-Nov-2017
49.	66051/66052	Chennai Central	Avadi	MEMU	Daily	1-Nov-2017
50.	66053	Chennai Central	Tiruvallur	MEMU	Daily	1-Nov-2017
51.	66012	Tiruvallur	Chennai Central	MEMU	Daily	1-Nov-2017
52.	40901/40902	Chengalpattu	Thirumalpur	EMU	Daily	1-Nov-2017
53.	20601/20602	Chennai Central	Madurai	AC Express	Weekly	3-Nov-2017
54.	13129/13130	Kolkata	Khulna	Bandhan Express	Weekly	9-Nov-2017
55.	51707/51708	Jabalpur	Nainpur	Passenger	Daily	28-Nov-2017
56.	14715/14716	Hisar	Haridwar	Express	Bi-weekly	30-Nov-2017
57.	14717/17418	Bikaner	Haridwar	Express	Weekly	30-Nov-2017
58.	74857/74858	Sikar	Churu	DEMU	Daily	9-Dec-2017
59.	20901/20902	Bandra(T)	Ajmer	Link express	Tri-weekly	20-Dec-2017
60.	74039/74040	Jind	Sonipat	DEMU	Daily	30-Dec-2017
61.	15611/15612	Silchar	Guwahati	Express	Tri-weekly	1-Feb-2018

The details of trains decided for introduction but yet to be introduced are as under:—

Sl. No.	Train no.	From	To	Nature	Frequency
1.	16191/16192	Tambram	Tirunelveli	Antyodaya Express	Daily
2.	16189/16190	Tambram	Sengottai	Antyodaya Express	Daily
3.	16355/16356	Mangaluru Jn.	Kochuveli	Antyodaya Express	Bi-weekly
4.	20971/20972	Jaipur	Udaipur	Antyodaya Express	Daily
5.	14815/14816	Bhagat ki Kothi	Tambram	Humsafar Express	Weekly
6.	19423/19424	Gandhidham	Tirunelveli	Humsafar Express	Weekly
7.	20821/20822	Santragachi	Pune	Humsafar Express	Weekly
8.	22193/22194	Jabalpur	Santragachi	Humsafar Express	Weekly
9.	22437/22438	Allahabad	New Delhi	Humsafar Express	Tri-weekly
10.	19047/19048	Udhna	Secunderabad	Humsafar Express	Weekly
11.	19043/19044	Bandra (T)	Jodhpur	Humsafar Express	Weekly

Redevelopment of railway stations in Jharkhand

146. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eleven railway stations in Jharkhand are under the Stations Redevelopment Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the current status of all the eleven stations in Jharkhand;

(d) whether it is also a fact that at few stations of Jharkhand, the Stations Redevelopment Programme is missing its deadline; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN) (a) and (b) Indian Railways had advertised its plan to offer 'A-1' and 'A' category stations on 'as is where is' basis by inviting open bids from interested parties duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. The following stations have been identified for redevelopment in the State of Jharkhand:

Bokaro Steel City, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Gomoh, Hatia, Jasidih, Koderma, Madhupur, Parasnath, Ranchi and Tatanagar.

(c) In the first phase of redevelopment, bids for Ranchi were invited but no bid was received. At present, Ministry of Railways is formulating revised schemes for station redevelopment on fast track. The redevelopment of above stations in the State of Jharkhand will, therefore, be taken up once the revised strategy for redevelopment of stations is finalized.

(d) and (e) Station redevelopment projects are complex in nature and require detailed techno-economic feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local bodies. Therefore, these are taken up in a phased manner and no deadline has been fixed for this programme.

Redevelopment of Bhubaneswar railway station

147. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Odisha is redeveloping Bhubaneswar railway station at its own cost;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total redevelopment cost thereof if intimated by Odisha Government;

(c) the manner in which Railways are extending help to the State Government;

(d) whether Odisha Government has shown its interest to redevelop some other station(s) in the State and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Railways would take up the work of redevelopment of some other station(s) in the State on fast track basis, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Odisha has informed that they have made budgetary provision of ₹ 60 crores for development of Bhubaneswar railway station as a part of the scheme by Railways to provide more facilities at the station. As informed by them, the Bhubaneswar Development Authority has fixed an agency for the same.

(c) The design and drawing of the new station building at Bhubaneswar will be finalized in consultation with Railways. Railways will provide all necessary assistance during execution of the work.

(d) No, Sir. Government of Odisha has not shown any interest for redevelopment of other stations in the State.

(e) Indian Railways intends to offer important stations for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis by inviting open bids from interested parties duly providing for amenities and other requirements of the Railways. The cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the stations. In addition to Bhubaneswar, the following stations have also been identified for redevelopment in the State of Odisha:

Puri, Bhadrak, Brahampur, Cuttack, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Khurda Road, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Balasore, Jharsuguda and Rourkela.

New railway projects in Odisha

148. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have surveyed/propose to take up survey work for some more new railway projects - new lines, doubling and gauge conversion, falling fully or partly in the State of Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the surveys, if already conducted;

(c) whether Railways have approved the projects surveyed and sanctioned funds for carrying out further works;

(d) if so the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, line-wise; and

(e) the details of new lines, out of above, on which the work has already started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Details of surveys completed, ongoing surveys, funds released, and the projects sanctioned out of these surveys for new lines, doubling and gauge-conversion projects falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha are given below:—

Details of Surveys completed which are falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha during the last 3 years and the current year

Sl. No.	Name of Survey	Year of Completion
1.	3rd & 4th line between Jarapaada-Budhapank with flyover at Talcher (91Km)	2015-16
2.	Koraput-Singapur Rd. (165 Km) doubling	2015-16
3.	Bangriposi-Gorumahishani (42 Km) new line	2014-15

Sl. No.	Name of Survey	Year of Completion
4.	Mahasamund and Bargarh <i>via</i> Tumgaon, Patewa, Pithaura, Saraipaali (180 Km) new line.	2016-17
5.	Jagdampur-Koraput doubling (110 Km)	2015-16
6.	Jashipur-Jajpur Road (152 Km) new line	2016-17
7.	Tilda-Palavi-Balauada Bazar-Kasdol-Sarsiwan-Odisha (Bargarh) (241Km) new line.	2017-18
8.	Bondamunda-Ranchi doubling (158 Km)	2015-16
9.	3rd & 4th line between Budhapank-Salegaon <i>via</i> Rajatgarh (85 Km)	2015-16
10.	Puri-Konark (33 Km) new line	2015-16
11.	Talcher-Phulbani-Lanjigarh (313 Km) new line.	2017-18
12.	Kantabanji-Rajkhariar-Ampani-Navarangpur-Jeypore (230 Km) new line.	2016-17
13.	Ambikapur to Jharsuguda <i>via</i> Batuali Sitapur, Pathalgaon, Korba (212 Km) new line.	2015-16
14.	Talcher and Angul Bye Pass line (14 Km) new line.	2014-15
15.	Paradip Port-Dhamara Port (79 Km) new line.	2017-18
16.	Nirakarpur and Tapanga new bye-pass line (Khurda road bypass line between Argul-Haripurgram PH) (1.6 Km)	2015-16
17.	3rd line in balance section between Bhadrak-Vizianagram (385 Km)	2016-17
18.	Dantewara-Malkangiri (92 Km) new line.	2014-15
19.	Sambalpur-Phulbani-Berhampur (240 Km) New line	2015-16
20.	Kottavalasa-Koraput doubling (189 Km)	2014-15
21.	Jajpur Keonjhar Road- Dhamraport <i>via</i> Jajpur, Aradi (96 Km) new line	2014-15
22.	Titlagarh-Junagarh (56 Km) new line	2017-18
23.	Gunupur-Narsipattanam Road <i>via</i> Kurupam, Parvatipuram, Makkava, Salur, Narsipatnam (256 Km) new line.	2015-16
24.	Rourkela-Jharsuguda (101 km) 3rd line	2015-16

Sl. No.	Name of Survey	Year of Completion
25.	Junagarh-Nabrangpur-Jeypore-Malkangiri-Bhadrachalam (443 Km) new line.	2017-18
26.	Dumetra Link C connection with Bisra Station (2.3 Km)	2017-18

Details of Ongoing Surveys falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha

1.	Bangripasi-Deojhar <i>via</i> Badabpahar, Champua new line (110 Km)	2016-17
2.	Bankili-Singapur Rd new line (24 Km)	2015-16
3.	Bargarh-Nuapada <i>via</i> Padampahar new line (136 Km)	2015-16
4.	Bhawanipatna-Kesinga <i>via</i> Utkela new line (35 Km)	2017-18
5.	Digha-Rupsa <i>via</i> Baliapal new line (58 Km)	2016-17
6.	Flyover at Haridaspur (17 Km)	2015-16
7.	Keonjhar (Kendujhargarh)-Badampahar (80 Km)	2016-17
8.	Padmapur-Ramnaguda new line (16 Km)	2015-16
9.	Rail connectivity to Iron Ore mines between Nayagarh-Banspani new line (50 Km)	2014-15
10.	Roxy siding to Basnpani <i>via</i> Koira and Kiriburu to Barbil (Rokshi-Koira-Banspani-Barbil-Kiriburu) new line (100 Km)	2012-13
11.	Sikarapai-Jagsalpatri-Junagarh new line (110 Km)	2013-14
12.	Survey of line from Raipur-Rajim, Gariyabandh, Mainpur, Devbhog to Odisha.new line (176 Km)	2012-13
13.	3rd line from Jaroli-Kendujhargarh Rd. with provision of block cabin bet. Jaroli and Nayagarh (40 Km)	2013-14
14.	Jharsuguda-Sambalpur 3rd and 4th line (48 Km)	2017-18
15.	Nayagarh-Jakhapura 3rd line (156 Km)	2017-18
16.	Provision of flyover at Jajpur Keonjhar Road from UP direction to join at the bypass line between Sukinda Road and Jajpur Keonjhar Road to avoid surface crossing at Jajpur Keonjhar Road (10 Km)	2017-18
17.	Provision of flyover at Khurda Road for the trains coming from Puri end to connect the DN grid at Khurda Road to avoid surface crossing (12 Km)	2017-18

Sl. No.	Name of Survey	Year of Completion
18.	Provision of flyover at Sarla from Sambalpur city end to connect the DN grid of Sarla to avoid surface crossing (15 Km)	2017-18
19.	Provision of flyover bypassing Cuttack for movement of DN trains from paradeep to Howrah/Talcher direction to avoid surface crossing at Cuttack. (40 Km)	2017-18
20.	Sambalpur-Jarapada 3rd line (132 Km)	2017-18
21.	Tata-Jharsuguda 4th line (265 KM)	2017-18

Out of above Surveys Completed, 10 projects have been sanctioned and the work has already started. In addition, 3 new lines have also been sanctioned/included in Budget. Details of these projects including fund allocated are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Fund Allocated in 2017-18 (₹ in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	3rd and 4th line between Jarapaada-Budhapank with flyover at Talcher (91Km)	138	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work already started.
2.	Koraput-Singapur Rd. (165 Km) doubling	220	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work has already started.
3.	Jagdalpur-Koraput doubling (110 Km)	200	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work has already started.
4.	Bondamunda-Ranchi doubling (158 Km)	160	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work already started.
5.	3rd and 4th line between Budhapank-Salegaon via Rajatgarh (85 Km)	195	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work already started.
6	Nirakarpur and Tapanga new bye-pass line (Khurda road bypass line between Argul-Haripurgram PH) (1.6 Km)	9.45	Project sanctioned in 2015-16. Work already started.

1	2	3	4
7.	3rd line in balance section bet. Bhadrak-Vizianagram (385 Km)	150	Project included in Budget 2015-16 subject to clearance from Government (NITI Aayog, and CCEA)
8.	Kottavalasa-Koraput doubling (189 Km)	250	Project sanctioned in 2015-16 and work already started
9.	Rourkela-Jharsuguda (101 km) 3rd line	150	Project sanctioned in 2015-16 and work already started.
10.	Dumetra Link C connection with Bisra Station (2.3 Km)	1	Project Sanctioned in 2017-18 and the work started.
11.	Jeypore-Navarangpur (38 Km) New line	275	Project sanctioned in 2016-17 and the work started.
12.	Jeypore-Malkangiri (130 Km) new line.	79	Project included in Budget 2016-17 subject to clearance from Government (NITI Aayog and CCEA)
13.	Extension of Naupada-Gunupur line upto Theruvali (79.15 Km)	1	Project included in Budget 2017-18 subject to clearance from Government (NITI Aayog and CCEA)

Renewal of tracks

149. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by the end of this fiscal, an unprecedented 3,500 kilometres of tracks could be renewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that around 4000-4500 kilometres of tracks would be supplied for 17 Zones this year;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the railway officials have been asked to give utmost priority for track renewal work, overruling all other works; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Track renewal is an ongoing process which is undertaken as

and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on age/condition basis. Track Renewal works are planned in advance every year and their execution is prioritized according to the condition of track ensuring all the time that track is in a sound condition for safe running of trains.

For the year 2017-18, a total target of 3600 km of track renewal in CTR units (one km of rail renewal or one km of sleeper renewal is equal to 0.5 CTR units (Complete Track Renewal units)) has been kept which includes Through Rail Renewal with new rails of 4389 km (2194.5 CTR units) of track against the total track renewal progress of 2487 km in CTR units for the year 2016-17.

(c) to (e) Rails planned to supply to Zonal Railways for renewal of rails and track components, including casual renewals in 2017-18 include rails for Through Rail Renewal of 4389 km of track with new rails.

Ministry of Railways has decided in September, 2017 to allot rails on priority for track renewal works *vis-à-vis* construction projects. During September, 2017 to December 2017, about 90% of rails supplied by Steel Authority of India Limited have been allotted for renewal of rails and track components, including casual renewal.

Rail Coach Factory at Kanchrapara, West Bengal

150. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of Central funds from the Ministry of Railways is working as an hindrance for completion of the Rail Coach Factory at Kanchrapara, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two stage bidding process has been initiated for selection of Joint Venture partner for setting up of Rail Coach Factory at Kanchrapara, West Bengal. Bidders have been shortlisted for participation in the financial bid stage. Bid Due Date is 18.04.2018.

Introduction of ticket reservation system in Post Offices of Tuticorin

151. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has introduced ticket reservation system in any of the post offices located in the Tuticorin district in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Tuticorin Head Post Office is located at a distance of 1.5 KM from Tuticorin Railway Station. The Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counter is available at Tuticorin Railway Station which is sufficient to meet the needs of passengers in the area.

Online booking of reserved tickets on www.irc.co.in has become very popular and about 65% of total reserved tickets are now booked online.

Robbs in Karnataka

152. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the under construction/pending Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in Karnataka;
- (b) whether implementation of these projects is being carried out as per schedule;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for delay, project-wise;
- (d) the number of sanctioned and operational ROBs/RUBs in Karnataka and the present status thereof; and
- (e) by when the above said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There are 63 Road Over Bridges (ROBs) sanctioned in the State of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Railways has taken pro-active measures in close coordination with various stakeholders to improve the progress of construction of ROBs/RUBs/Subways in replacement of busy level crossings which are as under:

- joint survey with all concerned including State Government to finalize the tentative General Arrangement Drawing (GAD).

- standardization of drawings for various spans to avoid delay in designing.
- nomination of nodal officer for each State for single window clearance of GAD from Railway side.
- use of pre-cast/pre-fabricated components of the bridge.
- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to eliminate all level crossings on National Highway Corridors by MoRTH by construction of ROB/RUBs at their own cost.

(d) The number of sanctioned and operational ROB/RUB/Subways in Karnataka and their present status is as under:

ROBs		RUBs	
Sanctioned	Operational	Sanctioned	Operational
63	164	100	498

As per Pink Book 2017-18, work for construction of 163 Road Over Bridges (ROBs)/Road Under Bridges/Subways have been sanctioned in the State of Karnataka. Out of these, 18 ROB and 42 RUB/Subways have been completed and commissioned.

(e) As regards status of these works, Railways undertakes construction of ROB in Railway Bridge portion whereas approaches are being constructed by State Government. Completion of ROB depends on various factors like removal of encroachment, land acquisition, availability of funds and other regional priorities. Apart from this, major portion of fund for Road Safety Works (ROBs/RUBs/Subways/Level Crossings) come from Central Road Funds (CRF) as a percentage of cess collected on Diesel and Petrol by Ministry of Finance. The progress of works is commensurate with the availability of funds. Railways shall make every effort to complete its portion of work alongwith that of approaches by State Government.

Issuance of passenger reservation tickets through post offices

153. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had started issuing passenger reservation tickets through post offices across the country under PRS of Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details of the post offices in which passenger reservation tickets are being issued as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal is pending with Government to bring more post offices under PRS of Indian Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Indian Railways has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Posts for setting up of Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters at Post Offices. PRS counters at Post offices are opened based on technical and commercial feasibility where there are no Railway Reservation Counters in nearby areas. At present, PRS counters have been provided in about 280 post offices across the country. The State wise number of the Post Offices in which Passenger Reservation System counters are available is given in Statement (*See below*).

Online booking of reserved tickets on www.ircrc.co.in has become very popular and about 65% of total reserved tickets are now booked online. The provision of PRS at post offices is a continuous activity based on the requirement and feasibility.

Statement

State-wise PRS commissioned at post offices as per data warehouse

Sl. No.	States	No.	Sl. No.	States	No.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	24	17.	Manipur	02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	03	18.	Meghalaya	02
3.	Assam	10	19.	Mizoram	01
4.	Bihar	07	20.	Nagaland	00
5.	Chhatisgarh	07	21.	Odisha	11
6.	Delhi	03	22.	Puducherry	00
7.	Goa	01	23.	Punjab	12
8.	Gujarat	18	24.	Rajasthan	7
9.	Haryana	03	25.	Sikkim	00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	00	26.	Tamil Nadu	15
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	02	27.	Telangana	24
12.	Jharkhand	09	28.	Tripura	00
13.	Karnataka	44	29.	Uttar Pradesh	23
14.	Kerala	04	30.	Uttarakhand	08
15.	Madhya Pradesh	06	31.	West Bengal	03
16.	Maharashtra	36			

Consideration of Delhi-Howrah route for operation of Bullet trains

154. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi-Howrah passenger route is the busiest sector for Railways;
- (b) in the context of Bullet trains, the routes being envisaged;
- (c) whether Delhi-Howrah sector is under consideration for operation of Bullet trains; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Six Corridors on the Diamond Quadrilateral including diagonals connecting metropolitan cities and growth centres of the country have been identified for feasibility study for High Speed Rail. In addition to the sanctioned Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project, feasibility studies have been initiated for Delhi-Mumbai, Mumbai-Chennai, Delhi-Kolkata, Delhi-Nagpur part of Delhi-Chennai, Mumbai-Nagpur part of Mumbai-Kolkata and Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysore.

Inconvenience to passengers on cancellation of trains due to fog

155. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that quite a large number of trains were cancelled due to fog during this winter;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of passengers were stranded at the railway stations without food and drinking water and were made to face the chilly weather in the open;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government proposes to have policy guidelines to provide relief to the rail passengers in such eventualities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. A total of 24 pairs of Mail/Express trains

have been cancelled during the period from 01.12.2017 to 13.02.2018 during the current winter season as against 28 pairs of Mail/Express trains cancelled during the previous winter season. In addition to the above, 3 pairs of Mail/Express trains have been cancelled partially and frequency of 29 pairs of Mail/Express trains have been reduced. Besides the above planned cancellation, on an average 6 Mail/Express trains are also being cancelled daily due to their corresponding services being abnormally late on account of dense fog.

(b) Details of Mail/Express trains cancelled/partially cancelled and whose frequency have been reduced during the current winter period are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir. Catering services and packaged drinking water are available at static catering units at all stations over Indian Railways. Apart from that, 1527 Water Vending Machines (WVMs) are already installed at important stations. These WVMs provide water to passengers at a much lesser price as compared to packaged drinking water.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Instructions already exist with Zonal Railways/IRCTC that in circumstances, where due to late running/rescheduling of trains the entire service of meal *i.e.* lunch/dinner/breakfast is being skipped completely or partially, arrangements have to be put in place to ensure that catering services are staggered such that full complement of meal/menu is provided as per the notified services for premium trains (Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Duronto trains) in accordance with catering charges included in the ticket fare. Apart from this, late running services as notified by Railway Board are also complied with. Further, in order to ensure adequate catering services on Mail/Express trains, instructions have already been issued to monitor the catering arrangements being provided from static catering units at the stations enroute. Adequate availability of PAD items like Biscuits, Juices, Milk etc. along with adequate quantities of 'Jan Ahaar' items and 'Janta meals' should be available at all times at static catering units. Stations based e-catering facilities are also available at 286 A1 and A category stations of Indian Railways.

Statement

Details of Mail/Express trains cancelled/partially cancelled and whose frequency have been reduced during the current winter period

Cancellation of trains during foggy weather 2017-2018 (01.12.17 to 13.02.18)

Sl.No.	Train No.	Train name	From Station	To Station	Freq.
1.	12179	Intercity	Lucknow Jn	Agra Cantt	Daily
	12180		Agra cantt.	Lucknow Jn	Daily
2.	13257	Jan Sadharan	Danapur	Anand Vihar	Daily
	13258		Anand Vihar	Danapur	Daily
3.	14005	Lichchivi	Sitamarhi	Anand Vihar Terminus	Daily
	14006		Anand Vihar Terminus	Sitamarhi	Daily
4.	14211	Intercity	Agra cantt.	New Delhi	Daily
	14212		New Delhi	Agra Cantt	Daily
5.	14217	Unchahar	Prayag	Chandigarh	Daily
	14218		Chandigarh	Prayag	Daily
6.	14221	Express	Faizabad	Kanpur Anwarganj	Daily
	14222		Kanpur Anwarganj	Faizabad	Daily
7.	14235	Express	Varanasi	Bareilly	Daily
	14236		Bareilly	Varanasi	Daily
8.	14265	Express	Varanasi	Dehradoon	Daily
	14266		Dehradoon	Varanasi	Daily
9.	14307	Express	Prayag	Bareilly	Daily
	14308		Bareilly	Prayag	Daily
10.	14525	Intercity	Ambala	Sri Ganganagar	Daily
	14526		Sri Ganganagar	Ambala	Daily
11.	15209	Jansewa	Shaharsa	Amritsar	Daily
	15210		Amritsar	Shaharsa	Daily
12.	15275	Express	Saharsa	Barauni	Daily
	15276		Barauni	Saharsa	Daily
13.	15483	Sikkim	Alipurduar	Delhi	Daily
	15484	Mahananda	Delhi	Alipurduar	Daily

Sl.No.	Train No.	Train name	From Station	To Station	Freq.
14.	19717	Intercity	Jaipur	Chandigarh	Daily
	19718		Chandigarh	Jaipur	Daily
15.	11901	Express	Mathura	Kurukshetra	Five days
	11902		Kurukshetra	Mathura	Five days
16.	14673	Shaheed	Jaynagar	Amritsar	Four days
	14674		Amritsar	Jaynagar	Four days
17.	12873	Jharkhand	Hatia	Anand Vihar	Tri weekly
	12874	Swarna Jayanti	Anand Vihar	Hatia	Tri weekly
18.	12583	AC Double	Lucknow Jn	Anandvihar	Bi weekly
	12584	Decker	Anandvihar	Lucknow Jn	Bi weekly
19.	13119	Express	Sealdah	Anand Vihar	Bi weekly
	13120		Anand Vihar	Sealdah	Bi weekly
20.	14003	Express	New Delhi	Malda Town	Bi weekly
	14004		Malda Town	New Delhi	Bi weekly
21.	14309	Ujjaini	Ujjain	Dehradoon	Bi weekly
	14310		Dehradoon	Ujjain	Bi weekly
22.	14007	Sadbhawna	Raxaul	Anand Vihar	Bi weekly
	14008		Anand Vihar	Raxaul	Bi weekly
23.	14015	Sadbhawna	Raxaul	Anand Vihar	Bi weekly
	14016		Anand Vihar	Raxaul	Bi weekly
24.	14017	Sadbhawna	Raxaul	Anand Vihar	Weekly
	14018		Anand Vihar	Raxaul	Weekly

Partial cancellation of trains during foggy weather 2017-2018 (01.12.17 to 13.02.18)

Sl. No.	Train no	Train name	From Station	To Station	Freq.	Partial Cancellation between
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	12403	Express	Allahabad	Jaipur	Daily	Mathura-Jaipur-Mathura
	12404		Jaipur	Allahabad		
2.	13007	Udyan Abha	Howrah	Sri Ganganagar	Daily	Howrah-Agra Cantt.-Howrah
	13008	Toofan	Sri Ganganagar	Howrah		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	12369 12370	Kumbha Express	Howrah Haridwar	Haridwar Howrah	Five days	Lucknow- Haridwar- Lucknow

Reduction in frequency of trains during foggy weather 2017-2018 (01.12.17 to 13.02.18)

Sl. No.	Train no	Train name	From Station	To Station	Freq.	Cancelled on day
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	12023	Jan Shatabdi	Howrah	Patna	Six days	Thursday
	12024		Patna	Howrah		Thursday
2.	12365	Jan Shatabdi	Patna	Ranchi	Daily	Friday
	12366		Ranchi	Patna		Friday
3.	12393	Sampoorna Kranti	Rajendra Nagar	New Delhi	Daily	Wednesday
	12394		New Delhi	Rajendra Nagar		Thursday
4.	12397	Mahaboodhi	Gaya	New Delhi	Daily	Monday
	12398		New Delhi	Gaya		Tuesday
5.	12561	Swatantrta Senani	Jaynagar	New Delhi	Daily	Thursday
	12562		New Delhi	Jaynagar		Friday
6.	15203	Express	Barauni	Lucknow	Daily	Tuesday
	15204		Lucknow	Barauni		Friday
7.	15211	Jan Nayak	Darbanga	Amritsar	Daily	Wednesday
	15212		Amritsar	Darbanga		Friday
8.	13345 23347	Intercity/ Link	Varanasi Chopan	Singrauli Shaktinagar	Daily	Tuesday
9.	13346 23346		Singrauli Shaktinagar	Varanasi Chopan	Daily	Tuesday Tuesday
10.	13133 13134	Express	Sealdah Varanasi	Varanasi Sealdah	Five days	Tuesday Friday
11.	12192 12191	Sridham	Jabalpur New Delhi	New Delhi Jabalpur	Daily	Wednesday Thursday
12.	22405	Garibrath	Bhagalpur	Anand Vihar	Tri Weekly	Thursday

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	22406		Anand Vihar	Bhagalpur		Wednesday
13.	13239	Express	Patna	Kota	4 days a week	Friday
	13240		Kota	Patna		Saturday
14.	12225	Kaifiyat	Azamgarh	Delhi	Daily	Thursday
	12226		Delhi	Azamgarh		Wednesday
15.	12279	Taj	Jhansi	Nizamuddin	Daily	Wednesday
	12280		Nizamuddin	Jhansi		Wednesday
16.	13413	Farrakka	Malda Town	Delhi	Tri weekly	Monday
	13414		Delhi	Malda Town		Wednesday
17.	13483		Malda Town	Delhi	Four Days	Friday
	13484		Delhi	Malda Town		Sunday
18.	12331	Himgiri	Howrah	Jammutawi	Tri weekly	Tuesday
	12332		Jammutawi	Howrah		Thursday
19.	12333	Vibhuti	Howrah	Allahabad City	Daily	Tuesday
	12334		Allahabad City	Howrah		Wednesday
20.	13005	Amritsar Mail	Howrah	Amritsar	Daily	Monday
	13006		Amritsar	Howrah		Wednesday
21.	13021	Mithila	Howrah	Raxaul	Daily	Wednesday
	13022		Raxaul	Howrah		Thursday
22.	14257	Kashi Vishwananth Express	Varanasi	New Delhi	Daily	Tuesday
	14258		New Delhi	Varanasi		Wednesday
23.	14625	Intercity	Delhi Sarai Rohilla	Firozpur	Daily	Tuesday
	14626		Firozpur	Delhi Sarai Rohilla		Wednesday
24.	13151	Express	Kolkatta	Jammutawi	Daily	Wednesday
	13152		Jammutawi	Kolkatta		Friday

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	13049	Amritsar	Howrah	Amritsar	Daily	Tuesday
	13050	Express	Amritsar	Howrah		Thursday
26.	15011	Express	Lucknow Jn	Chandigarh	Daily	Wednesday
	15012		Chandigarh	Lucknow Jn		Thursday
27.	14649	Saryu	Jaynagar	Amritsar	Tri-weekly	Friday
	14650	Yamuna	Amritsar	Jaynagar		Wednesday
28.	14523	Harihar	Barauni Jn	Ambala	Bi weekly	Thursday
	14524	Express	Ambala	Barauni Jn		Tuesday
29.	11123	Mail	Barauni	Gwalior	Daily	Tuesday, Friday
	11124		Gwalior	Barauni		Monday, Thursday

Imphal on railway map of the country

156. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project for including Imphal on railway map of the country has missed many deadlines and commitment of Central Government has remained unfulfilled;

(b) if so, the details of missing deadlines from first inception of the project;

(c) whether impediments such as land acquisition, forestry and wildlife clearances, shifting of services, construction of Road Over and Road Under Bridges, law and order, etc., have remained as major obstacles in the project;

(d) the efforts of Central Government to overcome them; and

(e) whether Government is now unable to give any time-frame for completion of the project, if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Jiribam-Imphal new line project (111 km) has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 6571 crore to bring Imphal, the capital of Manipur, on railway map. An expenditure of ₹ 5278 crore has been incurred upto March, 2017 and an outlay of ₹ 1400 crore has been provided for 2017-18 for this project. Jiribam-Vangaichungpao (12.5 km) section has been commissioned in March, 2017. Earth work, bridges work and tunnel work have been taken up in Vangaichungpao-Tupul-Imphal section. The project is delayed mainly due to law and order security related problems in the project area. Further, economic blockade during 2016-17 drastically had affected the progress of the work.

State Government has been requested to augment the number of security personnel deployed in the project area. Railway is also contemplating to ask Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for deployment of Territorial Army (TA) resources also for improved security at the project sites.

Due to reasons stated above, no timeline can be fixed for completion of Jiribam-Imphal new line project.

Trebling of freight-moving ability of Railways

157. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are aiming towards trebling its freight-moving ability to carry three billion tonnes of materials by 2030 in sync with an expected swelling of the Indian economy to touch the US \$ 10 trillion mark;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are also aiming to claim 50 per cent of market share of country's freight movement;

(c) whether over the years, its share of total freight movement has been near 35 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways aims at improving its freight moving ability considerably to meet the future market demands. The aim laid out for Railways in the National Transport Development Policy Committee (NTDPC) report is to attain a 50% market share by the year 2032

(c) and (d) The National Transport Development Policy Committee set up in the year 2010 had estimated the rail share of freight traffic at about 33% during 2013-14.

Vacant railway land

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

(a) the total vacant land belonging to Railways estimated in the country;

(b) whether Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) has been mandated to identify vacant railway land or plots for leasing out for commercial exploitation;

(c) if so, the details of vacant land/plots identified so far and the revenue expected to be generated;

(d) the hurdles being faced in commercial exploitation of vacant railway land in various railway zones; and

(e) the steps taken to resolve the issues with State Governments/other agencies, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) The vacant land available with the Railways is about 0.51 lakh hectare. This vacant land is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks and required for servicing and maintenance of track, bridges and other infrastructure. The vacant railway land is also utilized for execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways which include projects like doubling/tripling, yard remodelling, Rail Coach and Component factories, etc. The vacant land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational need, is utilised in the interim period for commercial development through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), wherever feasible, in order to mobilise additional financial resources. Presently, the following 54 sites measuring 189 hectare (approx.) having revenue potential of about ₹ 14,000 crore, where commercial development seems feasible have been entrusted to RLDA which were identified by Railway/RLDA.

Zonal Railway	Station (Division)	Site particulars	Area (Ha)
1	2	3	4
Central	Mumbai	Lokmanya Tilak Terminus	10.40
	Mumbai	Lokgram, Kalyan	3.65
	Mumbai	Kurla (West)	0.13
East Central	Gaya (Mughal Sarai)	Gautum Budh Institute	0.57
	Raxaul (Samastipur)	On station approach Road	1.20
East Coast	Visakhapatnam (Waltair)	Daba Gardens (Ambedkar circle)	0.20
Northern	Delhi (Delhi)	Old steam loco shed Sarai Rohilla	15.50
	Lucknow (Lucknow)	Lucknow Ind. Area siding, Aish Bagh,	3.54
	Lucknow	Plot of land behind Alam Bagh-Diesel Shed, Lucknow	0.44
	New Delhi (Delhi)	Ashok Vihar	13.26

1	2	3	4
	Amritsar (FZR)	Near Railway Colony No. 2 on Main GT Road	0.25
	Katra (Firozpur)	Katra	4.28
	Shimla (Ambala)	Railway Godown below Winter Field	0.35
North Central	Gwalior (Jhansi)	Kampoo Kothi	0.60
	Kanpur (Allahabad)	Nirala Nagar	26.50
	Jhansi	Jhansi East	0.67
	Jhansi	Jhansi West	2.16
	Etawah	Etawah	0.30
North Eastern	Shahamatganj (Izzatnagar)	Shahamatganj	14.68
	Gwaltoli/Kanpur (Izzatnagar)	Gwaltoli, Kanpur	1.52
Northeast Frontier	Siliguri (Katihar)	Burdwan Road	1.20
North Western	Ajmer	Johns Ganj	0.86
	Ajmer	Hazari Bagh Colony	3.63
	Bikaner	Railway Colony, Lalgarth	20.83
	Jaipur	Loco Area	2.17
Southern	Chennai (Chennai)	Kakkapalam, Padi, 5 kms from ICF	2.10
	Salem (Salem)	2 plots at Salem market station	1.05
	Nagapatinam (Tiruchirapalli)	1 plot at station	0.40
	Villipuram (Tiruchirapalli)	3 plots at station	0.71
Southern	Palanthruthy (Trivandrum)	Palanthruthy (Island)	1.70
	Chetpet (Chennai)	Chetpet	0.76
	Chennai (Chennai)	Victoria Crecent adjacent to Ethiraj College	0.43
	Chennai (Chennai)	Poes Garden	0.53

2	3	4	5
	Chennai Egmore (Chennai)	Poonamallee High Road	2.00
	Park Station (Chennai)	Park Station	0.33
	Perambur (Chennai)	Perambur Pananthope Colony	2.00
	Ayanavaram (Chennai)	Ayanavaram Colony	3.50
	Tambaram (Chennai)	Tambaram	1.65
	Tiruvottiyur (Chennai)	Tiruvottiyur	19.43
	Waltax Road (Chennai)	Waltax Road near Basin Bridge	0.12
	Pulianthope (Chennai)	Pulianthope	0.74
South Central	Hyderabad	Nizamabad Railway Station	0.24
	Secunderabad (Hyderabad)	Near Moulali flyover	8.90
	Poornandampet (Vijaywada)	Near Rly Hospital	0.15
	Aurangabad (Nanded)	Part of old ITDC Hotel	3.90
	Guntakal (Guntakal)	In Rly Colony	0.48
South Western	Bangalore city (Bangalore)	On platform road	1.01
Western	Mumbai	Scrap Yard at Mahalaxmi	0.95
	Mumbai (Mumbai)	Bandra (East)	4.50
	Mumbai	Bandra (East)	0.153
	Mumbai	Khar Colony	0.33
	Mumbai	Bandra (West)	1.03
West Central Railway	Sawai Madhopur	Near GRP Thana in the circulating area	0.40
	Kota Jn.	Near existing PF No.1 - cycle stand	0.21
TOTAL			188.570

The slump/lack of demand in real estate for the last few years, availability of free-hold land in vicinity resulting in low interest in lease hold land and too much time taken by local authorities for change of land use and approval of plans are some of the hurdles being faced in commercial exploitation. To resolve these issues, Railways has increased the lease period up to 99 years, concentrating more on metropolitan cities having more demand of real estate and RLDA has set up some field offices outside Delhi so that issue of change in land use/approval of plans may be chased with Urban Local Bodies/State Governments on regular basis.

Stress and fatigue among railway employees

159. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 2 lakh posts in the Railways have been lying vacant and as a result thereof, work stress and fatigue among railway employees are taking its toll on the passenger safety; and

(b) if so, the details of the vacancies in each grade, since when these posts could not be filled up along with the reasons therefor and by when these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Over Zonal Railways, total number of vacancies of non-gazetted employees is 2,20,137 as on 01.04.2017.

Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process through various modes of intake. The policy of the Government is to fill up the vacancies as per operational requirement. The vacant posts in Zonal Railways are to be filled up as per laid down procedure through Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs). There is always a time lag between occurrence of vacancies and processing the same for filling up, which involves notification of vacancies, holding examinations, finalizing of select panels and issue of appointment letters.

From April, 2014 to March, 2017, 1,48,489 candidates have been recruited mainly through Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs) in Group 'C'/'D'.

For filling up of vacancies in Group 'C' category, there are two fresh notifications for safety-categories in Group 'C' posts viz Assistant Loco Pilots and Technicians and Senior Section Engineers and Junior Engineers respectively, scheduled in 2017-18. About 63000 vacancies in Level-I are also planned to be filled in the near future.

Renewal of railway tracks in telangana

160. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are taking up the process of track renewals in the States to reduce derailments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the tracks that have been selected for renewal in the State of Telangana;
- (d) the quantum of funds allocated and released so far; and
- (e) the targets fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Railway tracks are replaced through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Track renewal works are undertaken as and when stretch of track becomes due for renewal on age/condition basis. Track Renewal works are planned in advance every year and their execution is prioritized according to the condition of track. If any stretch of track is not renewed in time due to various reasons, suitable speed restrictions, if required, are imposed to ensure safe running of trains. For the year 2017-18, a target of 3600 km in Complete Track Renewal (CTR) units has been kept for track renewal on Indian Railways.

Details of track renewals are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise. The target fixed, actual track renewal, funds allocated and expenditure incurred for track renewal for the year 2017-18 for South Central Railway in which the State of Telangana falls are as under:—

Zonal Railway	Target (in km of CTR units)	Actual Renewal (in km of CTR units) (upto December, 2017)	Funds allocated (Revised Estimates) (₹ in crore)	Expenditure incurred (₹ in crore) (upto December, 2017)
South Central	147	128	604.66	392.97

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-one minutes past two of the clock,
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

**REGARDING USE OF AN UNPARLIAMENTARY
WORD BY A MEMBER**

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your problem? Always, you have some problem or the other.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I had raised this issue in the morning. You had remarked about a senior colleague of ours and you had used the word*. It is unparliamentary.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said that if I had said anything unparliamentary, it should be expunged. I have already said that.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Have you expunged that?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Once the Chair says something, why do you ask about it again? You should know that if the Chair says something, it is done; not like you.

Now, the Private Members' Legislative Business; Bills for introduction.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

The Compulsory Protection of Witnesses and Victims of Crimes Bill, 2017

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory protection of witnesses and victims of crimes by the State who are intimidated, harassed, physically attacked by various means or of their family members or their near and dear ones by the accused of crimes or by their accomplices or friends or relatives or co-accused or sympathizers committed either directly against the victims or against their family members or their near and dear ones and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

The Heritage Cities and Sites (Conservation and Development) Bill, 2017

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the conservation and development of heritage cities and sites by way of retaining their historical identification and promoting international and domestic tourism and publishing their historical importance through booklets, pamphlets and such other material and for declaring heritage cities as smart cities for overall development and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Environment Protection (Management of Landfill Sites and Control of Non-Biodegradable Garbage) Bill, 2017

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the formulation of a national policy to set up engineered landfill sites at conspicuous places away from human settlements, for their scientific management and for preparing a model solid waste management policy to prevent throwing or depositing nonbiodegradable garbage or waste at public places such as roads, parks, public drains or places open to public view so as to protect the environment and ultimately mother earth from being polluted by such garbage or waste responsible for the climate change and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vivek Gupta; not present. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; not present. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

**The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2018
(Insertion of new articles 330A, 332A, etc.)**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I move the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (Amendment of Articles 15 and 16)

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I move the Bill.

**REGARDING PART OF ORDER ON GOVERNMENT
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I have a question. Sir, today is Friday, and, by tradition and convention and common consensus, no Government legislative Business is taken up on Friday. But, today, we find that a very important Bill on which everybody has a view, which had gone to the Select Committee, has been scheduled for passage. Sir, I want your understanding, are we going to take this Bill today or not?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you saying that all the Bills listed *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: It is listed here, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am asking you one question. Are you saying that all the Bills listed in the List of Business should be taken up?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: All I am saying is that, except on one occasion when * on a Friday evening, on Fridays, the Government legislative Business is never taken up. This goes against the convention of the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are unnecessarily raising this issue. Number one, you cannot say, *. That is an insult to the Parliament because the * *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: But they * it in. *...(Interruptions)...*

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

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, it was the Enemy Property Bill. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot say that. Even though * is not unparliamentary, but this whole sentence is an insult to Parliament, I remove it. *...(Interruptions)...* * when the Government is bringing the Bill to the Parliament? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: They brought the Bill unexpectedly. *...(Interruptions)...* They got it in unexpectedly.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay. 'Unexpectedly' is okay. But since you referred to that, let me clarify that. Yes, that Bill was brought unexpectedly because you were not expecting it. That is all. 'Unexpectedly' means that you were not expecting it. ...(Interruptions)... Let me complete. Let me complete.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Except the Treasury Benches, nobody was expecting it. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: However, the sense of the House was taken at that time and the Chair found that the majority was for the Bill and, that is why, that Bill was taken up at that time. Therefore, this issue is unnecessary. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Sir, that can be done today also. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: With regard to this, I want to say that yes, there is a Government Bill listed to be taken up after 5.00 p.m. but I can assure you that it will not be taken up. What more do you want? ...(Interruptions)... That is over.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मुझे सिर्फ यह कहना है कि ...(व्यवधान)... देश से बड़ा कुछ नहीं होता ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I have a question. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(Interruptions)... This is Private Members' Business. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. Subramanian Swamy to move the Bill. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Raja, please.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, on the next Bill, The Cow Protection Bill, 2017, I have a question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it on this subject?

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, with regard to this Bill, the List of Business says, "Subject to receiving of the President's recommendation under article 117(3) of the Constitution".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your question is relevant. I will explain it. ...(Interruptions)... You are right in putting that question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me first deal with this issue. On the Bill to be moved by Dr. Subramanian Swamy, there is an asterisk, which mentions about receiving of the President's recommendation. I would like to know from the Secretary-General whether the recommendation has been received or not.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I wish to inform the House that the President's recommendation for consideration of the Cow Protection Bill, 2017 by Dr. Subramanian Swamy, Member of the Rajya Sabha, as required under Article 117(3) of the Constitution has been received.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is received. So, that problem is over.

SHRI D. RAJA: That should have been informed to us.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, ये खबरें आ रही हैं कि भारत के भू-भाग डोकलाम पर चीनी सेनाओं का जमाव बढ़ रहा है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You cannot raise that during Private Members' Legislative Business. You give notice for that. Dr. Subramanian Swamy.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: इस संबंध में सरकार स्पष्टीकरण दे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a notice for that. Sit down. Sit down. Give a notice for that. Dr. Subramanian Swamy.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS — *Contd.*

The Cow Protection Bill, 2017

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Sir, I move:

That the Bill to create an Authority to ensure stabilization of population of cows (*Bos Indicus*) and to suggest such measures to comply with articles 37 and 48 of the Constitution, to ban the slaughter of cows and to provide for deterrent punishment including death penalty for slaughter of cows and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I rise to place before this House a Bill for consideration and passing which has constitutional sanction. In fact, in the Concurrent List in the Constitution, it is listed at Sl. Nos.17 and 17B. It empowers the Central Government to bring legislation to give effect to Article 48 of the Constitution. Mr. Deputy Chairman, if you permit me, I would like to read it because it is so explicit. It is in the Directive Principles. It says the following:—

“Organisation of agriculture and animal husbandry – The State shall endeavour to organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds, and prohibiting the slaughter, of cows and calves and other milch and draught cattle.”

In other words, prohibition of slaughter of cows is there in the Directive Principles. You read this with Article 37 of the Constitution which comes under Part IV. It says the following:—

“Application of the principles contained in this Part – The provisions contained in this Part shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws.”

So, it is a direction. As an individual, I cannot go to court and say that my fundamental right is affected because you are allowing slaughter of cows. But as the Government, you are directed to bring in laws in conformity with this Article of the Constitution.

There are two judgements of the Supreme Court which clearly say that Directive Principles have been regarded as the soul of the Constitution as India is a welfare State. They provide for guidance to interpretation of fundamental rights of citizens as also statutory rights. This is AIR2015 SC 839. There is another judgement which says Directive Principles of the State Policy laid down fundamental principles for governance of the country. Our Government has been constantly talking about governance. Through these principles, the State is directed to secure the control of material resources. In other words, it is not that Directive Principles are some utopian ideas put in the Constitution. This is a wrong notion that has been spread for such a long time. It is a mandate and a direction to the Government to enact laws in keeping with these principles. This is the obligation which the Government ought to discharge. Since there has been a delay, I thought I would help the Government by bringing in a Private Member Bill. I am thankful to this House for allowing me to move this Bill. I also like to say that this matter was debated in great detail and at length in the Constituent Assembly. There were pros and cons, but it is very significant that the prominent Muslim members like Mr. Lari said that they had no objection to a ban on cow slaughter. But the Hindus should make their mind clear because they talk in two different voices. So, let us have a clear statement on what you want.” And then Ambedkar was asked to draft the compromise bill and he then moved the amendment. That amendment was adopted on the very last day of the Constituent Assembly meeting, which is 24th of November, 1949. Cow eating was not prevalent during the Mughal period. In fact, the last empire that we created was in 1857 when Bahadur Shah declared that. The first thing that he declared was a ban on cow slaughter. There is anecdotal information that Babar had told his son Humayun, “One thing is, don’t disturb the people and don’t allow slaughter of cows. It has got sentimental issue which you have got to keep in mind.” It is the British who made this cow-cutting as a part of our regular fashionable cuisine and that is

[Dr. Subramanian Swamy]

how it became prevalent in our country. Now, therefore, I would say why I am particularly keen is not the religious angle alone – that is part of it – but the fact is now modern science has shown that cow has multiple uses. And which cow? It is *Bos Indicus* as the breed name is given. That is the Indian cow. In America, they call it a Brahmin cow which I object to. I am sure Mr. Jairam Ramesh also must feel it because he does not identify with cows. To have Brahmin cow, he may not like it at all. But, the fact is, patents have been given to cow urine because the urea that is produced is used in medicines, modern allopathic medicines. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have got the patent certificate with me. I am not illiterate like you people. I am part of the BJP. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): You can place it on the Table of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I can if you want, but I am not quoting from it. I am only giving information that the US has given patents for urine to be used in medicine. In the rural areas, now, some new institutions have come up in Nagpur and Bhopal. Our friend sitting here was chairman of one such commission which the State Government had appointed. I am sure when he speaks, he will give you much more details. The cow-dung has been converted into bricks for building solid houses. Therefore, those, who are westernised types and who had been stooges of the British, may snigger when I mention cow's urine and cow-dung but the fact is that the cow milk today is being sold in American supermarkets, which I have seen with my own eyes, at four times the price of the American jersey cow milk. Why? It is because it is called A2 milk and they say that the medicinal quality of this is far superior. Therefore, they have separate cartons where they keep milk products. There, the milk from Indian cow is kept in a carton and it is sold at four times the price. Hence, I am saying, why we should wait for modern science to tell us all this. Our ancient *Rishis* and *Munis* have told us this. The reason that we have also raised the cow to the level of spiritual being is because that is the best way to protect it. I was recently in China. I was surprised to find that they don't have any cows. So, I asked them as to what they do for milk. They said that they use soyabeans for milk. They crush it and get milk out of it. I asked: What happened to their cows? They said that in every famine, cows were the first thing to be eaten and then they said, "You were lucky because you raised it as a religious symbol and, therefore, you have so many cows. If China also had adopted that, we would not have this problem." Therefore, this veneration of cow is because of its justifiable qualities, special qualities. At the same time, it also ensures that we now have 150 million cows which have to be nourished and made into healthy animals and need

to be looked after. Now, I would like to say that there is a general problem why I had to bring this Bill. I think, not only looking after cows, growing them into full adults, then produce milk from them and use the urine samples for medicines – you can, at least, export it if you are not in a position to do it – which are some of the things at one stage but what happens to cow once it ceases to give milk? That is a big problem today in the rural areas. I would say that we should set up gaushalas in practically every village. To meet the expenditure for that - our Government is putting cess on so many things - they can put one more cess for gaushalas but make it optional that only those who want to give should pay this cess. From this cess, this whole country will be unitedly giving you much more than you will get for anything else. That is the sentiment today. That is the sentiment across the country. This is what we want. This is part of our manifesto in the BJP. Therefore, this is something which has very wide support in the country.

Towards the end, I would also like to say that because cow meat has such high export values, we have to have an extraordinarily harsh, deterrent and pungent punishment. That punishment could be considered only deterrent if we make it that capital punishment should be given in extreme cases of people slaughtering cows.

So, this is the structure of the Bill. After hearing everybody, you would give me an opportunity to reply. At that time, I will cover the other grounds which I have not covered just now.

The question was proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you. Now, Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Respected Deputy Chairman Sir, we have travelled from the ancient times of Kamadhenu to the political animal that is called cow. Just on January 30th, we observed the 70th Death Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi who taught to pray cow and to allow the freedom of choice of rearing, breeding and its on-going process. The present day agenda of the Ruling Party and the diversionary tactics of the parallel organisations of the Ruling Party are having a terrifying impact all across the country. In this backlog, I appreciate Dr. Subramanian Swamy for bringing in this private Bill for focusing the topicality of the cow protection. His intention is just for a national authority to protect cow. For that, though he is 'Nominated' in nature but a very important Member of the Ruling Party, he could have impressed upon the Union Government to come with the requisite legal legislative remedies to ensure the authority and to take all the States on board, at least, those belonging to the Ruling Party to adhere to it so that a congenial and harmonious environment could be evolved within the society. I

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

3.00 P.M.

am mostly bothered about the problems of the farmers those who are rearing cows individually.

I am a regular visitor to *gaushalas*. During my childhood, in my family, we used to worship cows as *Kamadhenu*. With that reverence, we have our own attachment with the heritage and spiritual value besides the nutritional value of cow milk and cow by-products. But, what is happening to the small farmers those who are having the cows with them? Wherever you could find the big farmers; wherever you could see the dairy promotion, you will find sucking blood like milk extraction missions which are giving total ill-health to the cow population. Have you ever bothered about the health of the cow that is giving milk? It has become just an agenda to divert the real issue of cow health. The farmers have cows in herds and they will try to rear Oxen. After threefour cycles, their breeding capacity is exhausted and the farmers are left with nowhere to go. It is something Nilgai like situation in Bundelkhand. They are not able to feed them. Yes, the Indian Constitution has ensured through Articles 38 and 47 for the protection and promotion of cow and animal husbandry but have we ever ensured the non-milching cows to be taken care of? The Member who has moved the present Bill, private in nature, was the Commerce Minister besides holding several portfolios. His present day Union Ministry of Commerce is having a separate Committee to promote beef export, that is, cow meat and the expansion of the export activities. Have we ever looked into that? We are not addressing the real issues. We are giving just emotional tinge to the aspects which we can polarize, exploit and divert. There are several extraordinary breeds in India but today we can find the cow breed in only properly promoted and very well established maths owning and trusts owning *gaushalas*. Why is this situation happening? Why are we so much unconcerned towards the protection of those breeds? To find such breeds, we need to travel to Brindavan; we need to travel to Kaneri *Math* of Kolhapur, Maharashtra and we need to travel to several parts of Gujarat but, we are not regularly seeing them in our fields and in our homes. This Jersey Cow is becoming a burden to the farmer. Come and give answer to the small farmers who are in poverty and not able to feed those cows which are not giving any milk any more. This situation has to be properly looked into. Cow is always having the spiritual highness in Indian *Vedic* livelihood. Yes, cow will sustain to have the respect and it will also continue to have the nutritional value. But can the Food Authority of India ensure that the quality of present day packed milk is anywhere near the value of the cow milk?

Just now, the Member while moving his Bill mentioned about the Soyabean milk. Wherever we go, in restaurants or in hotels, we are not sure about the quality

of milk and people are worried purchasing the packaged milk. They are thoroughly convinced that these are not at all healthy but, as children and elders have to be fed with, they are being given these adulterated milk products. We have to have a holistic view towards total cow population. Cow protection should encompass the protection of farmers who are having cows. We need to look at that angle and a blind authority, without any role to really execute on the ground, is not going to help in any way other than highlighting and making some political statements. Let the *Kamadhenu*, let the cow does not become a political tool, political animal. All human beings are already political animals but the cow is already getting into problems due to mechanization of milk-sucking, and excessive extraction of milk which is creating ill-health to it. Let us focus about the health of cow instead of diverting it to a political agenda. I plead the Union Government to look at the farmers' issues, who are having problems in cow rearing and support them so that they can safely continue to sustain cow population in our rural milieu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ramkumar Verma.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे अवसर दिया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद। इसी के साथ मैं अपनी पार्टी के सांसद, आदरणीय सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी का भी धन्यवाद करता हूँ, क्योंकि देश के सामने आज से नहीं, बल्कि आदि काल से और बहुत समय से यह प्रश्न है कि गाय की रक्षा कैसे हो, जो पशु धन के रूप में भारतीय संस्कृति का एक अंग है, उसमें इसका समावेश है, उसको मां के रूप में माना गया है, गौ माता के रूप में माना गया है और बहुत ही उपयोगी माना गया है। हमारे इस भारतीय समाज में प्राचीन काल से ही, जब हम स्वतंत्र नहीं थे और स्वतंत्रता के बाद भी हर धर्म, हर जाति, हर वर्ग ने गाय को बहुत महत्व दिया है, लेकिन मैं दुर्भाग्य यह कहूँ कि कुछ शब्द हम भारतीयों के जीवन में इस तरह आ गए हैं कि वे संवेदनशील हो गए हैं। समस्या हमारे सामने दिखती है, उसका निवारण होना चाहिए, उसका संरक्षण होना चाहिए। जैसे मैं कहूँ — 'दलित', 'गाय'। जैसे 'दलित' शब्द दया का पात्र हो गया है, उसी तरह 'गाय' भी आज दया की पात्र हो गई है। जब देश आजाद नहीं था, जैसे मैं कहूँ कि आध्यात्मिक काल और भक्ति काल से लेकर जब तक देश आजाद नहीं हुआ था, तब भी ये मुद्दे थे कि समाज में ऐसा वर्ग है, जिसे सामाजिक न्याय चाहिए। सामाजिक न्याय की बात करते-करते देश आजाद हुआ। उस समय सामाजिक न्याय नहीं मिला। इसी तरह से मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पशु धन हमारे भारत के प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के लिए, प्रत्येक समाज के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण रहा, जिसमें गाय का मुद्दा अति महत्वपूर्ण रहा। वही प्रश्न आज फिर हमारे सामने है। हमारे सांसद महोदय ने एक विधेयक के रूप में आज इसे प्रस्तुत किया है कि ऐसा कानून बने, जिससे गाय को protection मिले। निश्चित ही यह बहुत ही वाजिब बात है और उन्होंने संविधान के प्रावधानों के तहत, सर आप मुझे थोड़ा सा समय, लगभग दस मिनट दे दीजिएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय मेरी ओर देख रहे थे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are four speakers. You can take eight minutes.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: माननीय उपसभापति जी, यदि हम संविधान के Chapter 3 और 4, Fundamental Rights में देखें और राज्य के नीति निर्देशक तत्वों की बात करें, तो जब संविधान देश में 1950 में लागू हुआ, तब और उससे पहले 26 नवंबर, 1949 को, संविधान निर्माता और ड्राफ्ट कमेटी के चेयरमैन और विशेष रूप से जिन्होंने संविधान बनाने में मेहनत की, जिन्हें इस देश ने और इस संसद ने संविधान निर्माता बनाया है, डा. बी.आर. अम्बेडकर जी ने, उन्होंने उस समय फंडामेंटल राइट्स और नीति निर्देशक तत्वों की परिकल्पना ही नहीं की, बल्कि तथ्य यह था कि आने वाले समय में पूरे भारत में इनकी जो समस्याएं हैं, विशेष रूप से दलित, पिछड़े, किसान, गरीब और हर वर्ग के लिए उसमें प्रोविजन्स और आर्टिकल्स के तहत उल्लेख किया है। उसमें पशुधन का भी उल्लेख किया है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि 70 वर्ष की आजादी के बाद, आज भी भारत के संविधान में हम प्रिम्बल से लेकर आर्टिकल 46, 330, 332, 338, 341, 342 और आगे तक देखें, तो दलितों को जो सम्मान मिलना चाहिए था, पीड़ित को जो सम्मान मिलना चाहिए था, वह नहीं मिला, फिर चाहे सामाजिक न्याय की बात हो या आर्थिक दृष्टि से समानता की बात हो। आज भी इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर, दोनों सदनों में बहस होती है, डिबेट होती है, विभिन्न तरह के सुझाव भी दिए जाते हैं और प्रत्येक पार्टी कमिटमेंट के साथ यह कहती है कि इन वर्गों के उत्थान के लिए हम कटिबद्ध हैं, लेकिन वास्तव में इन्हें कोई लाभ नहीं हुआ।

महोदय, संविधान के आर्टिकल्स और प्रावधानों की स्पष्टता के बावजूद, उन्हें लागू करना मेंडेटरी होने के बावजूद, तत्कालीन सरकार ने उन्हें लागू नहीं किया। मैं नहीं समझता कि संविधान में इतनी स्पष्टता के होते हुए उन वर्गों के कल्याण के लिए कोई कानून बनाने की जरूरत थी, लेकिन पिछली सरकारों ने, कानूनी प्रावधान और उनकी स्पष्टता के बाद भी उन्हें लागू नहीं किया। मानव जाति और मानव धर्म, जिनमें करुणा है, दया है, सबल को निर्बल की सहायता करनी है, यह हमारे संविधान में समावेश है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य यह रहा कि उन्हें कोई सहायता नहीं मिली।

महोदय, मैं आज यह कहना चाहता हूं कि गाय भी आज बेचारी हो गई है। गाय की हालत यह है कि भारतीय संस्कृति में जिस पशुधन का समावेश हो, प्रत्येक जीव के साथ उसका संबंध हो, उसके प्रोटेक्शन के लिए आज गौ संरक्षण विधेयक, 2017 कानून बनाने के लिए बिल लाया गया है। इसकी क्यों आवश्यकता पड़ी? हम मानते हैं और सभी कह रहे हैं कि गाय धन, न केवल भारतवासियों के लिए, बल्कि विश्व के लोगों के लिए बहुत लाभदायक है, इसमें दो रायें नहीं हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूं कि आज इस विधेयक को पेश करने की आवश्यकता क्यों पड़ी। हमारे देश के जो गरीब और पिछड़े थे, उनके उत्थान के लिए संविधान में संवैधानिक प्रावधान होते हुए भी, आजादी के बाद और वर्ष 1950 में संविधान लागू होने के बाद से अब तक क्या हम दावा कर सकते हैं कि उन्हें इन कानूनों का लाभ मिला? मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि उन्हें इनका लाभ नहीं मिला।

महोदय, आरक्षण की व्यवस्था इसलिए की गई थी कि देश के जो दलित, पीड़ित और गरीब वर्ग, जो वर्षों से समाज में दबे-कुचले रहे, उन्हें सम्मान मिलेगा और आर्थिक दृष्टि से वे सक्षम होंगे तथा आर्थिक दृष्टि से सक्षम होने के साथ-साथ उन्हें सामाजिक समानता भी मिलेगी, लेकिन वह नहीं हुआ और संवैधानिक प्रावधानों को भी उलझाकर, कोर्ट-कचहरियों में जाकर उन्हें लाभ से वंचित रखा गया।

महोदय, हमारी पार्टी आने के बाद, पार्टी के नेतृत्व ने देश के गरीब, पिछड़े, दलित और किसानों की भलाई के लिए विभिन्न योजनाएं प्रारम्भ की हैं। इसके कारण हमारे देश की कुछ पार्टियों को ऐसा लगा कि देश से गरीबी और पिछड़ेपन का इश्यू खत्म हो जाएगा, इसलिए उन्होंने इसे राजनैतिक इश्यू बनाया। इसी प्रकार से पशुधन के बारे में भी कहा गया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Please conclude.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: सर, मैं इसे शॉर्ट कर रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आदरणीय उपसभापति जी, मैं इस विषय पर आता हूँ और इस विषय के साथ मैं इतनी बात कहना चाहूँगा कि संविधान के जो भी संबंधित अनुच्छेद हैं, oppressed classes के लिए, अगर हमने उसको 9th Schedule में डाल दिया होता, अगर उसको किसी कानून के तहत, IPC के तहत offensive मानते कि उसका वायलेशन होगा, तो उसके लिए दंड मिलेगा, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह जो दलित समाज है, ...**(समय की घंटी)**... दलित-दलित के नाम से उसको जो अपमानित किया जाता है, हम उसको प्रगतिशील समाज नहीं कह पा रहे हैं, जो सुनता है, उसको हीन भावना आती है, तो वह दूर हो जाता। इसी तरह से पशुधन के अन्दर..

श्री उपसभापति: आप अभी कन्क्लूड कीजिए।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: ठीक है, सर। मैं 5-7 मिनट में जल्दी करता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, पशुधन के बारे में मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। यह कुछ संवेदना का विषय है। मैं चूँकि गांव के उन परिवारों से आता हूँ, जिन्होंने गोधन भी देखा है और जिसके अन्दर देखते हैं कि गरीब और पिछड़े लोग जीवनयापन किस तरह से करते हैं, उनकी मानसिकता क्या है और किस तरह का जीवन है, उसको भी देखते हैं और लोग किस तरह से उसको राजनीति का पहलू बना लेते हैं। इसी तरह से गाय का धन हमें मालूम है। गाय इतना पवित्र धन है, जिसे हम कहते हैं कि इसे धर्म से जोड़ा गया। इसको हमारे भारत देश के अन्दर, हर वर्ग, चाहे वह मुस्लिम है, हिन्दू है, ईसाई है, जैन है या बौद्ध है, उसने गाय को शुरू से बहुत ज्यादा महत्व दिया है। इसका कारण यह था कि गाय एक ऐसा पशु है, जिसके बारे में सांसद महोदय ने जो विधेयक पेश किया है, उसमें भी उल्लेख किया है, स्पष्ट किया है। उसके प्रत्येक अंग का महत्व है, प्रत्येक उस चीज़ का महत्व है, जो उससे हमें प्राप्त होता है। विशेष रूप से अगर हम दूध की बात करें, ...**(समय की घंटी)**... तो गांव के लोग ग्रामीण एरिया में रहते हैं और गांव के बच्चे पहले ज्यादा बीमार नहीं होते थे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: इसमें यह था कि गांव का ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, सिर्फ पांच मिनट के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़ पांच मिनट।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: सर, हमारी पार्टी का समय अभी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अभी पांच मिनट दीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. There are four speakers. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... बैठिए, बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: सर, एक मिनट। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Javed Ali Khan. ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down now.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गाय के लिए जिस तरह का ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. There are four speakers. Shri Javed Ali Khan. ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Javed Ali Khan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I am ready. He should, first, stop; then only, I will start. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, अब आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: *

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: He should, first, stop; then only, I will start. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That will not go on record. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: *

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। अब आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बैठिए, बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... That is not going on record. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... जावेद जी, आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री जावेद अली खान: माननीय उपसभापति जी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

---*(مداخلت)*--- جناب جاوید علی خان: مائے آپ سبھا پتی جی

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा:*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... जावेद अली खान, आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री जावेद अली खान: आप उनका भाव पूरा सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

---*(مداخلت)*--- جناب جاوید علی خان: آپ ان کا بھاؤ پورا سن لیجئے

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा:*

* Not recorded.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

श्री उपसभापति: आप क्या बोल रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... बैठिए, बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: माननीय उपसभापति जी ...(व्यवधान)...

---(مداخلت)--- جناب جاوید علی خان: مائے اپ سبھا پتی جی

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Sit down please. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य: वर्मा जी, बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): आप दूसरों को डिस्टर्ब मत कीजिए। प्लीज़। हम लोग भी बोलना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: एक सेकंड। ...(व्यवधान)... आप मेरी बात सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Your party has four speakers. आप अकेले स्पीकर नहीं है। चार स्पीकर्स हैं। इसलिए, अब आप बैठिए।

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, आपने इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर, जो स्वामी जी के द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया है, मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद।

सर, यह बिल कितना महत्वपूर्ण है और हमारे देश में गाय, जिसकी धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक मान्यता है, वह कितनी महत्वपूर्ण है और गाय की उपयोगिता हमारे देश में कितनी अधिक है, इस बात पर स्वामी जी ने बिल पेश करते हुए प्रकाश डाला। मैं बहुत ज्यादा समय नहीं लूँगा। वैसे भी आपने मुझे कम समय ही दिया है। पहली बात तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गाय को उसकी धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक मान्यता होने के साथ ही साथ, हमारे देश के अन्दर उसका एक राजनीतिक महत्व भी आज़ादी के बाद कायम कर दिया गया है। समय-समय पर गाय का, जैसा वह उपयोगी पशु है, उसके साथ ही साथ उसका दुरुपयोग भी अपने राजनीतिक निहित स्वार्थ के लिए हमारे देश में कुछ राजनीतिक दल, विशेष कर कुछ ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, कई हैं — और उनसे जुड़े हुए संगठन करते रहे हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गाय निश्चित रूप से एक महत्वपूर्ण पशु है। इसका और इसके नाम का रत्ती-भर भी दुरुपयोग हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर किसी राजनीतिक उद्देश्य की पूर्ति करने के लिए नहीं होना चाहिए। यह व्यवस्था सरकार को करनी चाहिए और सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी ने जो बिल पेश किया है, उसको सरकार को मान्यता देनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं दूसरी बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैं गाय के मूत्र की पवित्रता और उसके गोबर की गुणवत्ता पर नहीं जाना चाहता, लेकिन यह शक्ति गाय की है कि जो लोग बाबर की औलादों से बदला लेने की बात करते हैं, आज सदन के अंदर उन्होंने बाबर और बहादुर शाह ज़फ़र को भी प्रेज़ किया, इसलिए मैं गाय को सलाम करता हूँ।

सर, गाय मेरी मान्यता है, वह जितनी उपयोगी है और समाज के सभी वर्ग के लोग गाय को बरसों-बरस से और मेरे ख्याल से तो जब से मानव जाति का इतिहास है, तब से मानव जाति गाय के संपर्क में रहा है और गाय का लाभ लेता रहा है, इसलिए हमारे देश में गाय को तत्काल

[श्री जावेद अली खान]

राष्ट्रीय पशु घोषित करना चाहिए। इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं है कि गाय अति महत्वपूर्ण पशु है और उसे तो पशु कहना भी उचित नहीं है, चूंकि हमारे साथियों की और हमारे समाज के एक बड़े वर्ग की भावनाएं उससे जुड़ी हैं, इसलिए उसके लिए दूसरा शब्द क्या हो सकता है, यह स्वामी जी से जानना चाहूंगा। गाय को पशु के अलावा प्राणी कह सकते हैं। इस प्राणी को राष्ट्रीय प्राणी का दर्जा दिया जाना चाहिए।

सर, मैं इसके साथ ही यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गाय के साथ दुर्व्यवहार होता है। कैसा दुर्व्यवहार होता है? दुर्व्यवहार यह होता है कि उसे गाय के मांस का कारोबार करने वालों के हाथ बेच दिया जाता है। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल के अंदर इस तरह का प्रावधान हो या सरकार कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था करे, जिससे ऐसी व्यवस्था हो कि गाय के पालन-पोषण का काम, जन्म से लेकर गाय की मृत्यु तक, व्यक्तियों के हाथ में न दिया जाए, जैसे रेल है, अभी तक वह सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में है, उसी प्रकार से गाय के पालन को उद्योग का दर्जा दिया जाए और उसको राष्ट्रीयकृत किया जाए। इस प्रकार से सरकार गाय का पालन-पोषण और संरक्षण करे। जब यह हमारी भावनाओं से जुड़ी है, हमारी संस्कृति से जुड़ी हुई है, तो यह काम करना चाहिए। अगर कोई व्यक्ति गाय को किसी मांस के व्यापारी को बेचता हुआ पाया जाए, आप deterrent की बात करते हैं, भय कायम करने की बात करते हैं, तो यह भी निश्चित कीजिए कि उस गाय के बारे में पूरी तपत्तीश होनी चाहिए कि यह किसके घर में पैदा हुई थी और किसने इसे मांस व्यापारी तक पहुंचाया है। उसको भी सजा देनी चाहिए, सिर्फ मांस भक्षण करने वालों और मांस का व्यापार करने वालों को ही सजा नहीं देनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं तो यहां तक कहता हूँ कि गाय हमारी संस्कृति है और आज हम देखते हैं कि जब हम लोग विदेशियों के साथ संपर्क में आते हैं, हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी, हमारे मंत्री जी विदेशी नेताओं के संपर्क में आते हैं, तो विदेशी नेता कितना लिपट-चिपट करके हमारा स्वागत-सत्कार करते हैं। मैंने देखा कि जब अमेरिका के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति अपने शासन काल में आए थे, तो वह कई मिनट तक लिपटे रहे, अभी वाले आए, तो वह भी कई मिनट तक लिपटे रहे और अभी आपके इजराइल वाले आए थे, वह तो हाथ छोड़ने को ही तैयार नहीं थे, वह बिल्कुल लिपटे हुए थे। इनको भी चेतावनी दीजिए कि खबरदार! हमारी संस्कृति से प्यार करते हो, तो हमसे प्यार करो, अगर हमारी भावनाओं से प्यार करते हो, तो हमसे प्यार करो और दुनिया के अंदर जिन देशों में भी गाय भक्षण या गाय के मांस का व्यापार होता है, उनके साथ अपने राजनयिक संबंधों पर विचार कीजिए। मैं सरकार से यह मांग करना चाहता हूँ कि दुनिया के किसी देश के अंदर भी अगर गाय का भक्षण या गाय के मांस का कारोबार हो रहा है, तो उनके साथ अपने राजनयिक संबंधों पर वह विचार करे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम अपने देश के अंदर तो इंतजाम करेंगे। किस बात के लिए अमेरिका के साथ हमारी दोस्ती? अगर तुम गाय खाते हो, तो हमारे दुश्मन हो, अगर तुम गाय के मांस का व्यापार करते हो, तो हमारे दुश्मन हो, इसलिए उन देशों के साथ, चाहे वह मुसलमान देश हो, चाहे वह जनवादी देश हो, चाहे वह किसी भी किस्म का देश हो, उनके साथ किसी प्रकार का राजनयिक संबंध नहीं रखेंगे। अगर वह गाय के मांस का कारोबार करेगा या गाय के मांस का भक्षण करेगा, तो हम उनके साथ किसी प्रकार का राजनयिक संबंध नहीं रखेंगे। इतनी विलपावर, इतनी political will आज इस सरकार के अंदर होनी चाहिए। ऐसा हो सकता है, स्वामी जी, मैं बता रहा हूँ। आप थोड़े से सख्त हो जाइए, क्योंकि जबसे हमने होश

سمبالا ہے، جب ہم اپنی ناک بھی صاف کرنا نہیں جانتے تھے، تب سے ہم نے آپ کی بھادوڑی کے کسے سنے ہیں۔ اس صرکار کو آپ ہی مآبؤر کر سکتے ہیں، یہ سب کام کرنے کے لیے اور یہ نیشیت کرے ... (سماے کی آئی) ... آپ نیشیت کرے کی آے کا کوئی دےرپوے نہی کرے آے آے، ن سماآ کے کسی وے کے ساآ، ن کسی رآآنئیک دال کے ساآ۔

آآآب آاؤد علی آان (آر پردیش): مآئے آپ سبها پآی آے، آپ نے اس اہم بل پر، آو سوامی آے کے ذرے پیش کیا آے، آھے بولنے کا موقع دیا ہے، اس کے لے آپ کا دھنواد۔

سر، یہ بل کآا اہم ہے اور ہمارے دیش میں آائیں، آس کی دھارمک اور سانسکرتک مانیتہ ہے، وہ کآی اہم ہے اور آائیں کی آپوگآ ہمارے دیش میں کآی زیادہ ہے، اس بات پر سوامی آے نے بل پیش کرتے ہوئے روشنی ڈالی۔ میں بہت زیادہ وقت نہیں لوں گا۔ وےسے بھی آپ نے آھے کم وقت ہی دیا ہے۔ پہلی بات تو یم یہ کہنا آاہتا ہوں کہ آائیں کو اس کی دھارمک اور سانسکرتک مانیتہ ہونے کے ساتھ ہی ساتھ، ہمارے دیش کے اندر اس کا ایک رآآنیتک مہآو بھی آزادی کے بعد قائم کر دیا آے۔ وقت وقت پر آائیں کا، آسا یہ آپوگی پشو ہے، اس کے ساتھ ہی ساتھ اس کا درپوگ بھی اپنے رآآنیتک نہت سوارآھوں کے لے ہمارے دیش میں کچھ رآآنیتک دل، آاص کر کچھ --- (مداآلت) --- نہیں، کئی ہیں اور ان سے آڑے ہوئے سنگٹھن کرتے رہے ہیں۔ میں یہ کہنا آاہتا ہوں کہ آائیں یقینی طور سے ایک اہم آانور ہے۔ اس کا اور اس کے نام کا رآ آے۔ بھر بھی درپوگ ہندوستان کے اندر کسی رآآنیتک آڈیشے کی پورتی کرنے کے لے نہیں ہونا آاہے۔ یہ وپوستھا سرکار کو کرنی آاہئے اور سرآانیم سوامی آے نے آو بل پیش کیا ہے، اس کو سرکار کو مانیتا دینی آاہئے۔

سر، میں دوسری بات یہ کہنا آاہتا ہوں کہ میں آائے کی مآتر کی پآرتا اور اس کے آوبر کی گآوتا پر نہیں آانا آاہتا، لیکن یہ شکتی آائے کی ہے کہ آو لوگ بابر کی اولادوں سے بدلہ لینے کی بات کرتے ہیں، آ آ سدن کے اندر انہوں نے بابر اور بہادرشاہ ظفر کو بھی پرز کیا، اس لیے میں آائے کو سلام کرتا ہوں۔ سر، آائے میری مانیتا ہے، وہ آآنی آپوگی ہے اور سماآ کے سبھی طبقوں

کے لوگ گائے کو برسوں برس سے اور میرے خیال سے تو جب سے مانوجاتی کا اٹیپاس ہے، تب سے مانوجاتی گائے کے سمپرک میں رہا ہے اور گائے کا لالہ لیتا رہا ہے، اس لیے ہمارے دیش میں گائے کو تتکال راشٹریہ پشو گھوشت کرنا چاہیئے۔ اسمیں کوئی سندیدھ نہیں ہے کہ گائے اتی مہتوپورن پشو ہے اور اسے تو پشو کہنا بھی اچٹ نہیں ہے، چونکہ ہمارے ساتھیوں کی اور ہمارے سماج کے ایک بڑے طبقے کی بھاؤنائیں اس سے جڑی ہیں، اس لیے اس کے لیے دوسرا لفظ کیا ہوسکتا ہے، یہ سوامی جی سے جاننا چاہوں گا۔ گائے کو پشو کے علاوہ پ رانی کہہ سکتے ہیں۔ اس پرانی کو راشٹریہ پ رانی کا درجہ دیا جانا چاہیئے۔

سر، میں اس کے ساتھ ہی یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ گائے کے ساتھ ڈر ویوبار ہوتا ہے؟ ڈرویوبار یہ ہوتا ہے کہ اسے گائے کے ماس کا کاروبار کرنے والوں کے ہاتھ بیچ دیا جاتا ہے۔ میں چاہتا ہوں کہ اس بل کے اندر اس طرح کا پراؤدھان ہو یہ سرکار کوئی ایسی ویوستھا کرے، جس سے ایسی ویوستھا ہو کہ گائے کے پالن پوشن کا کام، جنم سے لیکر گائے کی موت تک، ویکتیوں کے ہاتھ میں نہ دیا جائے، جیسے ریل ہے، ابھی تک وہ ساروجنک شیٹر میں ہے، اسی پرکار سے گائے کے پالن کو ادیوگ کا درجہ دیا جائے اور اس کو راشٹریکرت کیا جائے۔ اس پرکار سے سرکار گائے کا پالن پوشن اور سنرکشن کرے۔ جب یہ ہمارے بھاؤناؤں سے جڑی ہے، ہماری سنسکرتی سے جڑی ہوئی ہے، تو یہ کام کرنا چاہیئے۔ اگر کوئی ویکتی گائے کو کسی مانس کے ویاپاری کو بیچتا ہوا پایا جائے، ا پ deterrent کی بات کرتے ہیں، بھٹے قائم کرنے کی بات کرتے ہیں، تو یہ بھی نہشچت کیجیئے کہ اس گائے کے بارے میں پوری تفتیش ہونی چاہیئے کہ یہ کس کے گھر میں پیدا ہوئی تھی اور کس نے اسے ماس ویاپاری تک پہنچایا ہے۔ اس کو بھی سزا دینی چاہیئے، صرف مانس بھکشن کرنے والوں اور ماس کا ویاپار کرنے والوں کو ہی سزا نہیں دینی چاہیئے۔

سر، میں تو یہاں تک کہتا ہوں کہ گائی ہماری سنسکرتی ہے۔ اور آج ہم دیکھتے ہیں کہ جب ہم لوگ ودیشیوں کے ساتھ سمپرک میں آتے ہیں، ہمارے پردھان منتری جی، ہمارے منتری جی، ودیشی نیتاؤں کے سمپرک میں آتے ہیں، تو

ودیشی نیتا کتنا لیٹ چپٹ کر کے ہمارا سواگت ستکار کرتے ہیں۔ میں نے دیکھا کہ جب امریکہ کے سابق راشٹرپتی اپنے شاسن کال میں آئے تھے، تو وہ کئی منٹ تک لیٹے رہے، ابھی والے آئے، تو وہ بھی کئی منٹ تک لیٹے رہے اور ابھی آپ کے اسرائیل والے آئے تھے، وہ تو ہاتھ چھوڑنے کو ہی تیار نہیں تھے، وہ بالکل لیٹے ہوئے تھے۔ ان کو بھی چیتاؤنی دیجیئے کہ خبردار! ہماری سنسکرتی سے پیار کرتے ہو، توہم سے پیار کرو، اگر ہماری بھاؤناؤں سے پیار کرتے ہو، تو ہم سے پیار کرو اور دنیا کے اندر جن دیشوں میں بھی گائے بھکشن یا گائے کے مانس کا ویاپار ہوتا ہے، ان کے ساتھ اپنے راجنیتک سمبندھوں پر وچار کیجیئے۔ میں سرکار سے یہ مانگ کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ دنیا کے کسی دیش کے اندر بھی اگر گائے کا بھکشن یا گائے کے مانس کا کاروبار ہو رہا ہے، تو ان کے ساتھ اپنے راجنیتک سمبندھوں پر وہ وچار کرے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہم اپنے دیش کے اندر تو انتظام کریں گے۔ کس بات کے لیے امریکہ کے ساتھ ہماری دوستی؟ اگر تم گائے کھاتے ہو، تو ہمارے دشمن ہو، اگر تم گائے کے مانس کا ویاپار کرتے ہو تو ہمارے دشمن ہو، اس لیئے ان دیشوں کے ساتھ، چاہے وہ مسلمان دیش ہو، چاہے وہ جنوادی دیش ہو چاہے وہ کسی بھی قسم کا دیش ہو۔ ان کے ساتھ کسی پرکار کا راجنیتک سمبندھ نہیں رکھیں گے۔ اگر وہ گائے کے ماس کا کاروبار کریگا یا گائے کے مانسکا بھکشن کریگا تو ہم ان کے ساتھ کسی پرکار کا راجنیتک سمبند نہیں رکھیں گے۔

اتنی ول-پاور، اتنی پولیٹکل-ول آج اس سرکار کے اندر ہونی چاہئے۔ ایسا ہو سکتا ہے، سوامی جی، میں بتا رہا ہوں۔ آپ تھوڑے سے سخت ہو جائیے، کیوں کہ جب سے ہم نے ہوش سنبھالا ہے، جب ہم اپنی ناک بھی صاف کرنا نہیں جانتے تھے، تب سے ہم نے آپ کی بہادری کے قصے سنے ہیں۔ اس سرکار کو آپ ہی مجبور کر سکتے ہیں، یہ سب کام کرنے کے لئے اور یہ نشچت کرئیے۔۔۔ (وقت کی گھنٹی)۔۔۔ آپ نشچت کرئیے کہ گائیں کا کوئی دریوگ نہیں کیا جائے گا، نہ سماج کے کسی طبقے کے ساتھ، نہ کسی سیاسی پارٹی کے ساتھ۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ... (Interruptions)... Mr. Khan, your time is over. ... (Interruptions)... Your time is over. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN : Lastly and my last line. आप उन पर भी गौर कीजिए, जब आप या सरकार कहीं गाय के बारे में सही बात कहती है, कभी यह विषय चर्चा में आता है तो आपकी ही कतारों से, मंत्रिमंडल तक से, गाय के मांस की उपयोगिता बताने के लिए लोग खड़े हो जाते हैं। ..(व्यवधान).. आपकी ही पार्टियों के यूनिट खड़े हो जाते हैं गाय के मांस की कसम खाने के लिए, आपके ही मुख्य मंत्री गाय का दूसरे देशों से आयात करने की बात करते हैं, ताकि गाय की कमी न होने पाए। ऐसे लोगों को भी आप उनके पदों से हटाइए और भाजपा के अंदर एक opinion बनवाइए कि इस तरीके के लोग कम-से-कम देश में रहें, न रहें, आपकी पार्टी में तो नहीं रहने चाहिए। ऐसे लोगों को निकालकर बाहर का रास्ता दिखाना चाहिए। हम आपके साथ हैं। गाय का दुरुपयोग मत होने दीजिए। गाय हमारा राष्ट्रीय प्राणी है, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

†جناب جاوید علی خان: لاسٹلی اینڈ مائی لاسٹ لائن۔ آپ ان پر بھی غور کیجئے جب آپ یا سرکار کہیں گائیں کے بارے میں صحیح بات کہتی ہے، کبھی یہ وشئے چرچا میں آتا ہے تو آپ کی ہی قطاروں سے، منتری منڈل تک سے، گائیں کے مانس کی اپیوگنا بتانے کے لئے لوگ کھڑے ہو جاتے ہیں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ آپ کی ہی پارٹیوں کے یونٹ کھڑے ہو جاتے ہیں گائیں کے مانس کی قسم کھانے کے لئے آپ کے ہی مکھیہ منتری گائیں کا دوسرے دیشوں سے آیات کرنے کی بات کرتے ہیں، تاکہ گائیں کی کمی نہ ہونے پائے۔ ایسے لوگوں کی بھی آپ ان کے عہدوں سے ہٹائیے اور بھاجپا کے اندر ایک اوپینن بنوائیے کہ کس طریقے کے لوگ کم سے کم دیش میں رہیں، آپ کی پارٹی میں تو نہیں رہنے چاہئیں۔ ایسے لوگوں کو نکال کر باہر کا راستہ دکھانا چاہئے۔ ہم آپ کے ساتھ ہیں۔ گائیں کا دریوگ مت ہونے دیجئے۔ گائیں ہمارا راشٹریہ پرانی ہے، بہت بہت دھنیواد۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, that is all. ...(Interruptions)... Shri D. Raja. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. D. Raja, do you want to speak? ...(Interruptions)..

रेल मंत्री; तथा कोयला मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य इतने गम्भीर और महत्वपूर्ण विषय को हंसी-मज़ाक का विषय बना रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... इतने गम्भीर विषय को हंसी-मज़ाक में convert कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: मंत्री जी, क्या बात कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मंत्री जी को कुछ पता नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... जब इन्हें पता ही नहीं है तो क्यों बोल रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Neeraj Shekhar, please go back to your seat. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: इनकी टिप्पणी को कार्यवाही से निकाल दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मिनिस्टर को कुछ पता ही नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have already allowed you, now sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**.. Please go back.

Hon. Members, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Neeraj Shekhar, please go back. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Members, the discussion was going on of a very high standard. ...**(Interruptions)**... Why do you want to stop? ...**(Interruptions)**... Go back to your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**... You go back to your seats, I will take care. ...**(Interruptions)**.. Now, Shri D. Raja. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have called Mr. D. Raja. ...**(Interruptions)**... Listen to him. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर: इनके शब्दों को expunge करा दीजिए, सर। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनकी बात को कार्यवाही से expunge कराइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you. ...**(Interruptions)**... All of you are shouting, I am not able to understand anything. ...**(Interruptions)**.. I have only two ears. ...**(Interruptions)**... I am not understanding anything. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is the problem, I don't understand. ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Jairam Ramesh, what is the problem?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The discussion was going on...**(Interruptions)**.. The debate was going on. We were all listening to various points of view. Suddenly the Railway Minister derailed the whole discussion and debate. ...**(Interruptions)**... He made unnecessary and unwarranted comments. ...**(Interruptions)**... You should expunge what he has said. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is nothing unparliamentary; why should I expunge it? ...**(Interruptions)**... The Railway Minister has not said anything unparliamentary. ...**(Interruptions)**... So, there is nothing to expunge. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Are you yielding to Mr. Naqvi? ...**(Interruptions)**... Are you yielding, Mr. D. Raja?

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you yielding to Shri Naqvi? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: राजा जी, प्लीज़ एक मिनट। ऑनरेबल रेलवे मिनिस्टर ने किसी भी माननीय सदस्य के लिए कुछ नहीं कहा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said... ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: उन्होंने सिर्फ इतना कहा कि इतने महत्वपूर्ण और सम्बेदनशील मुद्दे पर हम गम्भीरता के साथ चर्चा करें। बस, इतनी-सी बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said, the Minister did not say anything unparliamentary. I said that. ...(Interruptions)... ठीक है, आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record except what Shri D. Raja says. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: *

†جناب جاوید علی خان: *

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

श्री जावेद अली खान: *

†جناب جاوید علی خان: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. This is all unnecessary. The Minister did not say anything unparliamentary. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he said a derogatory word. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want me to adjourn the House? Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... The Minister made a remark. That is a casual remark. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. What are you doing? Can't you see that I am standing here? In Parliamentary practice such remarks will be there. ...(Interruptions)...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you say 'no', then, your speaker can rebut it. Let your speaker rebut it. He said it, but I don't see anything unparliamentary in it. ...(Interruptions)... No, no;...(Interruptions)... Your speaker can rebut it, not him. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...(व्यवधान)...

---(مداخلت)--- جناب جاوید علی خان: سر، میرا ایک پوائنٹ آف آرڈر ہے ---

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your Point of Order?

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, सदस्यों के बोलने के बारे में हमारे जो नियम हैं, उनके अंदर यह स्पष्ट लिखा हुआ है कि किसी भी सदस्य के बारे में उपहासात्मक, अपमानजनक बात नहीं की जाएगी। ऐसा लिखा हुआ है। मुझे नियम नम्बर exactly याद नहीं है, उसे आप देख सकते हैं। You can refer to that rule.

†جناب جاوید علی خان: سر، سدسیوں کے بولنے کے بارے میں ہمارے جو قانون ہیں، ان کے اندر یہ صاف لکھا ہوا ہے کہ کسی بھی سدسے کے بارے میں اپہاساتمک، ایمان- جنک بات نہیں کی جائے گی۔ ایسا لکھا ہوا ہے۔ مجھے قانون نمبر exactly یاد نہیں ہے، اس آپ دیکھ سکتے ہیں۔ یو کین ریفر ٹو ڈیٹ رول۔

* Not recorded.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I tell you that he did not make fun of anybody.

श्री जावेद अली खान: मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह कहा कि इस गम्भीर बहस को हँसी-मजाक में तब्दील कर दिया गया।...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان: میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ مائے منتری جی نے یہ کہا کہ اس گمبھیر بحث کو ہنسی مذاق میں تبدیل کر دیا گیا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Javed Ali Khan, he did not make fun of anybody. He only said that it is a serious discussion and you have not taken the serious discussion seriously. That is all what he said. That is his view.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, मेरे लिए यह अपमानजनक वाक्य है। यानी, मेरी निष्ठा पर ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان: سر، میرے لئے یہ ایمان-جنگ واقعہ ہے۔ یعنی میری نشٹھا پر۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Javed Ali Khan, please sit down. I know what he said may not be palatable to most of you. I am only saying, I heard what he said.

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Since he is a Minister, you can delete his words. ...(Interruptions)... अगर वे हमारे बारे में उपहासात्मक टिप्पणी करते हैं, तो आपको उसे रिकॉर्ड से निकालना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

اگر وہ ہمارے بارے میں اپہاساٹمک ٹپنی کرتے ہیں، تو آپ کو اسے ریکارڈ سے نکالنا چاہئے۔۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Let me complete.(Interruptions)... Don't you see I am standing? आपको यह मालूम होना चाहिए कि रूल क्या है। When the Chair is on its legs, you should not stand up. This is a fundamental rule. बात केवल इतनी है, he did not name any Member or he did not make fun of any Member. He only said that there was a serious discussion and you took it lightly. That is all. That is his view.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no;...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then what is your point? Is there anything unparliamentary in it?(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, my point of order is on Rule 235 (8). The heading is “Rules to be observed by Members. Rules to be observed in Council whilst the Council is sitting, a Member — (viii) shall maintain silence when not speaking in the Council.” Now, as per your call, some Member was speaking. The hon. Minister was not called. Therefore, under this rule, the Minister or any Member who is not supposed to speak should maintain silence when he is not called for speaking. Now, whatever your ruling maybe, I only explained that responsible people should act responsibly. That is all.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is a suggestion. I agree with that suggestion. However, it is a not a point of order. The suggestion is, when an hon. Member is speaking, other Members should not speak. They should listen or sit in silence. This is accepted. There is no problem. But, however, it is parliamentary practice in all Houses, not just in this House, that such casual comments are made by Members and all such things will be on record. If any Member has an objection to a particular statement or comment, then, when you speak, you have a right to reply to that. The thing here is only that. I am only saying that I cannot expunge it, because there is nothing unparliamentary in that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, जो मैंने बोला ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. I am not allowing you. Now, Mr. Raja. ...(*Interruptions*)... A Member from your party has already spoken. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I oppose this Bill. I have respect for Mr. Swamy. However, I oppose this Bill. Some common Tamil friends used to refer Mr. Swamy as * I want his intelligence and brilliance to be used for the common good of Indian people and the country, instead of polarizing people and disrupting peace and harmony in our society.

Sir, cow is an animal. It is a *saadhu* animal. As my colleague, Mr. Javed has said, it is a National Animal. But, cow is being used as a weapon of hate. It is used as a weapon to kill fellow citizens! Is it proper? Can we do this in the name of either religion or law? I want Mr. Swamy to think over it. I am asking the Government. What is the position of the Government going to be on this? The House would like to know whether the Government agrees with him or the Government rejects his proposal. The Government should make its position clear. Sir, our country, a country which you love, I love and everybody loves, has suffered enough in the name of cow. What is happening in recent period in the name of cow-vigilantism? What is happening in the name of cow protection? Sir, people are lynched! Dalits

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

are lynched, Muslims are lynched and those who eat beef are being lynched! And, Sir, lynching is going on in this country. We have discussed in this House the issue of mob lynching. I am reminding the hon. Members of this House that we had a serious discussion and debate on mob lynching. Now, this Bill really encourages mob lynching. This Bill will legitimize cow vigilante groups and the so-called cow protection groups and they will take law into their own hands. So, I oppose this Bill.

Sir, Mr. Swamy has referred to Articles 37 and 48. They are under the Directive Principles of State Policy. He himself read out Article 37. It says that it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws. I agree. If Mr. Swamy is so sincere and committed to the Constitution, he should have referred to Article 38 also. It states that the State should secure a social order for promotion of welfare of the people. And, let the Government make law for ensuring justice to all sections of the people. But, Mr. Swamy referred to Article 48. Sir, Article 48 talks about organization of agriculture and animal husbandry. There is no religion. Let us be very clear. The Constitution is very clear. Mr. Swamy referred to the Constituent Assembly Debates and also referred to Dr. Ambedkar. I am asking him once again to go to the Constituent Assembly Debates and see what Dr. Ambedkar had said. It was organization of agriculture and animal husbandry. What it says, Sir? It says that the State shall endeavour to organize agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and shall, in particular, take steps for preserving and improving the breeds and prohibiting slaughter of cows, calves and other milch and draught cattle. If cow stops giving milk, what will you do with cow? Mr. Swamy, somehow, in certain manner, is subtly advising the Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley, that instead of going for the health protection schemes for citizens, he should go for health protection of cows. This is what he is advising the Finance Minister, in a certain manner. I do not know whether the Finance Minister listens to his advice or not. So, the point here is that it is about organization of agriculture and animal husbandry. It has nothing to do with religion. In fact, Swamyji has taken the name of Mahatma Gandhi. I was stunned that Mr. Swamy took the name of Mahatma Gandhi. He has, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, said that a law may be enacted to ban the slaughter of all cows as wished by Mahatma Gandhi as an imperative for free India and to recommend punishment including death penalty as a necessary deterrent. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi is the Father of the Nation. Whether the BJP agrees or not, he is famed as the Father of the Nation. He is a Mahatma. Let us not slur the name of Mahatma Gandhi. I read and followed Mahatma's writings – Experiments with Truth. I also experiment how to implement Gandhiji and his principles in personal and social life. I am not getting into that debate. But, what I am trying to say is that Mahatma Gandhi, way back in 1924, Mr. Hariprasad

[Shri D. Raja]

may correct me, if I am wrong, somewhere in Belgaum in Karnataka, while he was touring, made it very clear that cow protection was a Hindu faith; you cannot impose such a faith on everybody through law. This is what Mahatma Gandhi had said. And, you are saying to make law in the name of Mahatma Gandhi and impose that on every citizen of this country. What is happening in this country? What do you want to do in this country? Don't you want India to remain one? If this is accepted, it will lead to Aryan and non-Aryan conflicts, I am telling you. Let us not reopen the whole debate on Aryan and non-Aryan conflict. *...(Interruptions)...* Why is Mr. Swamy not talking about buffalo? In the name of Hindu faith I am asking this. There are people who believe that buffalo is the original animal of India. You are not touching buffalo because buffalo is black. You have made buffalo as the vehicle of Yama, the God of Death. It is because buffalo is black. *...(Interruptions)...* Yes, this is why I am warning this Government. If this Government goes along with Mr. Swamy's understanding, then, we will get into Aryan and non-Aryan debate. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE (Maharashtra): I am sorry, Sir *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, the Government is not saying anything. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am cautioning the Government. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: May I request Mr. Raja to *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI D. RAJA: I am not yielding, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...* I am just making my point. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You proceed, please. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Sir, Mr. Raja is misleading the House. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI D. RAJA: I am not misleading. *...(Interruptions)...* I stand on facts. *...(Interruptions)...* I stand on facts. *...(Interruptions)...* I am not misleading. Please do not say that. *...(Interruptions)...* I never mislead. *...(Interruptions)...* You may not agree with me, but please do not say that I am misleading. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not misleading. Please sit down. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI D. RAJA: You may not agree with me. *...(Interruptions)...* You can say that you do not agree with me, but don't say that I am misleading. *...(Interruptions)...* That's what I am saying. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. You please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no, Dr. Sahasrabuddhe. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Sahasrabuddhe, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: There is nothing like Aryans and Dravidian ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sahasrabuddhe, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am raising that issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: We are all Indians. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am raising that issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am raising that issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am raising that issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: We are all Indians. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sahasrabuddhe, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: We are all Indians.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, we are all Indians. Don't go into any other ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I started by saying that ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, come to the subject. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Come to the subject. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I agree with the Chair that we are all Indians. By accepting this Bill, let us not re-open the Aryans-Non-Aryans debate. That is what I am warning. That is what I am cautioning. Let us think as Indians. That is what I am asking. You are dividing the people in the name of cow. Cow does not say that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI D. RAJA: Did cow tell you to divide the people, I am asking you? What is this happening in this country, Sir? You are using cow as a weapon of mass killing. You are using cow as a weapon of mob lynching in this country. Can we tolerate that? This is what we think about cow! ...*(Interruptions)*... So, Sir, my simple point is, already this country has suffered and it has been suffering in the name of cow and in the name of beef. The Government cannot dictate what people

[Shri D. Raja]

should eat or what they should not eat. If this Bill is accepted, then, I think we are heading towards a very, very challenging future that will destroy this country, that will disrupt the unity of our society. I appeal to the Government not to accept this position and reject this position. I appeal to all sides of the House not to accept this Bill and reject this Bill in the name of India. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... I ask in the name of Mother India to reject this Bill and save this country. That is my appeal, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much. Now, Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़ (गुजरात): उपसभापति जी, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया इसके लिए धन्यवाद। सर, 31 मार्च 2017 को गुजरात राज्य विधान सभा ने राज्य में गाय संरक्षण कानूनों में संशोधन किया है। नए कानून के तहत गौ-हत्या की सज़ा को 7 साल के कारावास से बढ़ाकर आजीवन कारावास और 5 लाख रुपये तक जुर्माने में बदल दिया गया है। ये संशोधन 1954 के गुजरात पशु संरक्षण कानून के तहत किए गए हैं। इसके अनुसार गौ-हत्या या हत्या के लिए गायों को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जाना और गौमांस रखना गैर-ज़मानती अपराध हो गया है। इसी तरह जहां हमारे देश में जम्मू-कश्मीर में रघुमति समाज की बस्ती ज्यादा है, वहां पर अभी क्या कानून चल रहा है, यह मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूं। गुजरात में हालिया संशोधन से पहले जम्मू-कश्मीर जैसे मुस्लिम प्रभुत्व वाले राज्य में गौ-हत्या के खिलाफ सबसे सख्त कानून मौजूद था। कानून 1932 में रणबीर दंड संहिता के तहत लागू किया गया था, जो डोगरा शासक रणबीर सिंह के शासनकाल के दौरान तैयार किया गया था। यह कानून अब भी जम्मू-कश्मीर में लागू है। कानून के तहत गौ-हत्या एक संगीन और गैर-ज़मानती अपराध है। कानून तोड़ने के जुर्म में दस साल तक की जेल और पशु की कीमत से 5 गुना तक का जुर्माना देना पड़ता है। जम्मू-कश्मीर में गाय की कीमत कई लाख रुपए तक हो गई है।

उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से गाय के जो फायदे होते हैं, उन्हें बताना चाहता हूं। गाय के पालन के दो फायदे होते हैं — अर्थोपार्जन और आरोग्यवर्धन। हमारी भारतीय नस्ल की गायों में गुजरात में गीर गाय पाई जाती है, उसका दूध और उसका गोखल यानी गौ-मूत्र और गोबर बहुत कीमती है। उसका दूध और गोखल यानी गौमूत्र और गोबर बहुत कीमती है। इस गाय के दूध से एच.आई.वी. पॉजिटिव यानी कैंसर जैसी गंभीर बीमारियां ठीक हो जाती हैं, पूरी दुनिया में कैंसर बीमारी का नाम सुनकर आदमी कांप जाता है। कैंसर को मिटाने की आज तक भी, इस आधुनिक युग में भी कोई दवा नहीं आ रही है। मैं इस बात का साक्षी हूं, इसलिए बोल रहा हूं कि गौमूत्र से दूसरी स्टेज का जो कैंसर होता है, वह सही इलाज से, गौमूत्र से निकल जाता है, गौमूत्र से कैंसर मिट जाता है। मेरे पिता जी को कैंसर हुआ था और गौमूत्र से वह ठीक हुआ था, यह बात आज मैं सदन को बताना चाहता हूं।

उपसभापति जी, आज खाद्यान्न एवं सब्जी और अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए, हर किसान फायदा पाने के लिए, केमिकल युक्त फर्टिलाइजर और वीआईटी खाद का इस्तेमाल कर रहा है। इससे होता यह है कि जो हमारी जमीन की उर्वरकता है, वह धीरे-धीरे खत्म हो जाती है और सब्जी तथा अनाज की गुणवत्ता भी बहुत खराब हो जाती है। अलग-अलग रिसर्च में यह पाया

गया है कि गौदूध, गोबर और इसकी छाछ तथा पंचगव्य के मिश्रण के छिड़काव से परिपूर्ण और आरोग्य खाद्यान्न और सब्जी मिलती है, जिसको हम ऑर्गेनिक फूड कहते हैं।

उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गौमूत्र एवं गोबर बहुत कीमती है। मैं दस साल से एक लीटर गुनगुने पानी में 10ml गौमूत्र का अर्क पीता हूँ और दोपहर तक कुछ नहीं लेता हूँ और आज भी मेरी आयु 76 साल की हो गई है, फिर भी, मुझे आज तक कोई रोग नहीं हुआ है। यह आपके सामने जीता-जागता उदाहरण है। मैं आपके माध्यम से यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि गोबर में से साबुन बनाया जाता है, उस साबुन से नहाने पर जिन्दगी में कभी भी चमड़ी का रोग नहीं होता है। जो गाय दूध देती है, उसको बेचने पर पैसा मिलता है। जो गाय दूध नहीं देती है, उसको भी यदि कोई आदमी रखता है, तो उसके गौमूत्र से और गोबर से भी उसको रखने के लिए कीमत मिल जाती है, इसलिए उसको भी गाय रखने का फायदा होता है।

आजकल गाय काटना, काट कर उसका मांस खाना, एक फैशन हो गया है। गाय को पकड़कर बहुत तड़पा-तड़पा कर मारते हैं, इसकी वीडियो आप सभी ने भी यूट्यूब और व्हाट्सऐप पर देखी होगी। ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है? गाय के बारे में हमारे शास्त्रों में लिखा है, हमारे वेदों में भी लिखा है कि गाय हमारी माता है। क्या वेदों में और शास्त्रों में यह गलत लिखा है? गाय हमारी माता क्यों कही गई थी, क्योंकि वेदों में और शास्त्रों में भी लिखा है कि गाय के शरीर के अंदर 33 करोड़ देवताओं का वास है, इसीलिए हमने गाय को माता कहा है। गाय को बचाने के लिए हमारे इतिहास में, हमारे क्षत्रियों ने, राजपूतों ने, राजाओं ने अपना बलिदान दिया है। अगर गाय नहीं बचेगी, तो मेरे हिसाब से हिन्दुस्तान को बचाने वाला कोई नहीं रहेगा। गाय को बचाना ही पड़ेगा।

उपसभापति जी, जिस आंगन में गाय बंधी होती है, उस परिवार में रोग के जंतु का अपने आप नाश हो जाता है। उसकी श्वास में इतनी ताकत होती है कि वह किसी भी रोग के जंतु का नाश कर देती है। यह उसका फायदा है। आज तक मैंने कहीं नहीं सुना है कि गाय रखने वाला कोई आदमी दुखी हो। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मुझे यह कहना है कि आजकल कृष्ण भगवान की फोटो के साथ गाय की फोटो लगाई जाती है, क्यों?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: भगवान के पीछे गाय क्यों रखी जाती है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude, Vegadji.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: भगवान ने भी उसको मान दिया है, सम्मान दिया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shankarbhaiji, please conclude. आप कन्क्लूड करिए।

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: उपसभापति जी, मेरा आपसे एक निवेदन है कि गाय को बचाना चाहिए और गाय का रख-रखाव करना चाहिए और गाय के पेट से पैदा हुआ बछड़ा भी — अभी तो ऑर्गेनिक खेती आ गई है, पहले इसके बच्चे को बैल बनाकर हम खेती करते थे...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. All right.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: इसका अहसान हमारे ऊपर है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. All right.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: मैं आपको यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज भी पूरे विश्व में ज्यादा से ज्यादा दूध का उत्पादन करने वाला देश ब्राजील है। ऐसा क्यों है? सर, इतिहास गवाह है कि वे हमारे यहां से गाय लेकर गए और उसकी नस्ल का उन्होंने विकास किया।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shankarbhai, we have only two hours for the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. That is all. Please sit down.

श्री शंकरभाई एन. वेगड़: सर, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और मुझे लगता है कि इसे पूरे सदन की अनुमति है, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Mahesh Poddar. You have got only six minutes, because we have got only two hours for the Bill.

श्री महेश पोद्दार (झारखंड): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं हमारे वरिष्ठ सदस्य डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी के बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति जी, अभी जो हमारे मित्र भाषण दे रहे थे, हम उनकी बात से पूरी तरह सहमत हैं कि गाय का संरक्षण होना चाहिए, गाय को बचाना चाहिए, गाय सब के लिए फायदेमंद है, लेकिन गोवा के मुख्य मंत्री श्री मनोहर पार्रिकर जी को ये सलाह क्यों नहीं देते? वे इन्हीं की पार्टी के हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर वे इनकी बात को मानें तो अच्छा रहेगा। हम तो इनकी बात से सहमत हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: शुक्ल जी, बैठिए। Shri Mahesh Poddar is speaking.

डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी: इन्होंने अपनी पार्टी का symbol गाय-बछड़ा क्यों रखा था? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री महेश पोद्दार: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपने विरष्ठ सदस्य साथी, डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी, द्वारा प्रस्तुत गौ संरक्षण विधेयक, 2017 के समर्थन में अपने विचार रखता हूँ।

महोदय, भारत के अधिकांश लोग गाय को मां मानते हैं और मैं मेरे पूर्व वक्ता की बात से सहमत हूँ कि मां political नहीं होती, मां मां होती है, मां किसी धर्म की नहीं होती है, वह धार्मिक नहीं हो सकती और भारत की गाय, जिसके संबंध में माननीय सदस्य ने अपने बिल में लिखा है, वह न द्रविड़ियन है और न आर्यन है। इसलिए हम लोग उसे द्रविड़ियन और आर्यन के बीच में divide न करें। गाय किसी political party की नहीं है, जब कि एक बड़ी पार्टी का काफी लंबे समय तक गाय symbol हुआ करती थी। उसके बावजूद उस पार्टी की पहचान गाय से नहीं है और गाय की पहचान किसी भी पार्टी के साथ नहीं है।

महोदय, भारतीय सभ्यता में सृष्टि के विकास के साथ ही मानव और गौवंश का समन्वय रहा है। आरंभ ही से गौवंश, सामाजिक सभ्यता, संस्कृति, जीवन-शैली और अर्थ-व्यवस्था का अविभाज्य हिस्सा रहा है। कृषि, उत्तम, व्यवसाय, संस्कार, कर्मकांड आदि के क्षेत्र में गाय हमारे जीवन से जुड़ी रही है। इसीलिए भारतीय सभ्यता में गाय को माता का दर्जा दिया गया है। गौरक्षा भी आज का विषय नहीं, यह मुद्दा सदियों से हमारी सभ्यता से जुड़ा रहा है और संविधान में भी

इस की चर्चा के बावजूद आज इस बिल की आवश्यकता क्यों पड़ रही है, हमें इस बारे में भी गौर करना चाहिए? आधुनिकीकरण की होड़ में हमने गौवंश का तो अनादर किया है और हम उस के दुष्परिणाम भी भुगत रहे हैं। यह बात सही है कि अधिकाधिक उत्पादन के लिए तकनीकी development आवश्यक है, लेकिन हमें यह भी नहीं भूलना चाहिए कि लगातार जनसंख्या वृद्धि के बावजूद गौवंश आधारित कृषि अभी भी हमारा पेट भरने में सक्षम साबित हो रही है। इस मौके पर मैं यह भी उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा कि इस सरकार द्वारा, ग्रामीण कृषि क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा देने वाला वर्ष 2018-19 का बजट दोनों सदनों में प्रस्तुत किया गया है। उस में भी यह उल्लेख है कि ग्रामीण अर्थ व्यवस्था को कैसे मजबूत किया जाए और कैसे alternative income sources को बढ़ावा दिया जाए।

अब प्रश्न यह उठता है कि माननीय सदस्य डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी को यह विधेयक लाने की आवश्यकता क्यों महसूस हुई? महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि दरअसल भारतवर्ष पर बाहरी आक्रमणों और उस के बाद हुए विदेशी शासन ने भारत की पवित्र भूमि पर गौवध की अस्वीकार्य परंपरा की नींव डाली। इस परंपरा के, भारतीय मानस के प्रतिकूल होने के कारण, चरणबद्ध सामूहिक विरोध और विद्रोह की शुरुआत हुई, जोकि आज भी जारी है। आज भी भारत का मानस गौ हत्या के पक्ष में नहीं है। भारतवर्ष में गौरक्षा का सवाल सैकड़ों वर्ष पुराना है और इस का सीधा संबंध भारत की सभ्यता से है। महोदय, जब कभी इस भावना को चोट पहुंचती है, तो इस का विरोध होता है। आंदोलन होता है। गौरक्षा के बलिदान और जान की बाजी लगाने वालों की कोई कमी नहीं है। भारत में गौवध की शुरुआत गुलामी के साथ हुई और आप भारतीय इतिहास में देखेंगे कि अंग्रेजों के समय में भी गौवध, गौमांस और गौचरबी के कारण जो हमारा पहला विद्रोह हुआ था, उसका कारण भी यही बना था।

महोदय, यहां यह भी उल्लेखनीय है कि इस्लामिक राजाओं ने भी अपने शासन क्षेत्र में गौवध पर प्रतिबंध लगाया था। 1750 से अंग्रेजों ने गौवध करना शुरू किया, क्योंकि अंग्रेज अपने आहार के लिए गौमांस का उपयोग करते थे। यह जानकारी जैसे-जैसे लोगों तक पहुंची, तो उसका विरोध होने लगा और सिपाही विद्रोह के रूप में एक विस्फोट हुआ। नामधारी पंथ के लोगों ने गौरक्षा के लिए 1860 के आसपास हथियार उठा लिए। यह विद्रोह दस सालों तक चला और धीरे-धीरे यह देशव्यापी हुआ। वर्ष 1882 में स्वामी दयानन्द सरस्वती की गौरक्षणी सभा की स्थापना के बाद भारत में गौरक्षा आंदोलन एक बार फिर शुरू हुआ।

महोदय, दक्षिण भारत के संन्यासी श्रीमद् स्वामी और दयानन्द सरस्वती ...(समय की घंटी)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Sir, I am concluding in two minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

स्वामी दयानन्द सरस्वती का नेतृत्व पाकर देश भर में गौरक्षणी सभाएं बनीं। आंदोलन को दिशा देने के लिए स्वामी दयानन्द सरस्वती ने एक लाख हस्ताक्षरों वाला एक ज्ञापन महारानी विक्टोरिया, ब्रिटिश संसद को देने की घोषणा की और उस आंदोलन में कांग्रेस नेता पंडित मदन मोहन मालवीय भी शामिल हुए। महोदय, इतना ही नहीं लोकनायक जयप्रकाश नारायण ने 21 सितम्बर, 1966 को तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी को पत्र लिखा कि मैं समझ नहीं पाता कि भारत जैसे हिन्दू बहुल देश में जहां गलत हो या सही ...(समय की घंटी)...

4.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Time over, time over.

श्री महेश पोद्दार: बस हो गया, सर।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Nothing more will go on record. Now Shri Meghraj Jain; you have only five minutes.

श्री महेश पोद्दार:*

श्री मेघराज जैन (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी ने जो प्रस्ताव रखा है और इसके प्रारम्भिक भाषण में जो उल्लेख किया कि प्रारम्भ में सभी धर्मों के लोगों ने अंग्रेजों से पहले मुगल शासकों ने भी गौरक्षा के लिए काम किया है, इसमें कोई जाति, धर्म की बात नहीं है।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, who will reply to this debate?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister will reply. Why do you worry?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Which Minister? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You will see at that time. मेघराज जी, आप बोलिए।

श्री मेघराज जैन: महोदय, यह कोई धर्म से जुड़ा मामला नहीं है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश में सात साल तक गौसंरक्षण बोर्ड का अध्यक्ष रहा हूँ। मैं यहां केवल उसके आर्थिक पक्ष रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि एक ऐसी वैज्ञानिक जांच करवाई जाए कि क्या वास्तव में गौदुग्ध में और बाकी दुग्ध में अंतर है? क्या गौमूत्र में गोबर में और बाकी जानवरों के गोबर व गौमूत्र में अंतर है, क्योंकि आयुर्वेद में इसका उल्लेख है। केवल गौमूत्र ही नहीं अनेक जानवरों के मूत्र का भी आयुर्वेद में उल्लेख है। गाय के बारे में मेरा इतना ही कहना है कि गाय एक आर्थिक दृष्टि से हमारे देश की रीढ़ की हड्डी है। किसान के पास गाय रहती है। गाय का वेस्टेज खेत खाए, खेत का वेस्टेज गाय खाए और गोबर व गौमूत्र का उपयोग खेत में हो, तो रासायनिक खाद की जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी। जोधपुर विश्वविद्यालय में इसके ऊपर शोध हुआ कि हमारे लोग बीमार क्यों हो रहे हैं, तो छः-सात साल पहले इसकी रिपोर्ट एक पत्रिका में छपी थी। उसमें लिखा था हमारे यहां जितना अनाज है, सब्जियां हैं और दूध है, सभी के अंदर ज़हर आ गया है। इसी कारण से लोगों का स्वास्थ्य खराब हो रहा है और बीमारियां हो रही हैं। नवभारत टाइम्स और टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया में AIIMS के डॉक्टर्स की एक रिपोर्ट छपी थी। उसमें लिखा था कि AIIMS के डॉक्टर्स हरियाणा में गए थे और वहां पर कुछ लोगों से बात की तो वहां के लड़कों ने कहा कि हमसे बात मत करिए, आप हमारे से बड़े लोगों से बात किरिए। उन डॉक्टर्स ने कहा कि आप लोग भी तो बड़े हैं। उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि हम तो 18 साल के हैं। डॉक्टर्स को आश्चर्य हुआ कि आप 18 साल के लड़के बुजुर्ग जैसे दिखते हैं। बाद में डॉक्टर्स ने इस पर शोध किया, तो पता चला कि रासायनिक खाद के अनाज खाने से उनकी ऐसी स्थिति हो गई थी।

हमारे जिन वैज्ञानिकों ने शोध किया है, उन्होंने यह बात कही है कि मां के दूध में भी ज़हर

आ गया है। इसीलिए यदि इस रासायनिक खाद का बहिष्कार करके जैविक खाद से अनाज पैदा किया जाए, तो लोगों का स्वास्थ्य ठीक होगा।

उपसभापति जी, मैंने ऐसी जानकारी अखबारों में पढ़ी है, पत्रिकाओं में यह पढ़ा है कि आंध्र प्रदेश के वारंगल जिले में और पास के ही दो जिलों में रासायनिक खाद का एक दाना नहीं आता है। गाय के गोबर से गैस बनाई जा सकती है, गाय के गोबर से खाद बनाई जा सकती है, गाय के गोबर से अमृत पानी बनाकर, अगर तत्काल खेत को सींचा जाए, तो उससे एक एकड़ जमीन बहुत अच्छी हो सकती है। इस प्रकार बूढ़ी गाय, जो दूध नहीं देती है, वह भी हमारे लिए उपयोगी है। मुझे पता है कि मध्य प्रदेश के अंदर करीब-करीब सत्तर गौशालाएँ ऐसी हैं, जिनके अंदर गौमूत्र से औषधियाँ बनती हैं और लोगों पर उन दवाइयों से अनेक रोगों का इलाज भी करते हैं। मैंने मध्य प्रदेश के अंदर, जब मैं गौ समर्थन बोर्ड का अध्यक्ष था, तीन दिन की एक कार्यशाला की थी। उसमें देश के 29 वैज्ञानिक आए थे। पहले दिन, गौ समर्थन कैसे करना है, दूसरे दिन, जैविक खेती कैसे करनी है, उससे क्या लाभ हैं और तीसरे दिन गौमूत्र से औषधियाँ और आयुर्वेदिक दवाइयाँ किस प्रकार से बना सकते हैं, इनका कार्यक्रम रखा गया था।

भैषज्य रत्नावली में इस बात का उल्लेख है कि गौमूत्र के अनुपान से दी गई औषध आयुर्वेदिक की तुलना में 10 से लेकर 40 प्रतिशत तक ज्यादा लाभ देती है। हमें इन सब पर अनुसंधान करना चाहिए। किसी बात का विरोध केवल आँख मींच कर करें, यह बात ठीक नहीं है। हमारे डेनियल राजा जी हैं, उन्होंने इस पर कहा है। ठीक है, यह उनका अपना विचार है, उनकी पार्टी का विचार है। वर्ग संघर्ष कैसे हो, किस प्रकार भारत की हर चीज को नकारा है, उनकी विचारधारा पर, उनकी इस बात पर मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। उन्होंने विरोध किया है, वे अपनी जगह पर ठीक हैं। उन्होंने उनकी विचारधारा के हिसाब से विरोध किया है, यह उनका अपना मत है, लेकिन मैं देश के हित के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ, लोगों के स्वास्थ्य के हित के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने इसके लिए गांव में एक महीने तक बैल गाड़ी से यात्रा की और गाँव-गाँव में जाकर किसानों से बात की। मैंने उनसे कहा कि मैं गाय बचाने के लिए कहने के लिए नहीं आया हूँ, मैं यह कहने आया हूँ कि अगर मरने से बचना है तो गाय की शरण में जाओ, नहीं तो यह अनाज, जो हम खा रहे हैं, जो सब्जियाँ खा रहे हैं, इनसे देश में जिस प्रकार की बीमारियाँ बढ़ रही हैं, उस संदर्भ में लोगों के स्वास्थ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए मैं भारत सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि सरकार इस प्रकार की एक एजेंसी बनाए, जो यह जांच करे कि वास्तव में क्या स्थिति है। मैं अभी करनाल गया था। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... हमारी संसदीय समिति की बैठक में ...**(समय की घंटी)**... समिति के दौरे में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude. Your time is over now.
...(Interruptions) ...

श्री मेघराज जैन: एक सैकंड, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। उस कमेटी में वहाँ के वैज्ञानिकों बताया कि एक दूध है, जो मनुष्य के स्वास्थ्य के लिए लाभदायक है ...**(व्यवधान)**... और वह हम केवल भारतीय नस्ल की गाय के द्वारा ही ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। ..**(व्यवधान)**..

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

श्री मेघराज जैन: उन्होंने अलग से दूध पेश ...(व्यवधान)... करना शुरू कर दिया है।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister to reply. ...(Interruptions) ... Please
...(Interruptions)...

श्री मेघराज जैन: गाय का संरक्षण होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... इसका धार्मिक ...(व्यवधान)...
से कुछ लेना-देना नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... जावेद भाई ने जो बात कही है, मैं उनकी बात से
सहमत हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... सारे समाज को एक साथ लेकर ...(व्यवधान)... सबकी सहमित बनाकर
एक कानून लाना चाहिए। ..(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़): उपसभापति जी, मैं दो मिनट बोलना चाहती हूँ।

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)... दो मिनट दे दीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. ...(Interruptions) ... The Bill has to be over
in two hours. Sorry, there is one more name. One minute, please. Time allotted to
the Bill is two hours according to the Rule. So, I have to close everything by 4.30
p.m. ...(Interruptions)... Navaneethakrishnanji, I am giving you two minutes only.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Sir, ...(Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot violate the rules. ...(Interruptions) ... Don't
ask me to violate the rule. ...(Interruptions) ... He told me. It is his party's time
and he came in advance and told me...(Interruptions) ... But she gave the name
later. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, hon. Deputy
Chairman, Sir. ...(Interruptions) ... Cow is a sacred animal. It is a domestic animal.
I would like to highlight the benefits of cow. No controversial statement from me.
...(Interruptions) ... I know, in all villages, each and every household will have a
cow or more than one cow because the cow urine and cow milk are used for the
family members. From health point of view, cow milk is very essential. Breast
feeding is considered best for children, but sometimes, mothers are not able to feed,
hence they resort to cow milk to be provided to their children. So, from health
point of view also, cow milk is essential for us. Sir, nowadays, we see that no
milk is available without adulteration. We have to create sensitization among our
own people to protect the cows so that we can get pure and unadulterated milk.
For organic farming, a liquid preparation called, panchagavya, is made. In Thanjavur
area, one farmer is exporting and earning crores and crores of rupees by preparation
of panchagavya. In the preparation of panchagavya, the cow urine is very essential.

Also, for the preparation of thiruneer, vibhuthi, which is worn on the forehead of every human being...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak about the Bill. Why are you wasting the time? You have to say either you support the Bill or you oppose it. Why are you saying all this?

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: The cow has to be protected at any cost.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is good. Now, the Minister.

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: सर, दो मिनट। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bill has to be disposed of within 30 minutes. The Minister will reply; then the Member has also to reply, and then voting. ...**(Interruptions)**... That is not the way. I cannot allow that. ...**(Interruptions)**... Anybody can come like this. Should I allow everybody? That is not the way. She could have given her name in advance. Pressurizing the Chair and trying to speak is not allowed. I cannot accept that. Now, the Minister.

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राधा मोहन सिंह): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी का आभारी हूँ, जो वे यह विषय यहां सदन में लाए हैं और जिसको लेकर पूरे देश में हमारे आठ माननीय सदस्यों के द्वारा यह मैसेज दिया गया कि हिंदुस्तान के जीवन के लिए गाय बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। माननीय सदस्य डी. राजा साहब ने कहा कि गाय जानवर है। हम सब लोग जानते हैं कि गाय जानवर है और हम सब लोग मनुष्य हैं, इसमें कहीं कोई दो राय नहीं हैं। मनुष्यों में विशिष्ट मनुष्य भी होते हैं, जिनका समय-समय पर हम सम्मान करते हैं। महात्मा गांधी भी मनुष्य रहे हैं। गाय जानवर है, इसमें दो राय नहीं हैं, महात्मा गांधी मनुष्य थे, इसमें भी दो रायें नहीं हैं। गाय को इस समाज में कुछ कारणों से विशिष्ट स्थान प्राप्त है। अब हिन्दुस्तान के अंदर मजहब के आधार पर गाय के लिए कोई जान दे, मजहब के आधार पर कोई गाय के विरोध में हत्या करे, यह उनका विषय हो सकता है, लेकिन एक भारतीय होने के नाते हिन्दुस्तान की अपनी एक ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था है। राजा साहब मजदूरों के नेता हैं और हमारी ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था में हिन्दुस्तान के गरीब और सीमांत किसान का भी अपना महत्व है। यह बात सब को पता है कि ग्रामीण परिवार की जो अर्थव्यवस्था है, उसकी रीढ़ पशुधन है और इसलिए पशुधन को राष्ट्रधन कहा गया है। यहां गाय का विशेष महत्व इस कारण से आता है कि जो लघु और सीमांत किसान हैं, जो 80 प्रतिशत दूध देने वाली गायें हैं, वे इन मजदूर परिवारों के पास हैं, किसान परिवारों के पास हैं। ये 80 प्रतिशत जो गायें हैं, इनकी स्थिति यह है कि देश में जो कुल दूध का उत्पादन होता है, उसका मात्र 20 प्रतिशत इन 80 प्रतिशत देशी नस्लों की गायों से मिलता है। बाकी 20 प्रतिशत, जिनमें हमारे महिष हैं, जिनको हम भैंसों बोलते हैं और दूसरी संकर और विदेशी नस्ल की गायें हैं। ये 80 प्रतिशत गायें 20 प्रतिशत दूध देती हैं और 20 प्रतिशत जो दूसरा पशुधन है, 80 प्रतिशत दूध देता है। यह अच्छी बात है, लेकिन ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था में मजदूरों के पास, किसानों के पास जो गायें हैं, इनकी ज्यादा चिंता होने का कारण

[श्री राधा मोहन सिंह]

है। क्योंकि यह ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था में ग्रामीण परिवार का अंग है। इसका दूसरा महत्व यह है कि जो A2 milk है, वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण से वह मनुष्य जीवन के लिए कितना महत्वपूर्ण है, उसके बारे में हमारे एक वक्ता बोल रहे थे। इसका जो गोबर है, मूत्र है, इसका जो वैज्ञानिक महत्व है, हम उसके विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहेंगे, लेकिन मैं आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहूँगा कि पंजाब और हरियाणा ने अपने बूते पर A2 milk की अब अलग packaging और processing शुरू की है। भारत सरकार ने भी ओडिशा और कर्नाटक को अलग से राशि दी है और वहाँ इसका अलग से processing plant बना है। A2 milk मानव जीवन के लिए काफी महत्वपूर्ण है। हमारे देश में general व्यवस्था यह है कि हर राज्य के अन्दर जो processing plants हैं, जैसे सुधा है, अमूल है, ये सारे fat के आधार पर दूध लेते हैं। इसलिए जो गाय पालते हैं, उन गौ पालकों को कम कीमत मिलती है और जो दूसरी भैंस वगैरह हैं, उनकी ज्यादा कीमत मिलती है।

आप जो सरकार की बात कर रहे थे, तो मेरे ध्यान में एक बात आई कि आखिर इस सरकार के आने के बाद क्या हुआ और पहले क्या हुआ। जब हम सरकार में आए, तो हमने देखा कि जो पशुपालन मंत्रालय है, उसमें हम नस्ल सुधार, संवर्धन और संरक्षण का काम करते हैं। इसमें हम जितनी राशि खर्च करते थे, उसमें हम संकर नस्ल और विदेशी नस्ल के दुधारु पशुओं पर ज्यादा खर्च करते थे और 100 में से 95-96-97 प्रतिशत राशि उन पर खर्च करते थे। यह अच्छी बात थी, यह खराब बात नहीं थी, लेकिन हमने तुरंत एक योजना बनाई — 'राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन'। मैं आपको बताना चाहूँगा कि राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन बनाने के बाद विभिन्न राज्यों से 27 परियोजनाएँ आईं और हमने उनके लिए 1,335 करोड़ रुपए की स्वीकृति दी। यह 3 साल पुरानी बात है। इसमें 12 प्रकार के तथ्य दिए गए।

श्री उपसभापति: मंत्री जी, मैं आपको caution देता हूँ कि इस बिल के लिए 2 घंटे का टाइम है। हमें 4.30 बजे से पहले इसे dispose of करना है। इसलिए आप बिल के बारे में बोलिए।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सर, मैं गाय के संरक्षण पर आ रहा हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Remember the time.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, यहां कुछ सवाल उठाए गए हैं, जैसे गाय का संरक्षण। हम 'राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन' लाए। उसमें स्पष्ट है कि जो देसी नस्ल की गायें हैं और जो महिष वंशी हैं, जो देसी नस्ल की हैं, उनके लिए हम 'राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन' लाए और उसका पहला वाक्य है — 'संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन'। इसके तहत विभिन्न राज्यों से 27 परियोजनाएँ आईं। उत्तर प्रदेश के हमारे दोनों माननीय सदस्य काफी उत्सुकता से इस विषय को रख सकते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के बड़े हिस्से में, बुंदेलखंड के इलाके में आप शाम में जाइए, तो हजारों गायें ऐसी ही दिखेंगी। मैं एक रात रीवा में था, फिर मैं झाँसी में था। आखिर ऐसा क्यों? क्योंकि उसका जो उत्पादन होता है, वह एक किलो, आधा किलो होता है या उसने दूध देना बंद कर दिया है। निश्चित रूप से जो किसान है, वह उसके संरक्षण और संवर्धन पर ध्यान नहीं देगा, क्योंकि उससे उसकी आमदनी नहीं होती। इसीलिए 'राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन' के माध्यम से संरक्षण और संवर्धन हो, इस दृष्टि से हमने यह नई योजना शुरू की और राज्यों के माध्यम से हमारी 27 परियोजनाएँ लगभग पूरी हो चुकी हैं।

इसके बाद 'गोकुल ग्राम' की स्थापना हुई, ताकि जो किसान है, वह समझे कि इसके गोबर

का कितना महत्व है। अब इसका महत्व क्या है? राष्ट्रीय जैविक केंद्र में वैज्ञानिकों ने गाय के गोबर के सूक्ष्म जीवाणुओं को निकाल कर decomposer तैयार किया है। खेत के अन्दर जो केंचुए होते थे, वे पिछले 40-50 वर्ष के अन्दर खेतों में समाप्त हो गए। वैज्ञानिकों ने गाय के गोबर से ही decomposer तैयार किया है, जिसका एक लाख किसान उपयोग कर रहे हैं। देश की 10 बड़ी-बड़ी हस्तियां, जिनमें प्रकाश सिंह बादल जी भी हैं, वे भी उसका अपनी खेती में उपयोग कर रहे हैं। ये सारे तथ्य YouTube पर हैं। इसके संरक्षण के लिए किसानों के अन्दर जागरूकता हो, इसके लिए सरकार ने योजना बनाई और 'गोकुल ग्राम' का भी निर्माण किया। माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जिससे इसकी उत्पादकता बढ़ाई जाए और यदि गाय दूध नहीं देती है, तो उसके गोबर से टाइल्स बनाने, खाद बनाने और उसके मूत्र का भी बहुत बड़ा उपयोग किया जा रहा है। उत्तर प्रदेश के कानपुर के अंदर एक प्राइवेट संस्थान है, उसमें उसके आसपास के पांच किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र के लोग गौ-मूत्र बेचने आते हैं। इस प्रकार हम प्रयास कर रहे हैं कि किसानों में यह विश्वास पैदा हो कि हमारी सरकार उनके कल्याण के कार्य कर रही है।

महोदय, हमने 12 राज्यों में 18 गोकुल ग्रामों की स्थापना की है। इस प्रकार के ग्राम उत्तर प्रदेश में दो हैं और आंध्र प्रदेश तथा तेलंगाना में भी हैं। इसमें सबसे बड़ी आश्चर्य की जो बात है, वह यह कि दुनिया के कई देशों में मुझे जाने का अवसर प्राप्त हुआ, वहां मैंने देखा कि हर देश के अंदर उस देश के पशुओं की देशी नस्लों के सुधार के लिए नेशनल ब्रीडिंग सेंटर हैं, लेकिन हमारे देश में एक भी नेशनल ब्रीडिंग सेंटर नहीं था। हमने इस बारे में पहल की और अब दो नेशनल ब्रीडिंग सेंटर्स स्थापित किए हैं। उनके लिए 50 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान सरकार ने अलग से किया। हमारा एक राष्ट्रीय कामधेनु ब्रीडिंग सेंटर, चिंतलादेवी, जिला नेल्लोर में है। यह शुरू हो गया है। यह 700 एकड़ में है। दूसरा राष्ट्रीय कामधेनु ब्रीडिंग सेंटर, होशंगाबाद-म.प्र. में है। यह तैयार हो रहा है। इस प्रकार हमने दो राष्ट्रीय कामधेनु ब्रीडिंग सेंटर खोले हैं। इनमें से एक दक्षिण भारत के लिए है और दूसरा उत्तर भारत के लिए है। मैंने बताया कि राज्यों के अंदर भी हमारी ऐसी 27 परियोजनाएं चल रही हैं। ये बातें मैं इसलिए बात रहा हूं, ताकि गाय की उत्पादकता बढ़े और उसके उपयोग को लोग समझें। इन योजनाओं के माध्यम से गाय के संरक्षण और संवर्धन के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या किया जा रहा है, वह मैं बता रहा हूं।

महोदय, श्री डी. राजा साहब, वित्त मंत्री जी की ओर इशारा कर रहे थे और कह रहे थे कि गाय के स्वास्थ्य की चिन्ता करें। हम उनकी इस बात से सहमत हैं। अब तक गाय के स्वास्थ्य की चिन्ता नहीं की गई थी। राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन के बाद हमने वर्ष 2016 में राष्ट्रीय गौमाता उत्पादकता मिशन भी बनाया। मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि अपने देश के अंदर राष्ट्रीय गौमाता उत्पादकता मिशन के तहत, पशु संजीवनी, उन्नत प्रजनन के प्रयोजन हेतु, ई-पशुधन हाट और देशी नस्ल हेतु राष्ट्रीय गौमाता जैविक सेंटर की शुरुआत की गई है। इनकी शुरुआत के परिणाम आप देखेंगे, तो आपको मालूम होगा कि 8.8 करोड़ दुधारू पशुओं को 12 अंक की विशिष्ट आईडी टैग तथा पशुधन संजीवनी नकुल स्वास्थ्य पत्र योजना शुरू की है। अभी तक दो करोड़ टैग क्रय करने के साथ-साथ 20 लाख नकुल स्वास्थ्य पत्र की छपाई का काम भी पूरा हो चुका है और इन्हें हम डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करने जा रहे हैं।

महोदय, पूरे देश में चिन्हित दुधारू पशुओं में अगले तीन से चार माह में आईडी टैग लगाते हुए, नकुल स्वास्थ्य पत्र भी संबंधित किसानों को पशुओं के स्वास्थ्य की जांच के उपरान्त वितरित किए जाएंगे। यह ठीक है कि यह काम पहले होना चाहिए था। पहले नहीं हुआ, लेकिन अब हो

[श्री राधा मोहन सिंह]

रहा है, भले ही विलम्ब हो रहा है। हमारी दो वर्ष की तैयारी का परिणाम अब देश में दिखने जा रहा है।

महोदय, इसी प्रकार से दुग्ध उत्पादक पशुओं के सुगम क्रय-विक्रय हेतु ई-पशुधन हाट की व्यवस्था बनाने जा रहे हैं। आप यदि पता करेंगे और आंकड़े देखेंगे, तो आपको पता लगेगा कि अभी तक सीमन के लिए जो विदेशी और संकर नस्ल के पशु हैं, उनके सीमन डोज़ेज़ ही देश के 90 प्रतिशत लोग खरीदते थे और वही उपलब्ध होते थे। हमने देशी नस्लों के लिए ई-पशुधन हाट पोर्टल बनाया। उसके तहत देश के अंदर सीमन-बैंक भी बने हैं। सीमन-बैंक्स पहले से भी थे, लेकिन अब इन्हें बनाने में और तेजी आई है। उस पोर्टल पर अभी तक देशी नस्लों की 4.50 करोड़ सीमन डोज़ेज़ की बिक्री हुई है। यह रिकॉर्ड है। इसमें बड़ी तेजी से वृद्धि हुई है। देशी नस्लों के जो डोज़ेज़ हैं, उनकी 80 प्रतिशत बिक्री हो रही है और 75 हजार किसानों के पास किस नस्ल की कौन सी गायें हैं, यह जानकारी इस हाट पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध है। लोग उस पोर्टल से जानकारी लेकर उस स्थान पर पहुंच रहे हैं और वहां से क्रय कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि बोवाइन आनुवंशिकी तकनीक से देशी पशुओं की दूध उत्पादकता के चिन्हांकन हेतु राष्ट्रीय जिनोमिक केंद्र की स्थापना हेतु आईसीएआर और एनडीआरआई संस्थान, करनाल ने काम करना प्रारंभ कर दिया है। इस हेतु 70 हजार पशु उच्च दुग्ध उत्पादकता प्रजाति, जिसमें गीर, साहिवाल एवं अन्य नस्लों की गायों का चिन्हांकन कर डीएनए विश्लेषण किया जा रहा है। मैं इन बातों की चर्चा इसलिए कर रहा हूँ कि गायों के संरक्षण और संवर्धन के लिए आजादी के काफी लम्बे काल खंड के बाद पिछले तीन या साढ़े तीन वर्षों में चिन्ता की गई है। इसलिए आदरणीय स्वामी जी की जो चिन्ता है, वह जायज़ है। सर, अभी मैं दो-तीन और बातें सदन के माध्यम से देशवासियों को बताना चाहता हूँ। किसान की आमदनी बढ़े, इसके लिए आज से छः महीने पहले 10,888 करोड़ रुपये का Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Fund बना। कल के बजट में भी आप देखेंगे, तो पायेंगे कि Fishery and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund plus Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund के लिए 10,000 करोड़ रुपये की राशि, गोवर्धन योजना और हमारे जो पशुपालक हैं, उनके लिए भी KC Card की घोषणा कल की गयी है। तो हमारी सरकार इस दिशा में संरक्षण और संवर्धन के विषय में पूरी प्रतिबद्धता के साथ जो काम कर रही है, मैं माननीय स्वामी जी को विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि आपका जो भाव है, उसी की पूर्ति में सरकार पूरी प्रतिबद्धता के साथ लगी हुई है और आगे भी हम इस काम को तेजी से करेंगे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, मैं आप सबके माध्यम से माँग करता हूँ कि इसको वापस लिया जाये।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subramanian Swamy, do you want to reply?

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Sir, you give me five minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, I will reply to some of the hon. Members' points and then respond to hon. Minister's submissions.

First of all, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to make it clear that when we say cow, we are talking about a very special breed which in America is called the Indian cow or Brahmin cow. All these kinds of names are given. But, in the Latin word, it is *Bos indicus*. There are two types of cows in the world – one is *Bos indicus* which is only found in India and the other is *Bos taurus* which is found in many parts of the world. Even in India, in the North-East, you find *Bos taurus* but not *Bos indicus*. When I am speaking about preventing the killing of a cow, I am only talking about *Bos indicus*. Therefore, to bring in all these extraneous issues is not relevant. It is this cow which is specialised in the quality of its milk, its urine and its cow-dung, on which we need to do further research and come to a conclusion. On the question of whether the urine has medicinal properties which is patented, I was challenged to produce the document. I have given the document. There is the licence number, the patent licence number, the registration number and everything, in the document which has been given to the Secretary-General. Anybody can have a look at it. Now that the white-man has said that its urine has medicinal value, I am sure, all of you don't start drinking it from tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*.. When our Rishis said it, at that time, you did not want to believe it. ...*(Interruptions)*... In fact, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, if you look at the Constituent Assembly debate and the first Anti-Cow Slaughter Bill passed in Madhya Pradesh, you will find that Seth Govind Das, a Congressman, Shibban Lal Saxena, a Congressman, and Dr. Rajendra Prasad, etc. were all the men who were in the forefront of saying that cow should be given a special place and that its killing should be banned. I do not know what has happened. Maybe, the Italian influence has changed the Congress Party today. But the fact is that the original nationalist Congress people were all for it. Also, I want to say that throughout history, there is evidence that the Muslim community never made it an issue that they have a fundamental right to eat cow. In any case, the Supreme Court in two judgments has said that nobody has a fundamental right to eat a cow. It does not form an essential part of any religion. Therefore, that issue is also not there. It is the Englishmen, the white-men, who made it a big fashion and wanted to make it a test whether you are Hindutva man or you are a British stooge. The test was whether you would eat beef before him. That's how it all came in. Now, as far as Mr. Raja is concerned, he got unduly emotional. But the problem is that he has learnt all his history from JNU and his daughter is now one of the prominent agitators there. ...*(Interruptions)*... And his Aryan Dravidian theory is all bogus. I challenge here today in the House. Let Mr. Raja and myself go to a microbiological laboratory and take our blood test to establish our DNA. You will find that it is the same – my DNA and your DNA. The DNA of a brahmin and DNA of a Scheduled Caste is the same. The DNA of Indian Hindu and Indian Muslim is also the same. The DNA of all the people from Kanyakumari to Kashmir is the

[Dr. Subramanian Swamy]

same. Please revise your history. I can ensure that some RSS historians come and give you a tutorial so that your brainwashing is ended.

Secondly, it is not unusual for us to take a symbol like Murugan's peacock and say that nobody can kill peacock. There is a law today banning the killing of a peacock. Nobody is talking about that. Why are they objecting this cow thing? It is because they want to taunt us on our religion. That is the reason. But it has got nothing to do with religion. It has got great economic value and that is why I have brought it. I wanted a law to come and I want the Government to seriously consider putting a cess, a voluntary cess, for the purpose of ensuring that cows are looked after, after they cease to give milk. There should be *gaushalas*. They should be run scientifically. A commission should be set up, which is part of my Bill, for this. The hon. Minister ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, if a cess is voluntary, why doesn't the Member volunteer to pay the cess? ...(Interruptions)...

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

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Why? I am a Brahmin. I do not pay, I take. ...(Interruptions)... Therefore, I am only saying that the whole country is ready to pay. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, if you say that we do not have money for *gaushalas*, just ask the people.

Take for example, during the Chinese war in 1962, women took out their gold bangles, chains and necklaces and handed over for the Defence fund of India. I am telling you, on this cow, the country will voluntarily give you all the money you want for *gaushalas*.

So, only thing that remains is a law. Since, he has now said that in consultation with me, he will proceed further in this, I would like to give one more chance to our Government so that I do not have to come back again with another Bill. I think this ...(Interruptions)... I am part of the BJP. I am not going to ...(Interruptions)... I will, therefore, request you to permit me to withdraw the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you. ...(Interruptions)... Therefore, has the Member the leave of the House to withdraw the Bill?

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, स्वामी जी ने कहा कि कांग्रेस का सेठ गोविन्द दास और शिब्वन लाल सक्सेना.... गौ हत्या पर प्रतिबंध तो कांग्रेस ने लगाया था, हम भी 1955 में गौ हत्या पर

प्रतिबंध के समर्थक थे और हम तो आज भी गौ हत्या पर बैन के समर्थक हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसमें क्या बात है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... कांग्रेस सरकारें गौ हत्या पर बैन के समर्थक हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, all right. ...**(Interruptions)**... The Bill is withdrawn. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray to move the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The Member should withdraw. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Member has withdrawn. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He should withdraw. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, he has withdrawn. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He should withdraw it himself. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**... The Bill is withdrawn. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2017 (Amendment of Article 366)

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I am deeply obliged that after six-and-a-half years of my tenure in Rajya Sabha, I have got the opportunity to present my Bill on the Constitutional Amendment, that is, amendment of Article 366 for insertion of Clause 5(A) thereunder. What is this all about?

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) *in the Chair*.]

Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that in our Constitution many words and expressions have been properly defined under Article 366 but the word 'consultation' has not been defined in our Constitution as a result of which a lot of controversy and conflict has taken place in this country over the years. Sir, when I am presenting this Bill in this august House, I am appalled to know from a press conference held by senior functionaries of a constitutional institution inviting the attention of the people that rot has been created in the highest body of a particular constitutional institution and the nation cannot avoid addressing this problem. And, in a democracy the will of the people is supreme and this will is not only expressed in the Preamble to the Constitution of India but, from time to time, this will of the people is reflected through the discussions and deliberations of the elected representatives of the people. So, now, it is our humble duty on the part of the elected representatives of the people in both Houses of the Parliament to address this serious development which has taken place very recently or maybe since a long time that transparency is absent and some nepotism is going on in a particular constitutional institution and we shall have to address that problem.

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray]

Now, Sir, through this Amendment Bill, I propose to insert one Clause (5A) under Article 366 so that the meaning of consultation should only be, "The action or the process of formally consulting or discussing in a merely consultative, advisory and non-binding manner." What prompted me to bring this Constitutional (Amendment) Bill is this and in support of this, I would like to place a few points through you to this House that in our Constitution, in a number of Articles, the very word 'consultation' has been used. It has been used in a number of Articles like Article 124, Article 217, Article 127, Article 222, etc., etc. Now, taking advantage of absence of a proper definition of the word 'consultation', I have already stated on a number of occasions that these provisions of the Constitution have been misutilized, misinterpreted to the benefit of certain quarters which I do not want to name but everybody can understand.

Now, Sir, it is for this reason that the term 'consultation' requires to be defined in the Constitution and this definition should not have any ambiguity. Now, why am I pressing for this Amendment? Sir, first please come to Article 124 of the Constitution. It says, *inter alia*, and I quote, "There shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and, until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other Judges, etc." Now, there is a proviso to Article 124. That proviso says, and I quote, "Provided that in the case of appointment of a Judge other than the Chief Justice, the Chief Justice of India shall always be consulted." Here lies the problem. Previously, there was no problem and it was going on. On the basis of the ordinary dictionary meaning of the word 'consultation', things were moving for a long period but, suddenly, it was derailed. Why? There is a historical background of this. "The Supreme Court in the matter of the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association vs. Union of India in the year 1993, and in its Advisory Opinion given in the year 1998 in the Third Judges' case on a reference being made to the Supreme Court by the then President of India under his constitutional powers, had interpreted Clause (2) of Article 124 and Clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution with respect to the meaning of 'consultation' as 'concurrence'." From 1993, the scenario suddenly changed and, thereafter also, this Parliament unanimously passed a Constitution (Amendment) Bill and enacted the National Judicial Appointment Commission, which was again set aside by the apex court on the ground of that interpretation that consultation means concurrence. As a student of Political Science and Law, with all respect, I beg to differ with that judgement. What was in the minds of the founding fathers of the Constitution? I would like to refer to a few lines from the Constituent Assembly debate because that is very important. Those who were Members of the Constituent Assembly were not

ordinary people. They were much learned than today's people. Sir, on 29th July, 1947, this matter was discussed threadbare, at length, by different leaders in the Constituent Assembly and I would like to refer to a few lines from Volume-IV of the Constituent Assembly debates. I have not brought them. I have got the Parliamentary publications of five volumes and I am having them like many other Members. Here, Clause 18 was introduced in Chapter-IV of the Constituent Assembly debates and Shri Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer, a lawyer from Madras moved this Clause 18 and it says *inter alia* and I quote, "A judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President after consulting the Chief Justice and such other Judges of the Supreme Court as also such Judges of the High Courts as may be necessary for the purpose." This was the original Clause or Article which was moved in the Constituent Assembly by Shri Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer and from there, the discussion started and continued for the entire day and, thereafter, many Members participated in it. I would like to mention one or two lines which other Members said one-by-one on this. First is Mr. Shibban Lal Saksena. Mr. Swamy was referring his name in context of his Bill. Shri S.L. Saksena moved an amendment and said, "In this amendment, I have provided that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President, but it shall be confirmed by at least two-thirds majority of both the Houses." A different view was expressed by this gentleman. Now, I come to another Member of the Constituent Assembly, Shri B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur and he said "I move: That for clause (2) and the first proviso of clause (2) of Article 103, the following be substituted:- Every judge of the Supreme Court other than the Chief Justice of India shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal after consultation with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of India." He advocated for concurrence of the Chief Justice of India, not only consultation. So, again, there is a different view. But ultimately, when divergent views were expressed by various Members in the Constituent Assembly — I don't want to proceed further — I would like to quote one or two lines of some of the Members and I quote, "If a Judge owes his appointment to a political party, certainly, in the course of his career as a Judge, also as an ordinary human being, he will certainly be bound to have some consideration for the political views of the authority that has appointed him. That the Judges should be above all these political considerations cannot be denied. Therefore, I submit that one of the chief conditions mentioned in the procedure laid down, that is the concurrence of the Chief Justice of India in the appointment of the Judges of the Supreme Court, must be fulfilled." So, he went on saying why this concurrence is required. Mere consultation will not do; concurrence is required and he said that it should be accepted by the House. Then another Member, Mr. K.T. Shah said and I quote, "This is an amendment seeking to make the appointment of Judges free from any particular influence." My amendment is that the President, if he makes the

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appointment, naturally, he will do so on the advice of the Prime Minister. In my opinion, Sir, if I may say so with all respect this Constitution concentrates so much power and influence in the hands of the Prime Minister in regard to the appointment of Judges, Ambassadors, Governors, etc., etc., etc., again a different view.

Mr. Das Bhargava, another Member of the Constituent Assembly, had supported the amendment saying, "Confirmation of the appointment of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court must be made by a two-thirds majority of the total number of Members of Parliament assembled in a joint session of both Houses of Parliament." So, this is another view that this should be approved by the two-thirds majority of the Members assembled in a Joint Session of Parliament. So, the discussion was going on at length, and what happened ultimately? Out of those discussions somebody said, "This is the formula; no, no, there is another formula, there is third formula and there is fourth formula." Ultimately, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the main architect of the Constitution and the Chairman of the Draft Committee, said, "It should be taken as a concluding part of the debate." I quote, "Now, Sir, with regard to the numerous amendments that have been moved, to this article, there are really three issues that have been raised." He has summarized three issues on the question of consultation or concurrence or two-thirds majority for Parliament to pass, etc., etc. He has framed three issues. The first is how the Judges of the Supreme Court should be appointed. This is the first issue. "Now grouping the different amendments that are related to this particular matter, I find three different proposals." I mean, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, not me. "The first proposal is that the Judges of the Supreme Court should be appointed with the concurrence of the Chief Justice." That was one view, which I have already stated. "The other view is that the appointments made by the President should be subject to the confirmation of two-thirds vote by the Parliament. The third suggestion is that they should be appointed in consultation with the Council of States." Somebody suggested that it should be in consultation with this House, the Council of States. So, there were various suggestions but Dr. B.R. Ambedkar referred to these three issues. Then, Dr. Ambedkar continued, "There can be no difference of opinion in the House that our judiciary must both be independent of the Executive" – and in the Constitution there is an article 48, which says that the Judiciary should be separated from the Executive, we have already adopted – "and must also be competent in itself, and the question is how these two objects could be secured." Judiciary is not only to be independent but it should also be competent in itself. That is the moot question. How the judiciary can achieve to be competent in itself? Is it through nepotism, high-handedness? It can't be. Therefore, what has Dr. Ambedkar suggested? "There are two ways in which this matter is governed in

other countries. In Great Britain the appointments are made by the Crown, without any kind of limitation whatsoever, which means by the Executive of the day. There is the opposite system in the United States where, for instance, appointment of officers of the Supreme Court as well as other officers of the state shall be made only with the concurrence of the Senate in the United States.” So, Dr. Ambedkar had referred to Great Britain and the United States as to how Judges and other officials of the Supreme Court were appointed. “It seems to me”, Dr. Ambedkar says, “in the circumstances in which we live today, where the sense of responsibility has not grown to the same extent to which we find it in the United States, it would be dangerous to leave the appointments to be made by the President without any kind of reservation or limitation, that is to say, merely on the advice of the Executive of the day.” He had also advocated that there should not be given any unflinching power to the President for appointment of Supreme Court Judges; there must be some restrictions because we have not yet emerged as a nation to the height of the United States. Indirectly, this is what he wanted to say, if I have correctly understood the purport and the meaning of what he had said.

Now, Sir, again, he says, “Similarly, it seems to me that making every appointment that the Executive wishes to make, subject to the concurrence of the Legislature, will also not be a very suitable proposition”, which meant, neither appointment by Judges was desirable, nor this is desirable that for every appointment the Executive has to seek approval of the Parliament. That is also not desirable. Then, what was desirable and what should be which is in-between and which is a balancing act or a compromise. Then, what he prescribed and what he advocated was that, “Apart from its being cumbrous, it also involves the possibility of the appointment being influenced by political pressure and political considerations.” The draft article, that is, Article 80, which I had read at the outset, says, “In consultation with the Chief Justice, the Judges would be appointed by the President, under his hand and seal.” He says, “The draft article, therefore, steers a middle course. It does not make the President the supreme and absolute authority in the matter of making appointments. It does not also import the influence of the Legislature. The provision in the article is that there should be consultation of persons who are *ex hypothesi*, well-qualified to give proper advice in matters of this sort, and my judgement is that this sort of provision may be regarded as sufficient for the moment.”

He continued, “With regard to the question of the concurrence of the Chief Justice” – he dealt with this part very widely – “it seems to me that those who advocate that proposition seem to rely implicitly both on the impartiality of the Chief Justice and the soundness of his judgement. I personally feel that there is no

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doubt that the Chief Justice is a very eminent person but, after all, the Chief Justice is a man with all the failings, all the sentiments and all the prejudices which we as common people have. So, he is not a great human being or a greater human being; the Chief Justice is also a human being like all other human beings, which Dr. Ambedkar tried to propagate and convince the Members of the Constituent Assembly very successfully. He continued to say, "I think, to allow the Chief Justice practically a veto upon the appointment of Judges is really to transfer the authority to the Chief Justice which we are not prepared to vest in the President or the Government of the day. So, this Constituent Assembly wants to give absolute authority neither to the President nor to the Legislature nor even to the Chief Justice. Therefore, there should be a balance, a consulting process and democracy requires this process; democracy requires consultation; democracy requires debate and, thereafter, approval. Therefore, Dr. Ambedkar ruled out the phasing out of concurrence in the process of consultation for appointment of judges, either in the Supreme Court or in the High Courts. Unfortunately, after following this procedure over the decades, suddenly, in 1993, all of us know what happened and how it happened, and India is the only country in the world where judges appoint judges. Nowhere in the world does it happen. In Switzerland, the Federal Assembly appoints the judges of the Federal Court. This Parliament never sought for that power nor the Constituent Assembly ever wanted that that power should be given either to the Legislature or to the President of India. Therefore, Sir, unfortunately this has happened, and what was the recommendation of the National Commission to Review the Working of the Indian Constitution? This Constitution was reviewed by the National Commission to Review the Working of the Indian Constitution in the year 2002. The report was submitted in the year 2002. I quote two, three lines of this report with your kind permission. It says: "It would be worthwhile to have a participatory role with the participation of both the Executive and the Judiciary in making recommendations. The Commission proposes the composition of the collegium which gives due importance to, and provides for the effective participation of both the Executive and the Judicial wings of the State, as an integrated scheme or machinery for the appointment of judges." What would be the noble idea better than that? The Commission accordingly recommended the establishment of the National Judicial Commission, and we have seen the fate of the National Judicial Commission ...*(Interruptions)*... I need ten minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Some other speakers may speak.

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): आप अच्छा बोल रहे हैं। आप कंटिन्यू करिए, दस मिनट तक यही करना है।

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Thank you, Sir. Kindly permit me because it is a very important subject.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): आप दो मिनट पहले कन्क्लूड कर लेंगे, तो दूसरा स्पीकर बोल लेगा। ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: सर, यह जजमेंट है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): ठीक है, ठीक है।

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: मैं बाकी जजमेंट्स को दूसरे दिन पेश करूंगा, लेकिन जो salient points हैं, उनको मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं। कृपया आप आज मुझे कन्क्लूड करने के लिए मत बोलिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): इसके लिए दो घंटे का समय है, अगर दूसरा स्पीकर दो मिनट भी बोल लेगा, तो वह कंटिन्यू करेगा और फिर आपको रिप्लाय करने के लिए समय मिलने वाला है।

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: ठीक है, जैसी आपकी मर्जी। Sir, late Justice Verma was the main architect of the Second Judges Case, and after his retirement, we, some of the Members of this House, were in the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, and had the opportunity to meet him as a witness. He came to this Committee to give his evidence on the Lokpal Bill. There he said, and in other places also he said, it is on record, and I quote two, three lines of what he said. Late Justice Verma said: "My 1993 judgment has been both misunderstood and misused, the main architect, who gave birth to this typical collegium formula. Therefore, some kind of rethink is required on my judgment, and the appointment process of High Court and Supreme Court judges is basically a joint or a participatory exercise between the Executive and the Judiciary, both taking part in it." Now, simply some people may claim that it is still there. This is the participation of both Executive and the Judiciary. But, no; whatever will come from the Judiciary, that will have a binding effect on the Executive and the Head of the State, the President of India. He is bound by the recommendations of the judiciary; he cannot have any other option. Sir, there is limited time, I would like to say many things because so many articles are there, how consultation mode has been used and in what context and how the court interpreted this particular word in a particular case, if the other authorities claim that when my consultation is required

[श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय]

5.00 P.M.

or something, that will have the binding effect on the President of India, then you are going to denigrate the position held by the President under the Constitution. This is why, Sir, I want that this debate should be continued, this matter should be discussed again and again and this issue must be kept alive and the Government must ultimately intervene to address the problem because already it has come on the surface. Press conference is being held; something is being said which is not really very healthy for our democracy. Today I have referred to views of certain Members of our Constituent Assembly. Next time when I will get the opportunity either for reply or for continuation of my speech, I will place before you and, through you, before the House how the Constitution has been rewritten, not by the Parliament but outside the Parliament. This I would like to establish in my next submission, through you, before this august House. Thank you, Sir.

The question was proposed.

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, actually you were supposed to intervene in this debate, but since you are occupying the Chair now, it has suddenly fallen on me. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is a lot of erudition. This is one Bill in which I find that the Statement of Objects and Reasons contains a lot of erudition and it is quite a pleasant reading of the whole thing. But, the amendments suggested, I have some reservations in that. I feel the Objects and Reasons are almost like a sledgehammer to crack a nut. Certainly the provocation for this entire Bill is somewhat controversial pronouncements that consultation is concurrence, which is totally wrong. But does it mean that we should have a Constitutional Amendment in which it may solve the problem in this particular respect, but it can create more problems in various other provisions of the Constitution? In legislative drafting, it often appears necessary to have precision in language. But, at the same, many times we find that a little bit vagueness is more useful than complete precision. Now let me take an example. We have recognized many institutions as Institutions of National Importance or Centres of Excellence and it is never defined in any particular legislation what is the Centre of Excellence or what is the Institution of National Importance. Now, if you fetter the discretion by a precise definition, then it will create problems in other areas.

Even coming to the Constitution itself, there is an article...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): रामाकृष्णा जी, इसको अगले समय तक के लिए जारी रखिए, क्योंकि अभी सदन का समय पूरा हो रहा है। आप इसको आगे जारी रख सकते हैं।

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Shall I finish now?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): आप इसको अगले समय के लिए जारी रख सकते हैं। आपने शुरू कर दिया है, इसलिए यह जारी रहेगा।

Now, we will take up Special Mentions. Shri K. C. Ramamurthy.

Not present. Shri Vivek Gupta. Not present. Shri P. L. Punia.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Need to remove irregularities in the provisions of reservation for SCs/STs and OBCs in employment

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, देश की कुल जनसंख्या में अनुसूचित जाति 16.6, जनजाति 8.6, ओबीसी 52 और सामान्य जातियां 23 प्रतिशत हैं। मौजूदा नीति के अनुसार अनुसूचित जाति को 15 परसेंट, जनजाति को 7.5 परसेंट और ओबीसी को 27 प्रतिशत आरक्षण देती है। इस तरह देश की 77 प्रतिशत पिछड़ी जातियों को केवल 49.5 प्रतिशत आरक्षण मिल रहा है तथा शेष 50.5 प्रतिशत आरक्षण 23 प्रतिशत सवर्ण जातियों को दिया जा रहा है। फिर भी आरक्षित वर्ग का बैकलॉग बढ़ता जा रहा है।

भारत सरकार के ऑफिस मेमोरेण्डम दिनांक 22.05.1989 तथा 02.07.1997 के प्रावधानों के अनुसार आरक्षित उम्मीदवार जो मैरिट लाकर सामान्य उम्मीदवारों के लिए तय किए गए स्टैंडर्ड को पूरा करते हैं, उन्हें आरक्षित पदों में नहीं भरा जाएगा।

लेकिन 01.07.1989 को जारी स्पष्टीकरण के अनुसार यदि आरक्षित उम्मीदवार आवेदन शुल्क, आयु, सीमा, लिखित परीक्षा की संख्या में छूट आदि रियायतें लेता है, तो मैरिट में आने के आद भी उसे आरक्षित वर्ग में ही चयनित माना जाएगा। माननीय सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने दिनांक 06 अप्रैल, 2017 को दीपा ई.वी. (अपीलेंट) बनाम यूनियन ऑफ इंडिया तथा अन्य (रिस्पांडेंट) के मामले में भी इसी प्रकार का फैसला सुनाया है।

आरक्षित वर्ग को रियायतें, एक समान खेल मैदान प्रदान करने के लिए दी जाती हैं, ताकि उन्हें किसी भी प्रतिस्पर्धा के लिए पात्र बनाया जा सके।

अतः आपके माध्यम से निवेदन है कि जनसंख्या और पिछड़ेपन के आधार पर आरक्षण दिया जाए और आरक्षण व्यवस्था में व्याप्त अस्पष्टता को दूर करते हुए मैरिट को चयन का आधार बनाया जाए।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri P. L. Punia.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Now, Shri Sanjay Raut. Not present. Shri Lal Sinh Vadodia. Not present.

सदन की कार्यवाही सोमवार दिनांक 5 फरवरी, 2018 को 11.00 बजे तक स्थगित की जाती है।

*The House then adjourned at three minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 5th February, 2018.*

